Hardee and Peace River Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Quarter 3 Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2026

IN ATTENDANCE

Supervisors: Roy Petteway, Clint Hunnicut, J.R. Gough, Jim Selph, Jeff Adams, and Ken Harrison

Coordinator: Jennifer Gough

Soil Techs/FDACS: Bo Rich and Laina Durrance

FDACS/Ag Commissioner's office: Ellen Cruz

UF/IFAS: Jona Bosques

NRCS: Dan Schabilion

Called to Order by Chairperson Roy Petteway at 9:07am

1. APPROVAL of Minutes
    - Board minutes reviewed and signed the minutes from the last meeting.
2. BOARD ACTION
    - Chairman Petteway verbally presented HSWCD financial statements and board approved balances for all accounts.
    - Supervisor Harrison verbally presented PRSWCD financial statement and the board approved.
3. REPORTS
    - NRCS= The Wauchula Field Office continues to process 2025 EQIP applications. Staff are entering the applications into ProTracts, where they will be ranked to decide which applications are selected in the next disbursement round.
    - UF/Extension= Renovations are ongoing, and Jona reported that recruitment for a horticultural agent is still underway. Citrus agent Edwin Gutierrez is settling into the role and offering classes and training. Upcoming activities include: 4-H summer camp, beginning soon and the Ona Research Station Field Day expects a strong turnout on Thursday, June 11th.

Supervisor Election Qualification

J. Gough provided an update on election qualification requirements. Hardee's SOE, Diane Moore has asked that each supervisor bring the forms previously mailed by Ms. Gough to the office for completion. The DeSoto County Supervisor of Elections has already contacted that county's three supervisors and completed this process.

- Association Support and District Compliance

At the FCDEA midyear meeting in April, attendees discussed ways to keep the Association of Florida Conservation Districts (AFCD) operational. The goal is to strengthen AFCD's ability to aid and represent *active and compliant* districts and to develop safeguards that help districts keep a secure position. They are collaborating on products to share within the association's districts for use and distribution as well as build a cohesive message for legislative needs when/should they arrive this upcoming session = which will begin *March 2, 2027*.

- Audit and Contract Closeout

CLA is expected to complete the annual audit within the next few weeks. After which, it along with the Annual Financial Report will be filed and J. Gough will close out the fiscal year for both the CSA and TECH contracts. The new contract year begins July 1.

4. REMINDERS and DATES
    - Online Ethics training- DUE before December 31, 2026
    - Next meeting date =THURSDAY DECEMBER 3, 2026