

MASWCD Conference Call
August 16, 2012
12:00 p.m.

Present

Steve Radcliff, President
Tom Lambert, Area 2
Kenny Lovelace, Area 3
Beverly Dometrorch, Area 4
George Engelbach, Area 5
Dan Greeson, Area 7
Peggy Lemons, Executive Director
Sandy Hutchison, Employees Association
Ernie Calvert, Camden SWCD
Livingston SWCD

Not Present

Fred Feldmann, Past President
Bruce Biermann, Area 1
Ben Gorden, Area 6
Mike Kelley, Area 8
David Dix, Treasurer

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

Discussion was held about a donation request for the 2012 Women in Ag Conference. Last year the amount donated was \$550, however the Board was reluctant to give that amount this year. Tom made a motion to donation \$100, Kenny seconded. The motion was approved unanimous (5-0) as follows: Tom Lambert – yes; Kenny Lovelace – yes; Beverly Dometrorch – yes; George Engelbach – no; Dan Greeson – yes.

Peggy provided information on a request from MDC to sponsor a ½ page ad in the Rural Missouri magazine to promote converting dead fescue over to native grasses. Dan Greeson stated that one of the major income sources of his counties is selling fescue seed and this would go against that effort. There was no motion to support sponsoring this ad.

The next Commission meeting will be on September 19 with a MASWCD Board meeting on September 18 and a Plan for the Future meeting with DNR on September 20. The Area Meetings for this year were cancelled at DNR's request. We will plan to hold the Area Meetings at the Training Conference on that Monday morning. We will need to make sure we get a quorum to attend in order to hold elections. Colleen Meredith did state that Sunday night rooms could be approved if there was a part of the conference held on Sunday evening.

The Board then discussed the Drought Assistance Program the districts are handling. Steve Radcliff stated he is hearing a lot about the confusion and changing of information. He stated he has heard that some people have gone to the Governor's office with complaints. There is also supposed to be a web site for complaints. George Engelbach stated the payment will not be 90% by the time the project is done, more like 75%. Tom Lambert said there is a meeting planned in his area to get answers on drought assistance that is being put on by Extension and NRCS and some other organizations. Kenny Lovelace stated he heard of a landowner that was turned down for a well, they called Jim Boschert and then got approved, but he thought maybe now they were cancelled again. Beverly Dometrorch stated it seems to be quality versus quantity. She cited an instance of a partnership interest where one of the partners was told to take half cattle and go home. She said most of her area was told to hook up to rural water. Dan Greeson said some

areas can't hook up to rural water due to the current water levels. Ernie Calvert stated that the field review team never left their report at the office when they were done. George Engelbach said they were supposed to. He also said they had 3 different teams working in his county. General consent is that it appears to be unorganized and should have been on local decision basis instead of at the state level. Cleaning out old ponds would really have helped right now. The districts were not allowed to change the percentage of payment for the program. Most were not certain of who you should complain to.

Tom Lambert made the motion to end the conference call. It was seconded by Kenny Lovelace. All were in favor with none opposed. There being no further business, the conference call adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Lemons
Executive Director

Steve Radcliff
President