Minutes for the WSWCD Meeting held August 8, 2024, at 5pm at the Wakulla County Extension Office, 84 Cedar Avenue, Crawfordville, Fl 32327

The Meeting was called to order at 5 pm by Vice Chairman David Shepard. Other members present were Dallas Marshall, Kellie Keys and Cal Jamison.

Guests: Emily Johnson

The agenda was unanimously approved. Moved by Kellie, 2nd by Dallas.

The Minutes for the July 11, 2024, meeting were approved unanimously. Moved by Kellie, 2nd by Dallas.

Treasurer Report:

Prime Meridian Balance $5,382.65 after travel reimbursement of $109.20 (training travel reimbursement-David) and monthly $8.65(Microsoft 365).

Remove Harvey Leimbach (Dusty) as an authorized signature on the Prime Meridian checking account. Add Kellie Keys and Emily Johnson as authorized signatures on the account. Cal will contact the bank.

Old Business:

Draft Performance Review Discussion. Kellie will draft our response as we discussed it and will send for review before submitting it to Mauldin and Jenkins. Moved by Dallas, 2nd by David. Passed unanimously.

Cal will continue to work on the Annual Financial Report and will give an update at the next meeting.

Cal reported that he has drafted the request for County Funding for FY 24/25. All our county funding is up to date. After conferring with the County, he will submit it at the beginning of the fiscal year in October.

Emily Johnson was unanimously appointed Supervisor, Seat Two to fill out the remaining term of retired Supervisor Harvey (Dusty) Leimbach. Moved by Cal, 2nd by David.

Emily will assume the duties of Treasurer as of the September meeting and she will be responsible for keeping the District calendar.

Kellie gave an update on the FSU research grant to study Wakulla Springs. Cal reported that he was contacted by Chris Werner to assist with the isotope tracer project as part of the study.

New Business:

Kellie will public notice our regular meetings as well as the Wakulla Springs sampling meetings on our website.

Kellie led a discussion on participating in the AFCD statewide poster contest. Outreach to local schools was discussed and Kellie will move forward with implementation of the project.

Kellie suggested that we partner with the Economic Development Council to create a college scholarship for a local public-school student whose major interests align with local conservation goals. The suggested contribution would be $1,000 each. Cal suggested that the Friends of Wakulla Springs State Park might also wish to contribute $1,000. He will invite them to participate. Emily will fine tune the scholarship requirements. Discussion will continue at the September meeting.

Cal gave the Wakulla Springs Update reporting that the clearing trend had reached a visibility of 75.3’ over the past two months before dropping to 39.9’ at today’s sampling. Regular local, almost daily rain over the National Forest and rain from Hurricane Debby have tipped the scales on the tannic influence from the sinking streams and the groundwater from the north. River grasses continue to rebound, and the glass bottom tours will be running again soon. Plans are to resume the old historic schedule of 11 am, noon, and 1 pm. Rangers are in training.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm by unanimous vote. Moved by Kellie, 2nd by Emily.

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