



SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF MADISON COUNTY, FL

James W. (Billy) Brown, Chairman • John Henry Phillips, Vice Chairman • Buck M. Carpenter, Secretary- Treasurer

July 17, 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Minutes for Madison SWCD Board Meeting- Regular Session – July 17, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Billy Brown, Chairman of the Madison Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) at 9:16 a.m., Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at the Madison County Soil & Water Conservation District Conference Room. Supervisors present included: Mr. Billy Brown, Mr. John Henry Phillips, Jr., and Mrs. Margie Foust McLeod. Others present included: Mr. Matt Yates/RCP, Mr. Joel Love/UF, Mr. Cliff Starling/NRCS, Dr. Sudeep Sidhu/UF and three UF Student Assistants: Aradhana Regmi, Ramneet Kaur, Sukhveer Singh Bhullar, Mr. Eli Curl/SWCD, and Mrs. Nancy Plank/SWCD. Mr. Brooks Garland/Lee Peanut attended the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Matt Yates opened the meeting with a word of prayer and Mr. Billy Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Administration- Mr. Billy Brown

- Mr. Billy Brown presented the agenda for the Madison SWCD Board Meeting- Regular Session, Wednesday, July 17, 2024, for adoption. Mrs. Margie Foust McLeod made a motion that the agenda be adopted; there was a second by Mr. John Henry Phillips, Jr. - the motion carried.
- Mr. Billy Brown presented to the Board the SWCD Regular Meeting Minutes for June 19, 2024. Mr. John Henry Phillips, Jr. made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for June 19, 2024; there was a second by Mrs. Margie Foust McLeod - the motion carried.
- Mrs. Nancy Plank presented the Treasurers Report for Supervisor Buck Carpenter in his absence. Mrs. Margie Foust McLeod made a motion to approve the report as presented – Mr. John Henry Phillips, Jr. seconded the motion - the motion carried.

SWCD Administration

Mr. Billy Brown shared his concerns that we are in very troubling times and people need to recognize that Agriculture is necessary.

Mr. Eli Curl gave the Conservation Technician Report – Working on three new enrollments, one De-enrollment, two IVs, and a little behind on paperwork, but will get corrected. The Cost Share Cap has changed from \$50,000 to \$150,000 along with certain percentages depending on the number of years signed up.

No Report given in the absence of the FDACS ES-III

Mr. Matt Yates/Resource Conservation Partners, LLC (RCP) gave the Mobile Irrigation Lab Report – Contract Amendment is done. Working on SOP and SOW but is on hold for now. Everything is on track and good. All MILs are working together as an ICC Group and that has been working out well.

Mr. Cliff Starling/NRCS/District Conservationist – a new person has been hired starting July 29th. Please see attached report.

Mr. Joel Love/UF shared that more data is being required for Cost Share. UF has hired someone to help with the four special projects (FDACS funding). There will possibly be an Irrigation Expo Field Day in November. The 4-R Program – in the process of harvesting those fields and will follow with a Sunn hemp Cover Crop.

Mrs. Margie Foust McLeod discussed the Archive Files and made a motion to investigate prices on a fast scanner and solid state, external drive. Mr. John Henry Phillips seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Conserving Natural Resources for Our Future...

Mr. John Henry Phillips, Jr. made a motion to Table the subcontracted IT Service for District Staff Assistant and Board Members until next meeting. Mrs. Margie Foust McLeod seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Eli Curl is still working on the Grid Sampling Project at Madison High School.

Dr. Sudeep Sidhu/UF – Special Project Discussion Shared by Mr. Brooks Garland. Lunch was served and then there will be a Field Trip to the Special Project Site. See attached UF/IFAS Evaluation of Control Release Fertilizer (CRF) Placement in Corn. By: Sukhveer Bhullar and Dr. Sudeep Sidhu.

Mrs. Margie Foust McLeod made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second from Mr. John Henry Phillips, Jr. - motion carried. Mr. Billy Brown, Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon. The next regular scheduled meeting will be held at the Madison County Soil & Water Conservation District Conference Room on Wednesday, August 21, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. Any changes to this meeting time/location will be posted prior to the revised time/location at the Madison SWCD website: www.madisonflswcd.com

Field Trip Attendees: Mr. Brooks Garland, Dr. Sudeep Sidhu, Aradhana Regmi, Ramneet Kaur, Sukhveer Singh Bhullar, Mr. John Henry Phillips, Jr., Mr. Eli Curl, and Mrs. Nancy Plank.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Buck M. Carpenter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

BUCK M. CARPENTER

Secretary/ Treasurer



ACTIVITY REPORT for the
Madison County SWCD Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 17, 2024

Farm Bill Programs Funding:

FY 2024 Approvals

Table with 2 columns: Madison Field Office Applications Funded, Amount. Rows include 4- Madison FO Fund Code (\$374,678.00), 2- EQIP IRA (\$40,564.00), 5- Longleaf Pine (\$94,269.00), 5- RCPP 1-pending (86,915.00), 31- EQIP Hurricane Idalia (\$467,865.00), 6- CSP (\$495,715.00), and Total Amount (1,560,006.00).

