

Minutes
MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF SOIL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS
66th ANNUAL MEETING
TAN-TAR-A RESORT
OSAGE BEACH, MO
December 11, 2014

The 66th Annual Meeting of the Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts was called to order by President Kenny Lovelace at 8:30 a.m. at the Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach, MO. Guests in attendance were introduced.

Roll call: A quorum was established by voting card pickup and sign-in with 49 voting districts present.

Minutes: Motion was made by Livingston County and seconded by Camden County to approve the 2013 minutes as presented by email, posted on the Internet, and on screen. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report for November 2013 to November 2014 was presented, copies were included in conference packets. Internal audit was done Tuesday night with no issues identified. Johnson County moved to approve the treasurer report and file for audit, seconded by Oregon County. Motion passed unanimously.

President's Report: Kenny Lovelace apologized to those attending for the comments made by the Opening Session speaker that may have offended some of those attending the session.

Partner Reports: J. R. Flores reported he had heard the comments and concerns on staffing issues. He stated the NRCS Area Conservationists will be the selective official for the new FOSA District Conservationists. Colleen Meredith reported this year is the 40th anniversary of the Department of Natural Resources and also the 30th year of the Parks and Soils Sales Tax. She stated there is some realignment going on in DNR and the Soil and Water Program Office is being moved into the DNR Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The 319 Program will be moved into the Soil and Water Program but the funding will be kept separate since it comes from different sources. So far the rolling allocation process for cost-share funding has put \$3.5 million out to districts in addition to their initial allocations. She stated that the 30th Anniversary Panel is made up of several people who were instrumental in the Parks and Soils Sales Tax approval and renewals. The cover crop pilot program was approved state-wide this year and the comment period is still open for comments. She urged the board members to submit comments on the practice. Some of the comments received so far have asked for grazing to be added to the practice. Ms. Meredith also stated that the Governor announced that 2015 will be the Year of Water and is also the International Year of Soils for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Council. Sandy Stratman, representing the Employees Association invited everyone to stay around for the Employees business meeting following

the MASWCD business meeting. She stated there currently are 231 member employees and 120 associate members.

SOIL AND WATER RESOLUTIONS

Kenny Lovelace introduced Ben Gorden, Resolutions Chair, to handle the resolutions. Ben briefly reviewed the resolutions process and gave a brief report on the status of the resolutions passed at the 2013 meeting. He stated he had received a letter of response from the Program Office on each of the resolutions submitted to the Commission for 2013.

Resolution #1 was presented by Livingston SWCD on attendance of Area Directors at MASWCD and Commission meetings. Livingston read the resolution and made a motion to approve the resolution. Howard County seconded. George Engelbach, Jefferson SWCD stated that MASWCD tries to schedule meetings around the Commission meeting but the Commission meetings have not been stable over the past few years and would make this difficult. Holt SWCD agreed, stating it would put undue burden on the Area Directors. Vote – Yes – 11 / NO – 38. Resolution Failed.

Resolution #2 was presented by Gasconade SWCD on district employee health insurance costs. Gasconade read the resolution and made a motion to approve the resolution. Carter County seconded. George Engelbach commented that he thought the Health Care Act required all employees to have health insurance not all individuals. Vote – Yes – 47 / NO – 2. Resolution Passed.

Resolution #3 was presented by St. Louis SWCD on precision agriculture cost-share. St. Louis read the resolution and made a motion to approve the resolution. Callaway County seconded. Henry Heinze, Clark SWCD stated he was not sure this would be the best use of the sales tax funds. Mike Kelley, Carter SWCD commented he would like to see some cost estimates on this. Vote – Yes – 5 / NO – 40. Resolution Failed. .

Ben Gorden asked if there were any resolutions to be presented from the floor and reminded that it would take a 2/3 vote to approve bringing the resolution from the floor. There were no resolutions from the floor.

Proposed Bylaw Changes: Kenny Lovelace asked Beverly Dometrorch to present the proposed bylaw changes which were sent out with the resolution slate. Motion to put on the floor for discussion was made by Howard SWCD. DeKalb seconded. Motion passed with no opposition. It was decided to take the proposed changes each individually.

Article VI Section 2 – Clarifies a Past President elected to a dual role has the option of which position to represent as needed. Henry SWCD made a motion to adopt, Taney SWCD seconded. George Engelbach, Jefferson SWCD stated he had not seen this before. Ms. Dometrorch re-emphasized that the proposed bylaw changes were sent to all the districts along with the slate of resolutions for the business meeting. Mike Kelley, Carter SWCD stated he did not feel the bylaws should be changed every year. Vote on the proposed bylaw change – Yes – 14 / No – 24. Proposed bylaw change Article VI Section 2 Failed.

Article VII Section 1 – Clarifies that an Area Director that has served consecutive or intermittent terms previously and is a current SWCD supervisor is eligible to be re-elected regardless of the number of terms served. Howard SWCD made a motion to adopt, Henry SWCD seconded. No floor discussion. Vote on the proposed bylaw change – Yes – 30 / No – 13. Proposed bylaw change Article VII Section 1 Passed.

Article VII Section 4 – Clarifies that the Past President is only the current Past President not those who served as President prior to that. There was no motion to adopt this proposed change so the proposal dies.

MASWCD Policy: The resolutions approved will be added to the MASWCD policy and a motion was made by Carter SWCD to approve the updated Policy. Daviess SWCD seconded. Vote – Yes – 42 / NO – 0. Motion passed unanimously.

Other Business: Kenny Loveless reported on the results of the Board Reorganization – President, Kenny Lovelace

1st Vice President, Bruce Biermann

2nd Vice President, Beverly Dometrorch

3rd Vice President, Dan Greeson

He also stated that Tom Lambert from Daviess SWCD is going off as Area 2 Director and David Morris from Livingston SWCD will be the new Area 2 Director.

Steve Radcliff, Livingston SWCD made a motion that due to lack of a quorum of the Commission that MASWCD send a letter to the Governor and the Missouri Senators urging the vacancies on the Soil and Water Commission be filled. He stated he felt it was taxation without representation. George Engelbach, Jefferson SWCD seconded. Vote – Yes – 44 / NO – 0.

Kenny Lovelace stated the Employees Meeting will start in this same room at 10:00 am, and the 30th Anniversary Panel will also be in the same room this afternoon starting at 2:00 pm. He thanked everyone for attending.

A motion was made by Monroe County to adjourn, Saline seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.