

Hardee and Peace River Soil and Water Conservation District

1st Quarter Meeting Minutes

April 3rd, 2025

Called to order by Chairperson Roy Petteway at 9:05am

In attendance:

Supervisors: Roy Petteway, Charles Matheny, Clint Hunnicut, Dan Ryals, Trey Barnwell, Jim Selph and Ken Harrison

Coordinator: Jennifer Gough

Soil Techs: L. Durrance and B. Rich

Ext Agent: Jonael Bosques

NRCS: Dan Schabilion

FDACS: Matt Warren

FSA: Kaylee Lambert

1. Approval of Minutes: Board members reviewed and signed the minutes from the last meeting.
 - a. Board action: Treasurer Matheny presented Hardee's financial statements and after which, the board approved the ending balances for each account.
 - b. Treasurer Barnwell reviewed PRSWCD account document for proper balance.
2. Reports:
 - a. NRCS: currently working on 21 EQIP2025 Emergency applications, of which 14 have been pre-approved for funding (9 in Hardee and 5 in Desoto). The apps cover woody residue treatment (woody debris removal on pastureland), replacement of seasonal high tunnels, replacement of damaged pivots, and IPC replacement and nutrient management on citrus groves. Will be scheduling field visits for EQIP and CSP2025 in the next few weeks.
 - b. FSA: working on program closeouts.
 - c. FDACS: updated BMP manuals are complete and hopefully be printed and available soon. These are the manuals that SWCD techs use with producers in their CSA/BMP application process. A new tech contract (or extension of present contract) into 2028 for approximately 1.8 million
 - d. UF/Ext Agent: DEI cease and desist orders are leading to uncertainty about the language used for instruction manuals and other documents. which concerns Jona. In addition, he is concerned with the issues that are keeping our local office from

getting the Citrus Agent position filled..... – especially now with DOGE and other unknowns.

3. New business: Ms. Gough gave an overview of the FASD Legislative Forum held in Tallahassee during the last week of March and even though Senate Bill 986 has gained support it is currently stalled. Further discussion will come on this topic soon.
4. Reminder for next meeting date: Thursday, June, 26, 2025