

# **Gilchrist Soil & Water Conservation District**

## **Annual Report**

October 1, 2024- September 30, 2025

### **Board of Supervisors**

Supervisor Name	District
Jeff Reed, Chairman	1
BJ Wilkerson, Co-Chairman	2
Brett Crawford	3
Steven Borek	4
Myles Langford	5

### **Staff**

Supervisor Name	District
Ashley Cook-Gregory	District Administrator
John Silka	BMP Technician
Walker Stephens	BMP Technician

### **Our Mission**

To provide the administration of programs to help conserve, improve, and sustain the natural resources and environment of Gilchrist County Florida

### **Statutory Purpose**

Soil and Water Conservation Districts are legal, public-purpose districts created to help conserve soil and water resources, improve environmental quality, prevent erosion and flooding, and to educate and assist landowners and the public in using conservation practices.

# Year in Review

## Significant Accomplishments

- Strategic Work Plan for Years 2024-2028 developed, approved and adopted with better defined success measures
- District increased directly employed staff from one to 3, adding two BMP Technicians
- Cross training with FDACS staff for district employees to better understand programs and services
- Creation of a satisfaction survey for producers and organizations to rate the effectiveness of the district and services

## Services

- Provide program enrollment, verification, and financial assistance for state mandated programs through the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Office of Ag Water Policy
- Host annual Local Working Group with NRCS in effort to coordinate conservation efforts and address natural resource concerns
- Conservation education and agricultural program outreach

## FDACD Cost Share Contract

- Administered \$836,757.36 in FDACS BMP (Best Management Practices) Cost-Share projects that will help aid producers in conservation efforts

## IFAS Education Events for Agricultural Producers

- Participated in multiple IFAS field days designed for local agricultural producers. These events provided training, resources, and research-based information to support improved land management, soil health, and conservation practices

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## Outreach and Education

- Hosted a local poster and speech contest to multiple participants. Winners had the opportunity to participate in local, districts, state, and national level contests

- Participated in Career Day at Trenton Elementary School where we taught students the importance of conservation efforts and how they can help
- Awarded \$5,000.00 in scholarships to seniors continuing their education in agriculture related fields
- Donated \$5,000.00 to the Gilchrist Boosters to assist with 4-H and FFA members market animal projects
- Assisted with judging FFA contest at sub-district and district level contest

## Financial Review

### Operating Expense

**2024**

ACCOUNT CODE	DESCRIPTION	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025
		PRIOR YEAR BUDGET	PRIOR YEAR BUDGET	APPROVED BUDGET
001-37200-512000	REGULAR SALARIES & WAGES	\$ 212,680.00	\$ 221,284.00	\$ 221,284.00
001-37200-521000	FICA TAXES	\$ 16,270.00	\$ 16,928.00	\$ 16,928.00
001-37200-522000	RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 25,330.00	\$ 30,028.00	\$ 30,028.00
001-37200-523000	LIFE & HEALTH INSURANCE	\$ 37,563.00	\$ 41,213.00	\$ 41,213.00
001-37200-524000	WORKERS' COMPENSATION	\$ 568.00	\$ 590.00	\$ 590.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>PERSONNEL SERVICES</b>	<b>\$ 292,411.00</b>	<b>\$ 310,043.00</b>	<b>\$ 310,043.00</b>
001-37200-531000	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$ 15,985.00	\$ 15,985.00	\$ 15,985.00
001-37200-531370	PROF SVCS/ DRUG SCREEN	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
001-37200-540000	TRAVEL & PER DIEM	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ -
001-37200-541000	COMMUNICATIONS & FREIGHT	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00	\$ -
001-37200-545000	INSURANCE	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 5,700.00
001-37200-548000	PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 21,635.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,635.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,685.00</b>

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3720 SOIL/ WATER CONSERVATION</b>	<b>\$ 314,046.00</b>	<b>\$ 331,678.00</b>	<b>\$ 331,728.00</b>
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**2025**

ACCOUNT CODE	DESCRIPTION	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
		PRIOR YEAR BUDGET	PRIOR YEAR BUDGET	APPROVED BUDGET
001-37200-512000	REGULAR SALARIES & WAGES	\$ 221,284.00	\$ 221,284.00	\$ 181,668.00
001-37200-521000	FICA TAXES	\$ 16,928.00	\$ 16,928.00	\$ 13,898.00
001-37200-522000	RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 30,028.00	\$ 30,028.00	\$ 25,488.00
001-37200-523000	LIFE & HEALTH INSURANCE	\$ 41,213.00	\$ 41,213.00	\$ 34,760.00
001-37200-524000	WORKERS' COMPENSATION	\$ 590.00	\$ 590.00	\$ 237.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>PERSONNEL SERVICES</b>	<b>\$ 310,043.00</b>	<b>\$ 310,043.00</b>	<b>\$ 256,051.00</b>
001-37200-531000	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$ 15,985.00	\$ 15,985.00	\$ 15,985.00
001-37200-531370	PROF SVCS/ DRUG SCREEN	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ -
001-37200-540000	TRAVEL & PER DIEM	\$ 1,300.00	\$ -	\$ -
001-37200-541000	COMMUNICATIONS & FREIGHT	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ -
001-37200-545000	INSURANCE	\$ 3,400.00	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 5,700.00
001-37200-548000	PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ -
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 21,635.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,685.00</b>	<b>\$ 21,685.00</b>

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3720 SOIL/ WATER CONSERVATION</b>	<b>\$ 331,678.00</b>	<b>\$ 331,728.00</b>	<b>\$ 277,736.00</b>
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