

## JOINT MEETING MINUTES

Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts

Kentucky Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Friday January 15, 2016 – 9:00 am

Two Hundred and Ninety-Second Meeting

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In Attendance for KACD: David Rowlett, President; Shane Wells, Vice-President; Allan Bryant, Secretary-Treasurer; Kevin Jeffries; Bobbie Wilson; Ted Jessup; Lenville Martin; Gilbert Edgington; Orville Bennett; Rodney Dick; and Randy McCallon

In Attendance for SWCC: John Denton, Chairman; Jack Roberts, Vice-Chairman; Ray Adams, Secretary; Scotty Parsons; Danny Shipley; Billy Doolin; Sanford Holbrook; and Marc Hult.

Others Present: Brent Burchett, KDA; Jack Kuhn, NRCS; Karen Woodrich, NRCS; Leah MacSwords, Director, Division of Forestry; Ron Gruzesky KDOW; Susan Kyler; James Adams Jr, Trigg County conservation District; Rachel Martin; Conservation District Director, Kim Richardson; Assistant Director Johnna McHugh, DOC; and Jeff Gravitt, DOC.

Quorum was met.

**Meeting Called to Order** - at 9:03 a.m. by John Denton, Chairman and KACD President David Rowlett. Mr. Rowlett wanted to thank everyone for their participation at the Agriculture Legislation Reception.

**SWCC Minutes from the November 16, 2015 Meeting** - Motion to approve minutes was made by Mr. Jack Roberts. Motion seconded by Mr. Scotty Parsons. **Motion carried.**

**KACD Minutes from the November 10, 2015 Meeting** - Motion to approve minutes was made by Mr. Allan Bryant. Motion seconded by Mr. Rodney Dick. **Motion carried.**

**KACD Treasurer's Report** – Treasurer Mr. Allan Bryant presented the report with copies distributed. Mr. Kevin Jeffries asked a question about the scholarship accounts and that it looked like two (2) have moved. Mr. Allan Bryant will follow up with Terri Shaw.

Mr. Allan Bryant made the motion to approve the report. Mr. Ted Jessup seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

**SWCC Correspondence Report** – Director Kim Richardson reported that Bracken County made a request for an environmental grant for dump cleanup sites. Mr. Scotty Parsons made motion to pass on request. Mr. Sanford Holbrook seconded the motion.

**Motion carried.**

**KACD Correspondence Report** - President David Rowlett stated that there was a request for \$250.00 from the 4-H Foundation.

Mr. Kevin Jeffries made a motion to approve the request. Motion was seconded Mr. Rodney Dick. **Motion carried.**

**Equipment 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. Sanford Holbrook made the motion to approve this report. Mr. Jack Roberts seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

Assistant Director Johnna McHugh supplied all with their loan status report.

Approval of Equipment Loan Requests – The Russell County Conservation District (RCCD) is requesting a loan for a Wheatheart Heavy Hitter Trailed Post Pounder. Cost of equipment would be \$12,500.00(tax exempt). RCCD will be placing one third (1/3) down in cash. This will leave a remaining balance of \$8,700.00. The rate of amortization will be \$243.06 per month. RCCD will be charging \$100.00 per day for the use of said equipment, for the practices of setting posts. Mr. Sanford Holbrook made motion to approve loan request. Mr. Billy Doolin seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

Approval of Infrastructure Loan Requests - There were no new loan requests.

Vacancy Petitions for Conservation District Supervisor’s Appointments - Director Kim Richardson, DOC, presented the appointments with copies distributed.

**Calloway County** – Bobby Hill to serve unexpired term for Henry Armstrong (2016)

**Boone County** – Rebecca Ortwein to serve unexpired term of James Duvall (2018)

Mr. Scotty Parsons moved to approve the two petitions. Mr. Sanford Holbrook seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.**

Agriculture District Program - Assistant Director Johnna McHugh, DOC, presented the report with copies distributed. Four (4) new petitions were presented to the Commission for consideration for a total of 1,805.62 acres.

**LaRue County** (Petition No. 062-11) – 264.00 acres. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Danny Shipley. Motion seconded by Mr. Sanford Holbrook. **Motion carried.**

**Oldham County** (Petition No. 093-12) – 510.00 acres. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Sanford Holbrook. Motion seconded by Mr. Billy Doolin. **Motion carried.**

**Oldham County** (Petition No.093-08 A1) – 761.62 acres. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Scotty Parsons. Motion seconded by Mr. Billy Doolin. **Motion carried.**

**Taylor County** (Petition No. 109-19) – 270.00 acres. Motion to approve was made by Mr. Scotty Parsons. Motion seconded by Mr. Sanford Holbrook. **Motion carried.**

Ten (10) agricultural districts have been submitted to the Commission for five-year recertification for a total of 7,294.85 acres.

