

Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District

Board of Supervisors September 2025 Meeting Minutes

Location: UF/IFAS Extension Office – 2741 Penn Ave, Marianna, FL, 32448 – Clover Room

Date: September 10, 2025

Time: 8:00 AM

Board members present: Steve Basford, Mack Glass, Michael Thompson

Quorum: YES

Absent: Jeff Pittman, David DeFelix

Staff Present: Peggy Gilley, Financial Analyst Administrator, Haylee Sapp, District Coordinator, Rex Patterson, JSWCD MIL Team Leader, Kevin Warren, JSWCD MIL Tech, Katie Moore, JSWCD BMP Tech.

Attendees Present: Chris Denmark, Environmental Administrator; John Baggett, FDACS/OAWP – Environmental Manager; Michael Felton, Supervisory District Conservationist; Gary Chew, NFWFMD – Environmental Specialist II – District AG Cost Share Program; Clay Milton, Fuqua & Milton, PA; Doug Mayo, UF/IFAS Extension Director; Camillo Gaitan, MIL Contract Manager; and Peter Scott, FDACS/OAWP Environmental Consultant.

Supervisor Basford called the meeting to order at 8:01 AM.

Supervisor Thompson motioned to approve the agenda; Supervisor Glass seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

Supervisor Glass motioned to approve the August 13, 2025, meeting minutes as read; Supervisor Thompson seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

UF/IFAS: Doug reports that there are dry pockets throughout the county. It was shown that soil moisture dropped to 7.7%, the lowest level of the year. Farm Credit is hosting a Succession Planning meeting on September 11, 2025. The Panhandle Youth Expo is from October 9th to 11th. There will be a Beef Quality Assessment on October 27th at 8:30 am. Doug is requesting that JSWCD sponsor the 2025 Farm City Banquet at the platinum level of \$1,500.00, as in the past few years.

Supervisor motions to sponsor the Farm City Banquet at the platinum level. Supervisor Thompson seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.

NRCS: Michael reported that they have completed field visits. He is unsure about funding for the upcoming year. A new program is coming through Tall Timbers, the Big Bend Regional Partnership Program (RCPP). The application is 10/03, with a focus on forestry. Another NRCS employee resigned last Friday, leaving Michael to cover Jackson, Calhoun, Liberty, Gulf, and Bay counties. The Jackson County office will be closed on Mondays and Thursdays as he works outside of the other counties. He hopes that jobs will open again in October, but it is not likely.

NFWFMD: Gary reports that cover crop application will cut off at the end of September. Most have already applied. Doug inquired if Calhoun County had many applications. Gary replied, not many; up to 5 to 6 applicants.

BMP with FDACS/OAWP: Katie has obtained cost-share agreements from Gadsden County, as well as returned cost-share agreements. She will be attending the Farm Field Day event with Haylee and Peggy on September 12, 2025. John has 6 to 7 cost-share agreements out in northwest Florida. There is more funding than last year. It is kicking off sooner than last year. Chris reports that he met with the Director of Fruit and Vegetable Inspectors. They will be leading the field staff for OAWP. BMAP sign-ups will be mandatory enrollment around springtime. IVs will be every five years, and nutrient application record forms will be turned in annually. There was much discussion about the future of Soil & Water Conservation Districts amongst the group.

MIL: Rex reports that everything is going well in the field. Kevin and he attended a Teams meeting with other MIL technicians. There was a discussion about existing contracts ending and not being renewed in June 2026. Camillo informed the board that the MIL services in Jackson County are required due to the county being in a BMAP area. There is a talk that there is going to be a transition from contracts to a new system.

Financial: Peggy reports that the advanced money was received and transferred into the respective accounts.

District Coordinator: Haylee reports that we are hosting the Forestry in the Classroom Kickoff on September 24th at 1:00 PM. She informs the board that checks need to be signed.

Unfinished Business: Supervisor Basford reports that he, Clay Milton, and Sarah Sun, Jackson County HR, had a meeting regarding the MOU agreement with Jim Dean, the County Administrator. The OPPAGA Report was deficient due to not having a current copy of an MOU between JSWCD and JC BOCC for the District Coordinator position. The meeting clarified what JSWCD does for the county and its producers for Mr. Dean, so a new MOU can be formed between us.

Adjourned @ 9:01 AM.

11/12/2025: Supervisor Thompson motions to accept the minutes as it reads; Supervisor Glass seconded the motion. Carried unanimously.