

MASWCD Conference Call
November 19, 2013
12:00 p.m.

Present

Kenny Lovelace, President
Steve Radcliff, Past President
Tom Lambert, Area 2
Ryan Britt, Area 3
Beverly Dometrorch, Area 4
George Engelbach, Area 5
Ben Gorden, Area 6
Dan Greeson, Area 7
Mike Kelley, Area 8
Peggy Lemons, Executive Director
David Morris, Livingston SWCD
Colleen Meredith, Soil & Water Program Office
Bill Wilson, Soil & Water Program Office
Marty Comstock, NRCS

Not Present

Bruce Biermann, Area 1
Henry Heinze, Treasurer

President Kenny Lovelace opened the meeting at 12:00 p.m. and approved a quorum by roll call.

Discussion was held about the progress of obtaining requested information from DNR through the attorney and how much more aggressive they need to be on this. Following the discussion a motion was made by Tom Lambert to pay the bill of \$563.70 received from the attorney and see where we are on the information requests. Dan Greeson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimous (7-0) as follows: Tom Lambert – yes; Ryan Britt – yes; Beverly Dometrorch – yes; George Engelbach – no; Ben Gorden – yes, Dan Greeson – yes; Mike Kelley – yes. Further discussion on how aggressive to get on the requests and Mike Kelley made a motion that the Board should be more aggressive if we want the information. Beverly Dometrorch seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimous (7-0) as follows: Tom Lambert – yes; Ryan Britt – yes; Beverly Dometrorch – yes; George Engelbach – no; Ben Gorden – yes, Dan Greeson – yes; Mike Kelley – yes. Mike Kelley made another motion to approve putting \$2500 additional funds on deposit with the attorney to cover the more aggressive efforts. Tom Lambert seconded. The motion was approved unanimous (7-0) as follows: Tom Lambert – yes; Ryan Britt – yes; Beverly Dometrorch – yes; George Engelbach – no; Ben Gorden – yes, Dan Greeson – yes; Mike Kelley – yes.

The next item discussed was the dues for the Missouri River Team. The dues request is for \$150 and they are used for travel expenses for the representative of the team to attend MRRIC meetings. Mike Kelley made a motion to approve paying the dues as long as the state the representative is from is also paying dues. Beverly Dometrorch seconded. The motion was approved unanimous (7-0) as follows: Tom Lambert – yes; Ryan Britt – yes; Beverly Dometrorch – yes; George Engelbach – no; Ben Gorden – yes, Dan Greeson – yes; Mike Kelley – yes.

The NACD National Meeting will be held in Anaheim, California the first week of February. Kenny Lovelace, Beverly Dometrorch and Peggy Lemons will be attending along with Dan Greeson who will be going on the NACD scholarship funds. No one else on the conference call indicated they wished to attend. Kenny Lovelace stated he had discussed this with Bruce Biermann and he is interested in attending.

Colleen Meredith, Bill Wilson and Marty Comstock joined the conference call at 12:30 p.m.

Items for the upcoming Training Conference were discussed. Emcees and those giving prayers were identified. A brief overview of the workshops was given and it was decided to see if the contact Tom Lambert had with the Missouri Ruralist was interested in giving a workshop in the free time slot on Tuesday afternoon. If not there will just be 3 workshops on Tuesday instead of 4. Peggy Lemons will check with Mindy Ward of Missouri Ruralist on the workshop. Beverly Dometrorch reminded the Board about gathering door prizes and items for the auction. Due to several items needing to be taken to the conference from Peggy's office, a motion was made by George Engelbach to approve her renting a mini-van for approximately \$300 to take to the conference. Dan Greeson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimous (7-0) as follows: Tom Lambert – yes; Ryan Britt – yes; Beverly Dometrorch – yes; George Engelbach – no; Ben Gorden – yes, Dan Greeson – yes; Mike Kelley – yes.

David Morris provided information about his suggestion he had presented to Richard Fordyce and the Program Office on an incentive idea to encourage district employees to get the cost-share practices completed as soon as they could. His idea was to look at as percentage of the cost-share funds claimed on a quarterly basis and provide that additional funding to the district to use for district employee salaries. Colleen Meredith stated they had done some more checking on this and it has been determined that would be looked on as a bonus and would not be allowed for district employees due to state statutes. It was suggested to increase the cost-share funds instead of funding for employee salaries and Colleen stated that is kind of how the supplemental cost-share allocations work now. A suggestion was given to look at an increase in info/ed funding, however it was stated that some districts may not look at that as an incentive or a good thing.

The NACD North Central meeting will be January 9-10 in Chicago, their Washington DC fly-in will be in March and the summer board meeting will be in July in Indianapolis. Kenny Lovelace and Beverly Dometrorch are planning on attending the meeting in Chicago right now.

George Engelbach wanted to discuss further the issue of the reserve and corridor system and the UN biodiversity plan. He indicated his concerns about their plans and the lack of involvement by local landowners. Colleen Meredith stated that the Our Missouri Waters program was totally DNR and not EPA and their purpose is to find the resources and look at problems in watershed with a 5-year rotation for funding for watershed projects. Marty Comstock stated that NRCS is not regulatory and their standards are science-based. There are no special programs in the Big River watershed but there is an MRBI program in the Lower Grand River watershed. George Engelbach stated he had a copy of a map that shows the areas of concern with the corridor system. Mike Kelley made a motion to approve George getting copies of the map made for the Training Conference packets. Beverly Dometrorch seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimous (7-0) as follows: Tom Lambert – yes; Ryan Britt – yes; Beverly Dometrorch – yes; George Engelbach – no; Ben Gorden – yes, Dan Greeson – yes; Mike Kelley – yes.

Beverly Dometrorch stated she had been to several meetings and had signed up to be on one of the sub-committees for the Plan for the Future but had not been contacted yet about any of them. Colleen Meredith named which sub-committees are currently working and the MASWCD Area Directors that are on those sub-committees. She stated they have not all been set up yet. It was suggested to have reports from these sub-committees at the Training Conference.

The Area Meetings scheduled to be held on Monday morning at the Training Conference will be 2 areas per meeting to make it easier for the partners to drop in for questions, etc. There will not be a set schedule for the partner visits to each of the area meetings, they will go from one meeting to the next as time allows.

Tom Lambert made the motion to end the conference call. It was seconded by George Engelbach. The motion was approved unanimous (7-0) as follows: Tom Lambert – yes; Ryan Britt – yes; Beverly Dometrorch – yes; George Engelbach – no; Ben Gorden – yes, Dan Greeson – yes; Mike Kelley – yes. There being no further business, the conference call adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Lemons
Executive Director

Kenny Lovelace
President