

Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District

Board of Supervisors January 2026 Meeting Minutes

Location: 2741 Penn Ave, STE 3, Marianna, FL 32448 (Clover Suite)

Date: January 14, 2026

Time: 8:00 AM CST

Board members present: Steve Basford, David DeFelix, Jeff Pittman, Mike Thompson

Quorum: YES

Absent: 0

Staff present: Haylee Sapp, District Coordinator, Katie Moore, JSWCD BMP Tech, Rex Patterson, JSWCD MIL Team Lead, and Kevin Warren, JSWCD MIL Tech

Attendees present: John Baggett, FDACS/OAWP - Environmental Manager, Gary Chew, NFWFMD – Environmental Specialist II & AG Cost Share Program, Peter Scott, FDCAS/OAWP Environmental Consultant, Doug Mayo, UF/IFAS Jackson County Director, Michael Felton, NRCS, and Mack Glass, Jackson County citizen.

Supervisor Basford calls the meeting to order at 8:03 AM.

Supervisor Pittman motions to approve the agenda as read; Supervisor Thompson seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

Supervisor Pittman motions to approve December 11, 2025, as amended; Supervisor DeFelix seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

NRCS: Michael reports that the application deadline is January 16, 2026. There are many stipulations that need to be followed to receive funding. It is like IRA funding. There are over 100 applications for EQIP. Supervisor DeFelix questioned the process of the application, to which Michael responded that the producers would need additional documentation, such as invoices and a c-tag. If the numbers are accurate and documented, and he can calculate pounds per acre, there shouldn't be any issue. He is going by the NRCS policy. This upcoming year's budget will not be the same as the previous ones.

UF/IFAS: Doug requests sponsorship for the NWFL Beef Cattle Conference that is coming up on February 11, 2026.

Supervisor Pittman motions to sponsor the conference for \$250.00; Supervisor Thompson seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

Doug reports that this year's Row Crop Short Course will be held in Chipley, FL, on March 5, 2026, at the Washington County UF/IFAS Extension Office. He also informs the Board that this past year has been the driest since 2011. If the rain/water drops below 10 percent, anything that is growing will not thrive. There is hope for this year that the crop season will be normal.

BMP with FDACS/OAWP: John reports that the cost share agreements are being reimbursed quickly. Three have been turned in with no issue. The invoicing is going smoothly with Katie and Haylee working together. All the Cost Share funding has been obligated.

MIL: Rex reports that everything is going well. He has not heard any additional information regarding the MIL contract. He is currently going through inventory, documenting every item that has been funded by FDACS.

Financial: Haylee reports that the bank account balances as of November 30, 2025, were at \$737,387.50. Three Cost Share agreements were completed and were quickly reimbursed. The invoices for the BMP/MIL December invoices were uploaded on January 01, and January 12, 2026. The operating expenses and lawyer fees for December were \$1,262.94. The November ending balances totaled \$745,297.87. The December debits totaled \$169,608.43. The December credits totaled \$214,681.25. The December 31 balances totaled \$737,387.50. With the BMP/MIL invoice reimbursements of \$24,556.45, the Less the Advance balances totaled: \$276,748.55.

District Coordinator: Haylee reports that everything is going well, that she and Katie have been meeting on a day-to-day basis to review the monthly BMP/MIL invoice. They are executing the Cost Share agreements as soon as they come in. She informs the Board that the planning for Land Judging is going well, and the competition will be held on February 20th in Vernon, FL. Haylee requests sponsorship of the Land Judging's lunch at \$250.00, the same amount as last year.

Supervisor Pittman motions to sponsor the Land Judging lunch at \$250.00; Supervisor DeFelix seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

Supervisor Report: Supervisor Pittman reports that there was a Workshop regarding Conservation Easement in Walton County. Is there a desire to host a similar workshop for Jackson County regarding Conservation Easements? The Board discussed amongst themselves and the attendees about Conservation Easements, which NRCS offers in two different types. The Board has decided to wait on proceeding with a Conservation Easement workshop due to the lack of urgency as of now. Supervisor DeFelix motions to sponsor the upcoming Annual Peanut Conference in February; Supervisor Thompson seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business: HB 123's original document, which was filed, will be read in the legislative session. Employee Evaluations were completed in December 2025. Supervisor Basford informs the board that the AFCDC is not looking for membership fees as of right now. They are waiting to see what will happen with this year's legislative session.

New Business: Supervisor Basford wants the Supervisors to look over the district map to see who a good candidate would be to take over the district 2 Supervisor Position. If the candidate lives in Jackson County, they can become a supervisor of the JSWCD Board.

Adjourned at 9:15 AM.