

JOINT MEETING MINUTES

Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts

Kentucky Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Thursday February 9th, 2017 – 9:00 am

In Attendance for KACD: Mr. David Rowlett, President; Mr. Shane Wells, Vice-President; Mr. Allan Bryant, Secretary-Treasurer; Mr. Bobbie Wilson; Mr. Ted Jessup; Mr. Rodney Dick; Mr. Jeff Rice; Ms. Ava Adams, KACDA; and Mr. Steve Coleman.

In Attendance for SWCC: Jack Roberts, Vice-Chairman; Mr. Ray Adams, Secretary; Mr. Scotty Parsons; Mr. Danny Shipley; Mr. Billy Doolin; Mr. Sam Hughes; and Mr. Marc Hult.

Others Present: Ms. Karen Woodrich, NRCS; Ms. Susan Kyler, Trigg County Conservation District; Mr. Barry Alexander, Trigg County Conservation District; Ms. Kayleigh Evans, KACDE; Mr. Allen Luttrell, DNR; Mr. Charles Snaveley, EEC; Dr. Steve Higgins, UK; Mr. Tim Hughes, KDA; Ms. Kim Richardson, DOC; Ms. Johnna McHugh, DOC; Mr. Bill Steele, DOF; Mr. Jay Nelson, DOC; and Jeff Gravitt, DOC.

Quorum was met.

Call to Order - at 8:58 a.m. by Mr. Jack Roberts, Vice Chair SWCC, and KACD President David Rowlett. Mr. Jack Roberts gave the attendees a health update on Mr. John Denton.

SWCC Minutes from the November 21, 2016 Meeting - Motion to approve minutes was made by Mr. Ray Adams. Motion was seconded by Mr. Marc Hult. **Motion carried.**

KACD Minutes from the November 15, 2016 Meeting – Ms. Kim Richardson stated that a correction be made to the minutes. Mr. McCauley was misspelled. Correction made. Motion to approve minutes was made by Mr. Steve Coleman. Motion was seconded by Mr. Shane Wells. **Motion carried.**

KACD Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Mr. Allan Bryant presented the report with copies distributed.

Mr. Allan Bryant made the motion to approve the report. Mr. Rodney Dick seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

NACD Dues – Motion to approve payment of NACD dues of \$1,000.00 was made by Mr. Steve Colman and was seconded by Mr. Allan Bryant. **Motion carried.**

SWCC Correspondence – No correspondence has been received.

KACD Correspondence - President Mr. David Rowlett informed the board that he wrote a letter to the Kentucky's Congressional delegation concerning SAMS/DUNS. Mr. David Rowlett received letters from Senator Mitch McConnell and Representative Thomas Massie. No other legislators gave any response.

Equipment Loan Report - Assistant Director Johnna McHugh, DOC, presented the report with copies distributed.

- Statement of Operations – Assistant Director Johnna McHugh gave an overview of the year to date equipment fund report. Mr. Marc Hult made the motion to approve this report. Mr. Sam Hughes seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**
- Approval of Equipment Loan Requests – There were no new loan requests
- Approval of Infrastructure Loan Requests - There were no new loan requests.

Vacancy Petitions for Conservation District Supervisors Appointments – Director of DOC, Ms. Kim Richardson gave report.

- Approval vacancy petitions
 - Perry County – Marcus Stidham to fill vacancy 2020
 - Muhlenberg County – Loraine Conces to fill vacancy 2020
 - Graves County – Ben Wilson to serve unexpired term of Danny Hart 2020
 - Bath County – Chris Hardin to serve unexpired term of Melisa Ginter 2020
 - Russell County – Ronnie McFall to serve unexpired term of Aubrey Johnson 2018
 - Rockcastle County – Mark Kyehouse to serve unexpired term of Stephen Hines 2020
 - Jefferson County – Calvin Shake to fill vacancy 2020
 - Scott County – Marion Keith Tingle to serve unexpired term of Betty Graves 2018
 - Bourbon County – Lacey Short to fill unexpired term of Beecher Hines 2020
 - Nicholas County – Jason Dixon to fill vacancy 2018
 - Harrison County – William (Bill) Roberts to fill vacancy 2020

Mr. Scott Parson moved to approve. Mr. Ray Adams seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