Madison Field Office Active Contracts (All Programs)

- 64 Madison and Taylor County Active Contracts as of July 17, 2024
- Total obligated amount for 64 contracts: \$1,501,244.78
- Total Acres: 9550.10

Other:

- Madison staff update
- DC position has closed and Area Office is awaiting candidates list
- One new employees will be reporting to Madison FO in July 2024

Submitted by,
Clifford Starling
Acting District Conservationist



Evaluation of Control Release Fertilizer (CRF) Placement in Corn

Sukhveer Bhullar and Sudeep Sidhu



Control Release Fertilizer (CRF) releases nutrients gradually over time, potentially enhancing nutrient uptake, reducing losses to the environment, and improving crop yields. In corn production, CRF has shown promise in increasing nitrogen use efficiency and yield while reducing ammonia emissions compared to conventional fertilizers.

To evaluate the effectiveness of CRF in corn, we are conducting an experiment focusing on optimizing its placement. In the previous growing season, CRF was applied at a depth of 4 inches and positioned 7 inches on each side of the corn row. This year, we have modified the placement to explore the impact of shallower placement and varied distances from the plant. The current trial involves placing CRF at a reduced depth of 2 inches, with two different lateral positions: 7 inches and 5 inches on each side of the corn row. By adjusting these parameters, we aim to determine if a shallower depth and closer proximity to the plant roots can further enhance nutrient uptake efficiency and overall corn performance. This study is critical for developing more precise and effective fertilization strategies that can potentially lead to increased yields, reduced environmental impact, and improved economic outcomes for corn producers. For the past two years, this demonstration trial has been supported by the Madison County Soil and Water Conservation District.

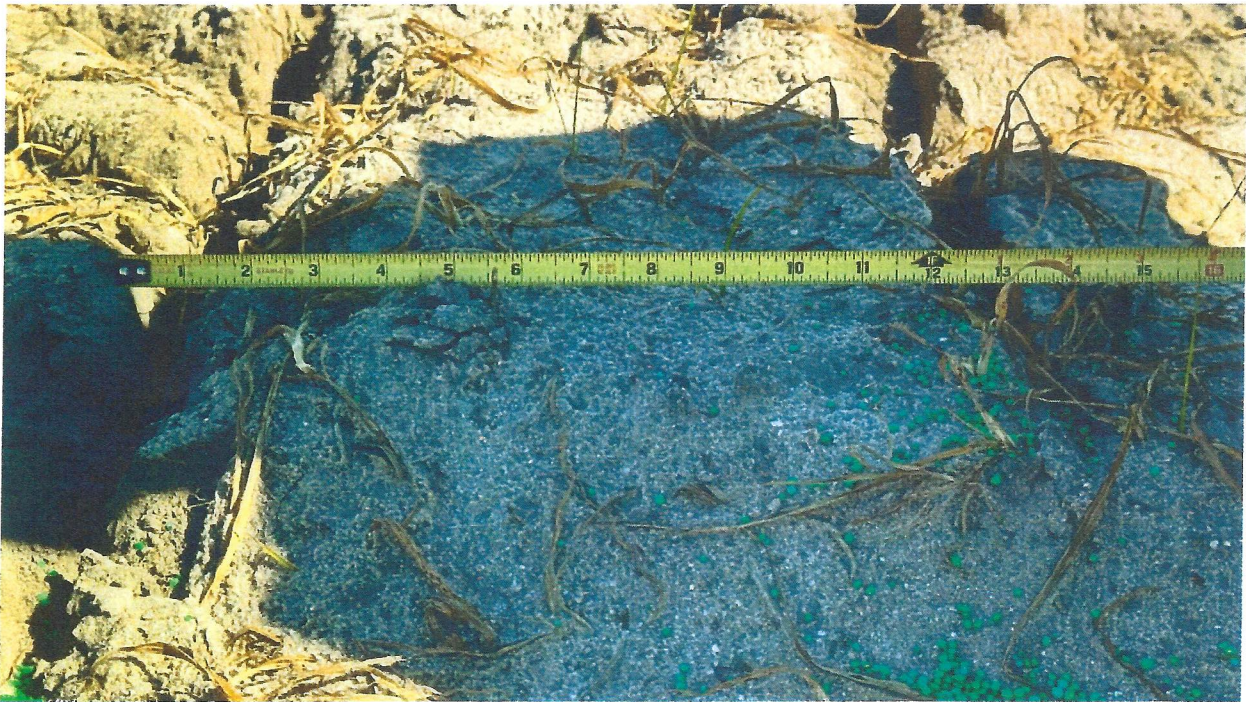
We are thankful to Brooks Garland (Lee Peanut Farms) for his continuous support.