COUNTY	PETITION NO.	ACRES	COMMENTS
Boone	008-11	1,113.95	Remove 14.60
Campbell	019-14	626.15	
Hardin	047-03	43.00	
Hardin	047-08	213.50	
Hardin	047-09	254.00	
Henry	052-22	363.00	
McCracken	073-02	2,673.50	Remove 589.00
Montgomery	087-11	410.00	
Taylor	109.11	724.00	
Trimble	112-05	380.00	
Trimble	112-06	493.80	

Motion to approve was made by Mr. Ray Adams. Motion seconded by Mr. Sanford Holbrook. **Motion carried.**

**NACD Director's Report** – Mr. Kevin Jeffries presented the report. The report consisted of Issues concerning:

- Annual Conservation Funding
- Farm Bill Implementation
- Soil Health
- Water, Land and Forest Management.

Mr. Kevin Jeffries informed everyone that today January the 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for registration for the NACD Convention.

KACD will be providing handmade bowl for auction.

The question arose as to whom will be attending the national meeting in Reno. Travel expenses were discussed. Mr. Lenville Martin decided to go, taking advantage of the 1<sup>st</sup> time scholarship. Mr. David Rowlett assumed Jeff Rice's place due his inability to attend. Motion to approve switch was made by Mr. Shane Wells and motion was seconded by Allan Bryant. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Jeffries updated everyone on the crop insurance fix discussed at previous meetings. Senator McConnell was able to get the subsidies equaling five (5) billion, added back in the budget.

As of November, 72 districts had sent in at least part of their dues. Total dues received amounted to, \$28,689.56.

**NACD Fly-in-March 14-15, 2016** - Mr. David Rowlett discussed the March Fly-In and his effort in trying to send one person per congressional district.

Mr. Allan Bryant and Mr. Shane Wells have agreed to attend. Mr. Ray Adam will consult with Mr. Mike Farmer and Mr. Ward Wilson to check their availability to attend. Mr. Rodney Dick and Mr. Gilbert Edgington will check their schedule's as well.

Motion to approve all travel expenses made by Mr. Kevin Jeffries and seconded by Mr. Rodney Dick. **Motion carried.**

**KACD Auxiliary Report** - Ms. Betty Barrick was unable to attend meeting, Director Kim Richardson presented the report for Ms. Betty Barrick. Ms. Kim Richardson asked if anyone that has not turned in their quilt blocks, please do so soon. Ms. Kim Richardson informed the group that scholarships are due in by March 1<sup>st</sup>. The checks for the NACD poster contest, which had 19-20 entries will be going out soon.

**NRCS Presentation on Watershed Structures** (PL566 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act)

Mr. Jack Kuhn discussed PowerPoint and help from Mr. Ron Gruzsky (DOW) the PL566 Claims on Water Shed Structures. The presentation consisted of Issues concerning:

**PL566 Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act**

- Operation and Maintenance Agreements
- Sponsors and NRCS Responsibilities
- Watershed Dam Assessments
- Current Hazard Classification of PL-566 Dams
- FAQ Regarding High Hazard, Significant Hazard and Low Hazard Issues
- Watershed Rehab Planning
- Closed with questions and comments

After a 25 minute break, the **meeting** resumed with Mr. David Rowlett discussing KCAD business not on the days agenda. Mr. David Rowlett readdressed the Nov. meeting where the 2017 contract for convention was awaiting a decision. The discussion was then turned over to Ms. Kim Richardson for updates.

Ms. Kim Richardson met with committee via conference call to discuss the contract for the 2017 convention. After the November meeting, the hotels chosen as the finalists were asked to update their offers.

The Hyatt Regency in Lexington and Crowne Plaza in Louisville, and the Holiday Inn and Hampton Inn Combination in Owensboro were the three remaining candidates. Updates for hotel revisions were made and Team Owensboro requested free refreshments to be added to check in. Adjustments to room pricing was made by the Hyatt. The Crowne Plaza offered a free shuttle to the Outlet Shops of the Bluegrass. The 2017 conference is confirmed for the Crown Plaza in Louisville Kentucky, and the contract is in hand and awaiting signature.