- Incentive Pay for Supervisors
 - Calloway County
 - Randy McCallon – Area 1 meeting, 10 minute training and KACD convention
 - Don Overbey – Area 1 meeting and 10 minute training
 - Marty Carrway – Area 1 meeting and 10 minute training
 - Mark Wilson - Area 1 meeting and 10 minute training
 - Eddie Workman - Area 1 meeting and 10 minute training
 - Steve Carraway - Area 1 meeting and 10 minute training
 - Bobby Hill - Area 1 meeting and 10 minute training
 - Lawrence County
 - Kevin McCormick – 8th area meeting, Menifee County, 9 training sessions
 - Keith Bradley – 8th area meeting, Menifee County, 12 training sessions
 - Dale C Smith - 8th area meeting, Menifee County, 11 training sessions
 - Leland Jay Saxton - 8th area meeting, Menifee County, 12 training sessions

Mr. Sam Hughes moved to approve. Mr. Danny Shipley seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

Agriculture District Program - Assistant Director Johnna McHugh, DOC, presented the report with copies distributed. Three (3) new petitions were presented to the Commission for consideration for a total of 1,094.01 acres.

- **Campbell County** (Petition No. 019-04 (A12)) – 87.95 acres. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Marc Hult Motion seconded by Mr. Billy Doolin. **Motion carried.**
- **Campbell County** (Petition No. 019-11 (A9)) – 539.06 acres. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Marc Hult. Motion seconded by Mr. Ray Adams. **Motion carried.**
- **Campbell County** (Petition No. 019-16) – 467.00 acres. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Billy Doolin. Motion seconded by Mr. Danny Shipley. **Motion carried.**

Ms. Johnna McHugh presented 7 petitions for recertification.

COUNTY	PETITION NO.	ACRES
Ballard	004-05	545.00
Ballard	004-07	292.40
Ballard	004-08	472.00
Ballard	004-09	540.00
Campbell	019-11	2,853.98
Graves	042-01	568.75
Taylor	109-02	907.00

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Scotty Parsons. Motion seconded by Mr. Danny Shipley. **Motion carried.**

NACD Director's Report – Mr. David Rowlett reported on NACD convention, including new officers. Mr. David Rowlett talked about all the different meetings that were available for attending. Mr. David Rowlett spoke about Unbranded, a movie that deals with a lot of today's conservation issues. While he has not had the chance to watch the DVD he purchased, Ms. Kayleigh Evans highly recommends it. Mr. David Rowlett informed the board that the chest donated by Kentucky for the auction brought \$300.00. Mr. Rowlett told the group that Kentucky received 2 awards at the convention, one for the supervisors training program and one for being one of the top 10 states for dues.

2017 Leopold Award- Mr. Steve Coleman discussed the Leopold Award. The cutoff date for nominations is April 1st. The committee approved the donation of \$1,500.00 to the Sand County Foundation; payable after July 1st. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Allan Bryant, and seconded by Mr. Shane Wells. **Motion carried.** Mr. Steve Coleman abstains.

KACD Convention – KACD Convention will be held in Louisville Kentucky at the Crowne Plaza. A discussion was held to see what activities the board would like to be held at the convention and what items are already being pursued.

- A panel discussion on dead animal removal
- Have an outstanding district presentation
- Jefferson County is working on getting the color guard and performer for the Star Spangled Banner
- A tour of Lake Jericho
- A new employee break out session
- Possible speakers
 - Jefferson County urban conservationist
 - Eric King
 - Jennifer Elwell

KACD Auxiliary Report – Ms. Ava Adams talked about the new quilt project, and how it is coming together nicely. The raffle tickets for the quilt are currently being prepared. Three scholarships of \$1,000.00 each will be judged in March.

Division of Conservation Report – Ms. Kim Richardson discussed the upcoming dates for each area meetings.

- **Area Meetings**
 - 03/01 - Area 2 Ohio County
 - 03/02 - Area 1 Calloway County
 - 03/7 - Area 5 Pendleton County
 - 03/8 - Area 8 Montgomery County
 - 03/9 - Area 7 Pulaski County
 - 03/13 - Area 6 Madison County
 - 03/17 - Area 9 Buckhorn State Park
 - 03/21 - Area 3 Breckinridge County
 - 4/11 - Area 4 Jefferson County

Ms. Kim Richardson informed the boards that areas 1, 2, and 7 Commissioners are up for re-appointment, and Area 9 will choose nominee for the vacated seat once held by Ms. Peggy Conway. The KACD areas 1, 3,4,5,7 and 9 will be having upcoming elections. Mr. Ray Adams suggested inviting local legislators to area meetings.

Update on State Cost Share– Mr. Jay Nelson explained how each applicant is ranked with the current system, and how outdated the State Cost Share program is, as well as what difficulties he has with the SCS program.

