



Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

MASWCD MINUTES
Regular Meeting
USDA Service Center
Jefferson City, Missouri
June 25, 2019

President

RYAN BRITT
NACD Board Member
11764 Hwy 3
Clifton Hill, MO 65244
(660) 676-4898
ryan.britt@farms@gmail.com

1st Vice President

RON WILLIS
NACD Alternate
23127 Hwy 48
King City, MO 64463
(816) 383-3875
ronandnancywillis@gmail.com

2nd Vice-President

KENNY SPOOLER
1788 Co Rd 347
Jackson, MO 63755
(573) 270-4145
lawbuf@aol.com

3rd Vice-President

DAVID MORRIS
3454 Highway A
Chillicothe, MO 64601
(660) 646-9397
davidm@grm.net

AREA DIRECTORS

Area I

RON WILLIS
NACD Alternate
23127 Hwy 48
King City, MO 64463
(816) 383-3875
ronandnancywillis@gmail.com

Area II

DAVID MORRIS
3454 Highway A
Chillicothe, MO 64601
(660) 646-9397
davidm@grm.net

Area III

SCOT SHIVELY
4067 Shelby 357
Shelbyville, MO 63469
(660) 651-8552
shivelyscot@gmail.com

Area IV

BEVERLY DOMETRORCH
2670 Highway 240
Fayette, MO 65248
(660) 248-2645
(573) 864-5697

Area V

MIKE HAEFFNER
1320 Highway 100
Morrison, MO 65061
(573) 294-0016
mhaeffner@outlook.com

Area VI

KATHRYN BRADEN
4210 Blair Ridge Road
Bradleyville, MO 65614
(417) 335-0671
SWMOKATHRYN@aol.com

Area VII

DAN GREESON
29 Pin Oak Road
Eldon, MO 65026
(573) 392-3208
dangreeseon@sbcglobal.net

Area VIII

KENNY SPOOLER
1788 Co Rd 347
Jackson, MO 63755
(573) 270-4145
lawbuf@aol.com

Executive Director

PEGGY LEMONS
1209 Biscayne Drive
Jefferson City, MO 65109
(573) 893-5188 or (573) 353-1417
peggy@maswcd.net

Past President

KENNY LOVELACE
2605 County Road 325
Palmyra, MO 63461
(573) 822-2545
kenny@centurytel.net

Treasurer

HENRY HEINZE
22998 County Road 357
Williamstown, MO 63473
(660) 988-3901
hjh@marktwin.net

Present

Ryan Britt, President

Kenny Lovelace, Past President

Ron Willis, Area I

David Morris, Area II

Henry Heinze, Area III Alt/Treasurer

Beverly Dometrorch, Area IV

Mike Haeffner, Area V

Kathryn Braden, Area VI

Dan Greeson, Area VII

Peggy Lemons, Executive Director

J. R. Flores, NRCS State Conservationist

Jim Boschert, DNR Soil & Water Program

Brent Vandeloecht, MDC

Chris Terry, District Employees Assn.

Kelly Smith, Farm Bureau

Not Present

Scot Shively, Area III

Kenny Spooler, Area VIII

President Ryan Britt welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. with a quorum established.

The minutes from the 5-21-19 conference call were presented for approval. Beverly Dometrorch made a motion to approve the minutes, Kathryn Braden seconded. Motion carried unanimously (7-0). The minutes from the 3-5-2019 meeting were presented for approval. Dan Greeson made a motion to approve the minutes, Ron Willis seconded. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

A financial report that shows the yearly income and expenses for the Jefferson City accounts from 2013 through 2019 was reviewed. Henry Heinze reported the balance in his account is about \$87,600, down a little from last year. He also provided a report of dues paid for the board. There are currently 98 districts that have paid their 2019 dues which is 86%. There was some discussion on the interest earned on the CD's. The budget committee will take a look at potential investments, etc. David Morris made a motion to accept the treasurer report and file it for audit. Mike Haeffner seconded. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

MDC Report: Brent Vandeloecht reported they are working on the rules for the cost-share to piggy-back on state cost-share. \$50,000 for this has been sent to MASWCD. With the monarch incentive there has been over 300,000 acres of monarch habitat created since 2014. The numbers of monarch are up now however the western monarch numbers in California are down about 90%. The MDC Commission will be discussing a potential elk season at their meeting this week. Feral hogs are still a big issue. Over 5700 have been killed through May this year with the help of the 8 full time trappers that were hired. Since starting the CWD testing there have been 116 cases identified. Due to the short distance the deer appear to travel, the CWD restricted areas are being reduced some. The Commission is considering increasing permit prices and changing the rules for free deer tags. They are looking at increasing the acreage for landowner deer tags from 5 acres to 20 acres owned, but out-of-state landowners may get discounted permit prices. There were several instances of ineligibility this past year during checks of landowner deer tags, they are considering going back to a registry of land for landowner permits. The person using the landowner tag has to reside on the land, cannot be a relative that does not live there.

