**MASWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Draft MEETING Minutes**

**Sunday December 1, 2024, 2:00 p.m.**

**Margaritaville Tan Tar A**

**Osage Beach, Missouri**

**Present**

Ron Willis, President Rayanna Hopper, Trng Coor

Jim Carlson Area I Ben Shirar, Archeologist

Steve Radcliffe, Area II Jim Plassmeyer, DNR SWCP

Scot Shively, Area III Scott Edwards, NRCS

Beverly Dometrorch, Area IV Davin Althoff, Farm Bureau

Jeff Deshon, Area V Melissa White MSWCDEA

Tim Neely, Area VI Henry Heinze, Area II Alt

David Hutsell, Area VII Tina Dulaban, Benton SWCD

Kenny Spooler, Area VIII Andrew Schnacke, Lawrence SWCD

Ryan Britt, Past President Kenny Lovelace, Commissioner

Harold Lampe, Treasurer

Jim Boschert, Executive Director

President Ron Willis welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. Ron asked everyone to introduce themselves. It was determined a quorum was present.

Ron Willis asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Jeff Deshon made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Beverly Dometrorch. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

**Minutes**

The minutes from the September 5, 2024 meeting were reviewed. With no corrections made the minutes stand as approved and will be filed.

**Treasurer Report**

Jim Boschert presented the Treasurer’s Report. He presented reports showing the beginning balance income and expenses since the last meeting and then the ending balance. Jim then presented the expenses in each account. Jim mentioned that since November 1, 2024 additional income of $200,000 has been deposited from MDC. In addition MASWCD received $25,776 from NRCS and approximately $69,000 for training conference registration.

Harold Lampe presented the soil and water conservation districts that have paid their 2024 dues. There are currently 105 SWCDs that have paid their dues.

Harold Lampe reviewed the 2024 budget.

Jeff Deshon made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report. The motion was seconded by Steve Radcliffe. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

**MDC Report**

No report was given.

**NRCS Report**

Scott Edwards mentioned all of the NRCS conservation team will be in attendance. Scott mentioned the MOA between NRCS, the SWCDs and the Department of Natural Resources is set to expire at the end of the year. The unfunded operation agreement is also set to expire. Discussions are underway to try and combine these two documents. Scott also mentioned the amount of training that has taken place n the last year. Scott also mentioned the N.E.S.T training program. He wants to open this program up to SWCD technicians.

**Commission Report**

Jim Plassmeyer mentioned at a recent NASCA meeting training needs for SWCD employees across the nation was discussed. Jim mentioned that with the MOA he is planning to have a draft to the SWCDs for their review in February or March. The goal is to have a final draft ready for SWCDs at the beginning of the state fiscal year. Jim also mentioned the next Commission meeting is tomorrow. Jim stated the cost-share obligated numbers are down approximately three million from the same time last year. Jim mentioned the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax renewal. Jim presented brochures from the last tax renewal. Jim mentioned DNR is considering combining the Parks and Soils brochures into one. Jim discussed the new accounting system the state of Missouri is coming out with called MOVERS. This is a decision made by the State of Missouri Office of Administration.

**Farm Bureau Report**

Dan Althoff mentioned Farm Bureau the Farm Bureau Annual Meeting is next week. Davin mentioned Farm Bureau will focus on the tax renewal after their annual meeting. Farm Bureau will be scheduling meeting in early 2025 on this effort.

**NACD Report**

Ryan Britt discussed the Farm Bill and stated the Farm Bill will expire at the end of December. Ron mentioned that the Farm Bill is currently stalled. Ryan mentioned NACD is trying to get the IRA funds into the Farm Bill on a continuous basis. Ryan mentioned both Beth Mason the NACD Regional Rep and Gary Blair the NACD President elect will be at our meeting. Ryan mentioned NACD membership is going to be a big push in the upcoming years. Ryan mentioned the NACD conference will be held in Salt Lake City in February.

**Employee Association Report**

Melissa White stated their meeting will be held later this evening. Melissa asked about the Partnership Award and the schedule for tomorrow evening. Melissa mentioned the background check procedure and the length of time needed for this process.

**Committee Reports**

**Budget Committee**

Budget will be discussed at a later date. An audit will be done after the business meeting.

**By Laws Committee**

Ron Willis reviewed the proposed change to the by-laws. The proposed change would allow the MASWCD to appoint an alternate if someone shows interested in the positions. The proposed change to the by-laws will be voted on Tuesday during the business meeting.

**Strategic Plan Committee**

Nothing to report at this time.

**Envirothon Committee**

Beverly Dometrorch mentioned the State Envirothon Committee met in early November. Tina Dulaban briefly discussed some proposed changes to the way the Envirothon will be done in Missouri. Tina also thanked MASWCD for their continued support. Tina mentioned that Rockwood Summit from Fenton won the state Envirothon this year. The Missouri team finished 23rd out of 49 participants in the National Envirothon competition.