Motion was made to approve Crown Plaza in Louisville for the 2017 KACD Convention by Mr. Gilbert Edgington. Mr. Allen Bryant seconded the motion. **Motion Carried.**

Amendment was made for the changing of when the meeting would end. The change was made that instead of the convention ending on Tuesday afternoon with a lunch that the convention would conclude on Tuesday night. Mr. Kevin Jeffries made motion and Mr. Rodney Dick seconded amendment. **Amendment approved.**

Motion was made to pay for Mr. Lenville Martins expenses to Reno. Motion was made by Mr. Bobbie Wilson and was seconded by Mr. Randy McCallon **Motion carried.**

**Division of Conservation Report** - Director Kim Richardson, DOC, presented the report. Ms. Kim Richardson began by giving out the dates of the upcoming area meetings. The **Area 1** meeting will be held on February 26<sup>th</sup> in Marshall County. The **Area 2** meeting will be held on February 25<sup>th</sup> in Daviess County. The **Area 3** has yet to be determined. The **Area 4** meeting will be held on Feb 29<sup>th</sup> in Bullitt County. The **Area 5** meeting will be held on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> in Owen County. The **Area 6** meeting will be held on March 9<sup>th</sup> in Lincoln County. The **Area 7** meeting will be held on March 10<sup>th</sup> in Pulaski County. The **Area 8** meeting will be held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> in Menifee County. The Area 9 meeting will be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Buckhorn State Resort Park.

KACD elections will be held in the even number areas. SWCC elections will be held in areas 4, 8, and 9.

Director Kim Richardson opened the floor for new topics to be discussed at area meetings and introduced staffing changes at the DOC.

Director Kim Richardson distributed proposed state cost share approvals to group. 1,771 applications for \$15.9 million were received. Mr. Sanford Holbrook moved to approve an increase in total funding from \$5 to \$5.5 million. Mr. Scotty Parsons seconded motion. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Marc Hult passed out information about fiscal court finding. Commission will have Cabinet lawyer at March meeting to discuss further.

### **Agency Reports**

**Natural Resources Conservation Service** - State Conservationist Ms. Karen Woodrich, NRCS, presented the report. Mr. Jack Kuhn will be adding maps to his presentation and will be sending copy to Ms. Kim Richardson. The Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Managing Poo is up and running. The next round of selection is supposed to be announced by the end of January. Ms. Karen Woodrich wanted to mention the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) received 724 applications for over 13 million dollars. Ranking for applications should be completed by January. Program has around 8 million dollars in which to spend. There will be another ranking later in the spring. The Omnibus FY 16 bill was passed. NRCS is still waiting to hear Kentucky's numbers.

Kentucky Department for Natural Resources - Deputy Commissioner Ms. Sandy Gruzesky was not able to attend meeting. Director Kim informed the group that there is a new Commissioner, Mr. Allen Luttrell. Ms. Kim Richardson will send out contact information.

Farm Service Agency - Mr. John McCauley , State Executive Director, sent his greetings. He was at the Agriculture Legislative Reception but could not attend today's meeting.

University of Kentucky - Dr. Steve Higgins was not in attendance.

Division of Forestry - Director of Forestry Ms. Leah MacSwords presented the report. Ms. Leah MacSwords informed group that with a new Secretary and Commissioner, both she and Ms. Kim Richardson has some work ahead of themselves to remind them that the DOF and DOC are very important. Still waiting on how the change of administration will affect budgets.

KY Department of Agriculture – Mr. Brent Burchett had to leave the meeting early, so he was no longer in attendance.

KACDE - Ms. Leslie Fourqurean was not in attendance.

#### **Next Board Meeting**

KACD will meet in Bowling Green on March 8th, 2016. Mr. Lenville Martin made motion to approve and Mr. Bobbie Wilson seconded motion. **Motion carried.**

SWCC will meet at **9:00 am on March 21, 2016.**

#### **Other Business**

Mr. Allan Bryant brought up that Mr. David Stahl is willing to provide entertainment for the 2016 KACD Convention at a cost of \$650.00 for entertainment. Motion to approve brought by Mr. Ted Jessup and seconded by Mr. Shane Wells. **Motion carried.**

**Adjournment** - President David Rowlett declared the KACD portion of the meeting adjourned. Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Kevin Jeffries. Motion seconded by Mr. Sanford Holbrook. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Ray Adams moved to adjourn the SWCC portion of the meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. Danny Shipley. **Motion carried**