NRCS Report: J. R. Flores stated NRCS staff has been really busy working on EQIP and CSP contracts. They need to get the EQIP contracts obligated. Missouri received an additional \$10 million for EQIP to address ephemeral gully erosion. They also received \$1 million for cover crops on flooded cropland for the 13 counties with a disaster designation. NRCS is currently assisting FSA with the ECP program. J. R. commented that the maximum length of the Cooperative Working Agreements is 5 years. The current agreement with DNR is set to expire on September 30th. They are working to get another agreement in place. The State Technical Committee meets tomorrow in Columbia. There should be 4 or 5 MASWCD Board members attending.

Commission Report: Commissioner Kenny Lovelace stated the last Commission was held in Boonville. He commented he hoped they did not get to a position of addressing issues by severely restricting all the districts. He stated he feels there needs to be better training for the board supervisors on what to look for to prevent problems. DNR has talked about short training sessions that Coordinators could do at local board meetings. Jim Boschert distributed a list of suggested items to be implemented by the districts as a result of audit findings. There was a lengthy discussion on this list of items. It will be discussed by the Plan for the Future District Operations committee for their recommendations to be presented to the Commission. Jim Boschert stated that today is the last day for processing cost-share payments. This year cost-share payments will total \$36-\$37 million, with \$9.6 million of that for cover crops. It is overall less money than last year but more contracts. The next Commission meetings will be on July 25 in Novelty and August 14 at the State Fair. Jim responded to a question on the new accounting system for the districts. He stated they plan to have training by webinars hopefully in mid-July. He also stated they had discussed with OA the issue of purging vendor forms at the end of the fiscal year with no luck in getting anything changed. In response to a question on the eligibility for supervisors, he stated their interpretation is a resident tax-payer, but if they have a mailing address in the county they are eligible. The election rules will be discussed by the Plan for the Future committee as well. Ryan Britt stated he had just received information that RMA has approved corn as a cover crop for silage. He asked if that would be an eligible cover crop approved by NRCS and SWCD. J. R. Flores stated that it would probably not be approved to cost share on for EQIP and if the land is HEL the landowner needs to check with the local office to make sure they stay in compliance. Jim Boschert stated he will check also as to how it would relate to state cost-share.

Farm Bureau: Kelly Smith stated that Farm Bureau had put together a study group to look at the feral hog issue in Missouri. After their first meeting they have already decided that there will have to be some give and take by communities and agencies if they are successful in addressing the feral hog issue. The committee will be putting together recommendations on addressing feral hogs including whether to hunt or not, to present to the Farm Bureau resolutions committee and then voted on by the Farm Bureau membership. Farm Bureau will be highlighting pollinators in their state fair building this year. He stated trade continues to be an issue for farmers. On July 28-30 there will be an Agritourism meeting in Warrensburg. Agritourism is one of the fastest growing agricultural opportunities. There will be a Farm Bureau Commodity Conference on August 22-23. One of the topics for discussion will be industrial hemp. It is still not legal to plant yet. In response to a question, Kelly replied that the Department of Agriculture is in charge of keeping records of foreign land ownership for ag production, which he thinks is currently about 1%.

Employees Association: Chris Terry reported that the Employees Association held their meeting last week. They confirmed representatives for their vacant positions. Last year the association approved 13 scholarships. Since this year is the 75th anniversary of MASWCD, they plan to have a promotional item at the Training Conference. They are revamping their awards program and working on getting their newsletter going again. They had some discussion on the progression line and on the cost of the health insurance for dependent coverage. They also plan to do a fund raiser again this year with a shirt, etc.

Budget Committee: No report, but they will be working on the issue of the investing of the funds in CD's.

Bylaws Committee: No report.

Strategic Planning Committee: No report.