**Old Business**

**Archeologist Position**

Jim Boschert stated that Ben Shirar first day of work was today. He will be located in the USDA Office in Troy Missouri. Ben has been working to get his security clearance through NRCS.

**Engineer Position**

Jim Boschert stated the position description was in their packet. Jim mentioned he sent the position description to the university in Rolla. Jim also mentioned in their packet are letters from LICA and MOFCB. Each organization has decided to provide $10,000 for the required match. Jim also mentioned that SWCDs has stated they would contribute $4,750 toward the position. Steve Radcliffe made the motion to remove flood control from the position description and add soil and water conservation practices to the description. The motion was seconded by David Hutsell. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

**2024 Training Conference**

Jim Boschert discussed the training conference program. Jim passed out a list of training conference duties. The board members volunteered for various duties. Ron Willis discussed the auction. Jim had the Henry Rifle there to show the board.

**New Business**

**Personnel**

**Establish a Personnel Committee**

Ron Willis asked for volunteers for a personnel committee. Scot Shively, Jeff Deshon and David Hutsell volunteered for the personnel committee. Ron appointed Scot, Jeff and David to the personnel committee.

**Personnel Policy**

Jim Boschert mentioned that along with Harold they have been working on a Personnel Policy. Jim mentioned if the board had any comments on the Personnel Policy to forward those comments to Jim.

**Job Descriptions**

Jim Boschert presented position descriptions for both himself and Rayanna. If the board has any comments on the position descriptions to get those to Jim.

Jim also provided a handout from Columbia EDP a payroll company. Jim also went over the prices that Columbia EDP would charge. Jeff Deshon made a motion for MASWCD to use Columbia EDP as the payroll company. The motion was seconded by Beverly Dometrorch. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

**Missouri Forage and Grassland Donation**

Steve Radcliffe made a motion to donate $300 to the Missouri Forage and Grassland Council. The motion was seconded by Beverly Dometrorch. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

**NACD Dues**

David Hutsell made a motion to pay $775 to NACD for their dues. The motion was seconded by Scot Shively. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

**Shirts for Staff**

Jim Boschert mentioned he thought it would be a good promotional idea to have shirts for MASWCD staff that are out in the SWCDs. Jeff Deshon made a motion to purchase 2 shirts for both Rayanna and Ben. The motion was seconded by Beverly Dometrorch. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

**Education Seminar**

Jim Boschert mentioned the Education Seminar is tentatively scheduled for March 11th at Capital Plaza Hotel. This date will change if it conflicts with the Legislative Spring Break.

**North Central Region Meeting**

Ron Willis mentioned the North Central Regional Meeting is January 9th and 10th. Jim Boschert will rent a vehicle for taking board members. Ron Willis, David Hutsell, Ryan Britt, Scott Edwards, Jim Plassmeyer and Jim Boschert will be attending.

**NACD Annual Meeting**

Ron Willis mentioned the NACD Annual Meeting will be held February 8th-12th in Salt Lake City. Ron asked if anyone is interested in attending. Ron Willis, David Hutsell, Ryan Britt, Rayanna Hopper and Jim Boschert will be attending.

**NACD Live Auction Item**

David Hutsell made a motion to purchase an item from Henry Rifle Company for the auction. Scot Shively seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously (8-0).

**NACD Fly-In**

Jim Boschert mentioned he emailed Chris Young with NACD. Chirs stated the NACD Fly-In is tentatively scheduled for March 19th.

**Employee Report**

Rayanna Hopper gave a report on her activities over the past few months.

**Area Reports**

Area 1 – Was dry and then wet.

Area 2 – Good fall. Late corn still in the field.

Area 3 – Snow now. Very dry. Crops good and earthwork getting done.

Area 4 – Doing well filing positions in area. More hay.

Area 5 – Went over questions from area meeting.

Area 6 – Extremely dry through October and then rain in early November.

Area 7 – Still dry but got 2 heavy rains.

Area 8 – Moisture good. Crops are out. Good hay crop.

**Correspondence**

Ron Willis mentioned an item in the packet is related to a Soil Carbon Monitoring Network. Jim Boschert stated NACD is giving each state $25,000 to start a soil carbon monitoring network in each state. This is still very early in its development.

Jim Boschert stated he received a thank you card from a landowner that received an MDC payment.

**Other Business**

Ron Willis mentioned the officer elections. The MASWCD board will meet at 4 pm on Monday in Ron Willis’s room to elect officers for 2025.

**Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting will be held March 11th in conjunction with the Education Seminar at the Capital Plaza Hotel.

**Adjourn**

Scot Shively made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Jeff Deshon. Motion carried unanimously (8-0). The meeting adjourned at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jim Boschert, Executive Director Ron Willis, President