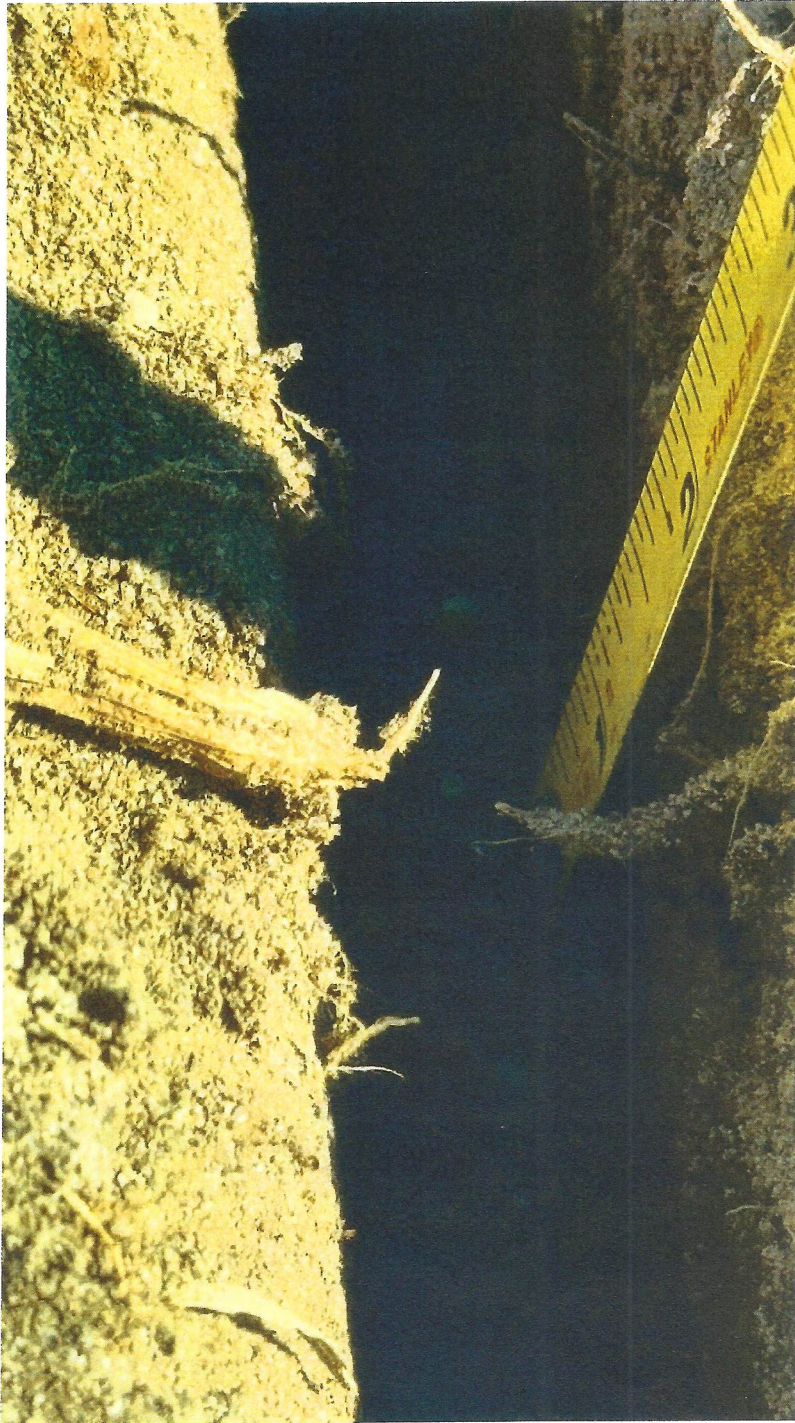
Picture 1: Placement of CRF: 5 inches on each side of corn row.



Picture 2: Placement of CRF: 7 inches from each side of corn row.



Picture 3: Placement of CRF: 7 inches from each side of corn row.



Picture 4: Placement of CRF at 2 inches depth.