Old Business:

The Board reviewed the legislative action last year with the successful LAGERS legislation and the cost-share supplemental funds. Jim Boschert stated that to date about 40 districts have signed up for LAGERS.

District issues that were previously discussed on the conference call have all been addressed.

New Business:

The 2019 Area Meeting schedule and locations was reviewed. Item for the agenda were discussed. Some of the suggestions include: the financial presentation that Jim Plassmeyer did at the Education Seminar, Derek Steen on his work on the value of the conservation practices, the soil health trailer, area awards and elections. An email will be sent to the boards in the election areas about the new voting process and encouraging them to vote at their July or early August board meetings and submit it to the nominating committees.

Since this is the 75th anniversary for MASWCD, the logo for the Training Conference will focus on that. The Board reviewed some suggested logos and picked one. David Morris made a motion to select the one with the anniversary ribbon across the star using a green color instead of the brown. Kathryn Braden seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Main Street Opry with their Christmas Show has been contacted and will be available to do the conference on Monday evening at a cost of \$3800. Potential speakers were discussed. Since the NRCS Chief has been invited, he could speak at the Opening session on Monday morning, the Banquet on Monday evening or prior to the Auction on Tuesday evening. Other speaker suggestions were Gene Schmidt from NACD, Ray Archuleta and Derek Steen. The time to start the Opening Session on Monday was discussed and decided on 9 am. The letter asking for resolutions will be sent out in the next few days. Ron Willis will be resolutions chair again this year. Possible tours during the conference are the tours of the dam again if possible, Bridal Cave and the Lake Boat Excursion. The Board then looked at potential bags for the conference and made a selection. Ron Willis made a motion to have the Kinton large lunch cooler bags. David Morris seconded. Motion carried unanimously (7-0). Due to the 75th anniversary it was decided to have a promotional item for the conference bags. After reviewing several suggestions, Ron Willis made a motion to approve the tape measures. Kathryn Braden seconded. Motion carried unanimously (7-0). The Board then discussed what the main auction item from MASWCD would be. Ron Willis made a motion to approve a Henry Golden Boy engraved with the MASWCD 75th logo. Mike Haeffner seconded, motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Missouri will be hosting the NACD North Central Region meeting January 6-7 in St. Louis in 2020. The Board reviewed hotel conference cost from 4 different hotels in the St. Louis area. The final decision will be made by the North Central Board, but the best option looks like the Embassy Suites. They discussed potential speakers for this meeting and what tour options there might be in the area. Ron Willis made a motion to approve MASWCD sponsoring up to \$1000 toward the cost of the Monday night meal. Beverly Dometorch seconded. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Area Reports: Area 1: Ron Willis reported some ground is not going to get planted. There has been heavy rains and flooding but cover crops helped hold the land.

Area 2: David Morris reported it is wet in their area, not much construction is going on and several levees broke.

Area 3: Henry Heinze reported his area has 4 counties along the Mississippi River which is flooding. Some cover crops did not get planted and there is a lot of rye still standing in the field.

Area 4: Beverly Dometorch reported the state winning Envirothon team this year is from her area, they will be going to the national competition in North Carolina this summer. A lot of her area is under water, it is too wet for hay.

Area 5: Mike Haeffner said there is quite a bit of flooding in his area also. Levees have been topped. Early corn was flooded. The rivers have begun receding but there is talk about them coming back up again.

Area 6: Kathryn Braden reported they have had a lot of rain. Pastures are a mess. Hay is either still standing or was put up wet.

Area 7: Dan Greeson said his area had a tornado that hit Eldon and Jefferson City which has provided a different set of problems than the other areas. Most of the land in his area is hay, those that got the hay out have a good crop but a lot are having trouble getting the hay out.

Area 8: No report.

Correspondence: None

Other Business: None

The next meeting date will be September 10 at the Jefferson City USDA Service Center starting at 1 pm. Motion for adjournment made by Ron Willis, seconded by Dan Greeson. Motion carried unanimously (7-0). The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Brent Vandeloecht's response to the question about the cost of the contract to pick up deer from the roadways -- The information I told you today about MO Dot having a contract to pick up deer in some urban areas was incorrect. I checked with our resource Science Division Chief Jason Summers and he said...." We don't contract with MODOT. It's their responsibility to maintain a safe roadway. Just like removing a blown tire, mattress, etc. "Sorry for the misinformation and please pass along to the MASWCD board. Sorry!

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Lemons, Executive Director

Ryan Britt, President