



Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

MASWCD MINUTES Regular Meeting Missouri Farm Bureau Jefferson City, Missouri August 23, 2021

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Present

Ron Willis, President
Ryan Britt, Past President
Jim Carlson, Area I
Steve Radcliff, Area II
Beverly Dometrorch, Area IV
Mike Haeffner, Area V
Harold Lampe, Area VI
David Hutsell, Area VII
Kenny Spooler, Area VIII
Henry Heinze, Treasurer

Kurt Boeckmann, DNR Soil & Water Program
Kenny Lovelace, Soil & Water Commission
Sandy Burd

Not Present

Scot Shively, Area III

President Ron Willis welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:21 a.m. with a quorum established by roll call. There will not be any partners present today. He said that Kurt Boeckmann would be joining the meeting after an appointment.

The minutes from the August 23, 2021 meeting were presented for approval. Harold Lampe made the motion to approve. It was seconded by Beverly Dometrorch. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

A financial report was given by Henry Heinze. He said there was about \$66,000 in the bank account that he has. He reported there about 77% of the districts have paid their dues. He handed out sheets to the Area Directors on who has paid in their respective areas. The association funds were discussed. There are currently two Certificates of Deposit and five banking accounts. One account is maintained by Henry Heinze and the other four were handled by Peggy Lemons. Those four accounts are in two different banks. Sandy Burd reported on the balances in those accounts as of the last entries. She was able to find out that in addition to Peggy Lemons and Henry Heinze, Kenny Lovelace was still listed as a signer on the bank accounts. Ron Willis said that changing the bank accounts will be discussed later in the agenda. Steve Radcliff made the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented and it was seconded by Mike Haeffner. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Old Business

Area Meetings and Elections – The Area Meetings were cancelled due to the Delta Variant and the loss of Peggy Lemons. There are rooms scheduled at the Training Conference to have the Area Meetings. The elections can be done ahead of the Area Meetings. The Areas to have elections this year are 1, 3, 5 and 7. Mike Haeffner announced that he will not be the Area 5 Director next year. Gary Bonacker from Jefferson County will be the new area director. The other areas should plan to have their elections in September so it can be announced who was selected at the October meeting. Henry Heinze stated that he would like the board to start looking for someone to take his position as treasurer. The board asks if he could stay on for a little while and he said that he would.

Speech Contest – Each FFA area needs to have three judges. It has not been determined if the contest will be virtual or in person. Melissa White is working with someone on the contest. Each area director needs to find their judges for each FFA area. Sandy Burd will be checking with Melissa White on how this is progressing with her contact with FFA.

Poster Contest – Sandy Burd will be sending out an email reminding districts to submit their posters by email. There was one hard copy poster found at the Cole County office. All entries need to be sent electronically.

Awards – An email reminder will be sent out for nominations for the Cooperator of the Year and Teacher of the Year. It was determined that since the deadline for these awards has passed, the deadline has been extended until October 1st. It was determined that the deadline for the Hugh Hammond Bennett Award nominations for the state award has also passed. The Distinguished Service Award and/or Friend of Conservation award is determined by the board if they so choose to select a recipient.

Resolutions – The deadline to submit resolutions is October 1st. This will be included in the email to the districts. Harold Lampe volunteered to present the resolutions at the Annual Meeting.

New Computer – At the last meeting, purchasing a new computer was approved. Henry Heinze said that he did not see that any charges have been made for the purchase on the credit card. It was suggested to get a laptop. Sandy Burd said that she is picking up the MASWCD computer this afternoon. The Cole County office has two printers in the storage room. One is for the Envirothon and it is unknown who owns the other printer. Jim Frank is going to ask the Cole County board about the other printer to see if they have an issue with the state association taking the printer. Henry Heinze thought that a printer had been purchased at one time.

2021 Training Conference – Discussion was held on changing the bylaws for establishing a quorum and voting at the Annual Meeting. There was a Zoom option that could also be used. Steve Radcliff and Jim Carlson will work on the wording for the bylaws change on what is determined to be a quorum at the Annual Meeting and this will be discussed at the October meeting. It will then be sent out to districts prior to the conference.

The type of bag that was approved last month was discussed as there were two types of zippered bags on the example page. It was determined that it is not to be the insulated tote. Sandy Burd said that previously 500 bags were ordered. Beverly Dometorch asked about the years of service pins. Sandy Burd said that she has not located those yet but

they may be in the storage room at the Cole County office. Items need to be collected for the bags, door prizes and auction items. The prizes for the first time attendance by a supervisor and the grand prize to be given away at the closing were discussed. In the past the first time attendance has been \$100 and the grand prize was either a clock, gun or \$400. The schedule of the conference was reviewed. The panel discussion at the opening session is planned to be DNR, NRCS and MDA. MDC was an option. The tours will not be an option this year. However, a wine testing may be an option if it is ok with Margaritaville and the Department of Agriculture. Sandy Burd will check to see if this is an option.

For the auction, Beverly Dometrorch will check with her board member to see if he is available to be the auctioneer. Kurt Boeckmann arrived and he was asked about the all-inclusive registration that included meals or pay per diem. It was decided to keep the all-inclusive registration that includes all meals, no per diem would be allowed if the meal is included in the conference registration. It was determined that everyone that has an all-inclusive registration would get a white name tag and guests would have a colored name tag. If a meal was purchased for the guest, they would receive a ticket per meal.

Henry Heinze asked about the Yapp bill. Sandy Burd said that this was an app for people to have access to the conference schedule on their phones. Ryan Britt commented that he and a few other people have used it in the past. It was determined not to pay the bill.