Ms. Kim Richardson stated that DOC received 1,845 applications from 93 counties for \$14.6 million in requests. DOC has been very fortunate this year to have \$5 million in State Cost Share funds plus an additional \$5 million that has been reallocated from projects that were cancelled or that were paid below the approved amount. 1,201 applications for approximately \$10 million dollars in 90 counties were recommended for approval.

Mr. Danny Shipley made a motion to approve the SCS, and Mr. Ray Adams seconded motion. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Charles Snively said he was in favor of the current amount of spending this year. Mr. Steve Coleman suggested conducting an audit of practices to make sure cost estimates are in line with the current cost of running a business.

Environmental Grant – Ms. Kim Richardson presented grants recommended for approval. Mr. Scotty Parsons made a motion to approve, and Mr. Sam Hughes seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

Ms. Kim Richardson gave a brief overview on DOC. There are currently 16 employees at DOC. Eight of those employees are field reps and the other 8 are currently in Frankfort. Ms. Richardson informed the board that the Division of Conservation has used 53% of its yearly budget (YTD).

Mr. Marc Hult asked for an AWQA update. Ms. Kim Richardson spoke about the current direction the Authority was taking and what progresses have been made so far this year.

Washington Fly-In – Mr. David Rowlett asked the board to let the executive committee decide how many people would attend and which legislators they would like to visit. Mr. Steve Coleman made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Ted Jessup. **Motion carried.**

Agency Reports

- Energy and Environment Cabinet – Secretary. Charles Snavelly discussed how smaller agencies have been overlooked, and how they're trying to do more to make sure they're fulfilling their mission and give more time to these agencies. Secretary. Snavelly discussed the innovative ways agencies are coming up with to spend funds more efficiently. Secretary. Snavelly shared concerns of DOC being short two field reps and how he fully intends to fill those positions. Secretary. Charles Snavelly discussed what amendments to KRS 146.100 will be in a bill to be introduced today.
- Natural Resources Conservation Service – Ms. Karen Woodrich stated that the NRCS will start working on SCS as soon as information is released. Kentucky just approved \$6 million in EQIP funding. The second round of approval will be March 3rd and the third round will be March 17th. Ms. Karen Woodrich stated that NRCS will not be covering civil rights at the area meetings. It will be covered at the district board meetings. Ms. Woodrich updated the boards as to what changes will happen with the new administration coming in. She discussed the current hiring freeze and what that means for NRCS's current vacancies.
- Kentucky Department for Natural Resources – Commissioner Allen Luttrell has nothing new to add, but will be discussing the SCS data base, stream restoration, and water monitoring at the next meeting.
- Kentucky Department of Agriculture – Mr. Tim Hughes spoke about #KYAG365, featuring farmers and their products. Mr. Hughes discussed the current state of industrial hemp and the 12,800 acres that have been approved for hemp farming. The Department of Agriculture will be having a breakfast at the annex with commodity groups on Feb. 16. They will also have a presence at the Farm Machinery Show. Mr. Hughes spoke briefly about the Ag in the Classroom program.
- University of Kentucky -Dr. Steve Higgins updated the group on the projects that the Commission has funded. The project at St. Catherine has started. Morehead State University is working on a barn to alleviate the current run off issue. The situation in Montgomery County is ongoing, and Dr. Steve Higgins noted that he will be attending town hall meetings in Mount Sterling. He reported that he might be working on a new demonstration site soon, as Eastern Kentucky University has asked for his help.
- Kentucky Division of Forestry – Mr. Bill Steele informed the board that current regulations have been rewritten to update stream crossing and streamside management zones. Mr. Steele talked about the upcoming fire season that begins Feb. 15th and runs through May 1st. Mr. Steele discussed how the increases in bourbon barrels are having a significant demand in the White Oak.
- KACDE – Ms. Kayleigh Evans talked about NACD meetings and went over donations that were approved. The KACDE is updating their directory and should be completed by next week. Ms. Evans suggested they could speak at area meetings about what has been going on.

Comments

- Ms. Kim Richardson asked the board to approve \$100.00 for snacks at the Arts and Writing awards. Motion was made by Mr. Allan Bryant and was seconded by Mr. Shane Wells. **Motion carried.**
- Mr. David Rowlett spoke about partnership mailings that all Kentucky supervisors should have received. It's important that the board members discuss that this initiative is for gaining ideas not making mandates. Mr. Rowlett also updated the group on the survey committee, which is still working on funding.

Adjournment - Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Danny Shipley and was seconded by Mr. Scotty Parsons.
Motion carried.