Ryan Britt mentioned that he and Kurt Boeckmann were at the State Fair and the Corn Growers and the Soybean Association offered sponsorship for our conference if we could use it. It was suggested that they could buy the bags. Cattleman's and FCS Financial were also mentioned as possible sponsors. It was suggested that a notebook might be another item that someone could donate. Ryan Britt offered to check to see if he can get sponsors.

New Business

Memorial for Peggy Lemons – Options were discussed on doing something in memory of Peggy Lemons. Harold Lampe made the motion to give a \$500 scholarship every year in memory of Peggy Lemons to either the top individual or top team for the Envirothon state competition to be determined. It was seconded by Kenny Spooler. Ryan Britt called Andrea McKeown to get further information on what is being done presently with the Envirothon. There is no top individual winner on the top team. Harold Lampe made the motion to give \$100 to Hospice in memory of Peggy Lemons. It was seconded by Beverly Dometrorch. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

New Executive Director – Ron Willis stated that Sandy Burd has submitted a request to DNR to be the part-time Executive Director. Kurt Boeckmann said that Legal Counsel needs to review and approve Outside Employment. Sandy Burd said that she is volunteering her time right now. It was discussed that an assistant was needed to help the Executive Director especially during the Training Conference. It was proposed that the board may want to consider hiring a full-time Director. Discussion followed on full-time versus part-time. More research needs to be done on the future of the position. Steve Radcliff made the motion to hire Sandy Burd as the permanent part-time Executive Director upon approval by DNR and salary to be determined. It was seconded by Jim Carlson. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Bank Accounts – Ron Willis stated that the bank accounts need to be taken care of. The people currently on the bank accounts that Peggy Lemons handled and they are Kenny

Lovelace, Henry Heinze and Peggy Lemons. There are two accounts at Mid-America Bank and two at Jefferson Bank. Harold Lampe made the motion to remove Peggy Lemons and Kenny Lovelace from the bank accounts. It was seconded by Mike Haeffner. Motion carried unanimously (7-0). Discussion was held on who should be the new signers on the bank accounts. Harold Lampe made the motion to put Ron Willis, Kenny Spooler and Henry Heinze on the bank accounts. It was seconded by David Hutsell. Motion carried unanimously (7-0). The minutes from the meeting need to be taken to the bank to show approval of the new signers. Sandy Burd will also put the association seal on it.

Mail – Ron Willis said that currently the mail is going to Peggy Lemons home address. Sandy Burd said that she talked to her husband and they do not get much mail anymore. She said this is probably due to a lot of it going by email. Henry Heinze asked about her credit card and Sandy Burd said that Jim Frank was to mail it to him. Steve Radcliff made the motion to get a post office box. It was seconded by Harold Lampe. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Telephone – Ron Willis said that the telephone number listed for the state association was Peggy Lemon's personal cell telephone. It was suggested to get a cell phone and that way it could go to whoever the Executive Director was. Sandy Burd said she will be available on Mondays if need be to work on Association duties. Steve Radcliff made the motion to get a cell phone. It was seconded by Mike Haeffner. Motion carried unanimously (7-0). Henry Heinze asks who had a credit card. Ron Willis, Beverly Dometrorch, Ryan Britt and Kenny Lovelace have them. All but Ron Willis' card will be cancelled.

Conference Call Number – There is a NTT Cloud Communications bill for the Conference Call number. It was determined that Peggy paid the bill. Sandy Burd will check into getting the contact information changed.

Website – The board advised that they wanted to keep the website. Peggy Lemons' husband also said that the association also paid for their internet. Sandy Burd said that she will call CenturyLink to cancel the internet. A generic email will be set up so it does not go to anyone personally. This will allow both the President and Executive Director access.

Office Storage and Equipment – Sandy Burd said that there is a lot of items at the Cole County office. If it works out for her to take the position, she offered to store things in totes in her shop. Discussion was held on using the clickers from DNR instead of the voting signs and that way the green voting signs could be passed out to the districts to keep. They were planned to be used at the last Training Conference. There is no issue with keeping the items at the Cole County office at this time. Using the clickers will need to be looked into to see if they can be used.

Area Reports

Area 1 – Jim Carlson said that it is dry and they are dealing with army worms.

Area 2 – Steve Racliff asks if an NRCS DC has control over district employees. Kurt Boeckmann said that varies. The boards sometimes asks the DC to report to them. Kurt Boeckmann said that he is aware of some issues going on right now. Compensation for employees and their salaries are being looked at right now. There is a committee meeting in October to discuss increasing the salaries especially the first two levels.

Area 3 – No report

Area 4 – Beverly Dometrorch attended the Commission meeting and has been on her board for 19 years. She said in her area she has an average of two managers leave each year.

Area 5 – Mike Haeffner said they had flooding in June, replanting in July and now they are facing a drought.

Area 6 – Harold Lampe said they are dry and also have had army worms. Rains are very spotty.

Area 7 – David Hutsell reported that his area has been pretty fortunate that they have had rain. They have also had army worms.

Area 8 – Kenny Spooler said that southeast Missouri has had plenty of rain and grass and good crops. He commented that they cannot keep employees. It was asked about the insurance that was discussed at the last meeting. Kurt Boeckmann said that their office gave them everything they asked for. Ryan Britt said that NACD is also working on insurance and looking at offering it also to board members as well as district employees.

Other Business

Sandy Burd commented that the Sam.gov needs to be looked into to make sure that it does not lapse.

The next board meeting for the MASWCD Board was set for Monday, October 4, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. The Soybean Association building may available for the meeting. Ron Willis will check on the location. Moving the items from the Cole County office will be determined if they can be done that day.

There being no more business, a motion for adjournment was made by Harold Lampe. It was seconded by Jim Carlson. Motion carried unanimously (7-0). The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Burd

Ron Willis, President