

MEETING MINUTES

Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts

May 11th, 2017

300 Sower Blvd. Room 216

In Attendance: Mr. David Rowlett, President; Mr. Allan Bryant, Secretary-Treasurer; Mr. Steve Coleman; Mr. Randy McCallon; Mr. Ted Jessup; Mr. Rodney Dick; Mr. Bobbie Wilson; Mr. Orville Bennet; Mr. Mike Farmer; and Ms. Ava Adams.

Also in Attendance: Mr. Allen Luttrell, Commissioner, Department of Natural Resources; Ms. Kim Richardson, Director, Division of Conservation; Ms. Johnna McHugh, Asst. Director, Division of Conservation; Mr. Ray Adams, SWCC; Kayleigh Evans, President, KACDE; Mr. Steve Kull, Division of Forestry; Ms. Karen Woodrich, NRCS and Mr. Jeff Gravitt, Division of Conservation.

Quorum was met.

Meeting Called to Order - at 9:28 am by KACD President David Rowlett.

KACD Minutes of the Last Meeting – March 16, 2017 –Mr. Steve Coleman made a motion to approve minutes. Mr. Allan Bryant seconded the motion to approve. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer Allan Bryant presented the KACD Treasurer's Report with copies given. Mr. Allan Bryant made the motion to approve the report as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Rodney Dick. **Motion carried.**

- Mr. Allan Bryant wanted the KACD board members to make note of the KACD Foundation account has a beginning balance of \$113,051.05.
- Ms. Kim Richardson informed the board that there has not been an invoice received from the contractor in charge of digging the pits for the Envirothon for the past two years. The invoice should be expected in the near future.

Correspondence – None to report.

NACD Director's Report – In absence of Mr. Kevin Jeffries, Mr. David Rowlett updated the board on the following items:

- Sonny Perdue has been confirmed as new Agriculture Secretary.
- The appointment of Under Secretaries and staff members within USDA is ongoing.
- Leadership forum will be held in Lincoln Nebraska, June 22 through the 23. There are up to three \$1,000.00 stipends available per state to help offset the cost of attending.
- Summer board meetings will be held in Des Moines IA, July 15 through the 18
- South East Region meeting will be held on August 6 through the 9 in Greenville, SC. The registration page is live on the NACD website.
- KACD needs to hold a discussion on who the Hall of Fame Inductee should be. Ms. Phylis Vandevere will need to be sending out the information shortly, and any changes should be sent directly to Ms. Phylis Vandevere.
- NACD membership report shows that their \$1,275.00 ahead of where they were last year.
- The NACD Farm Bill Task force are holding discussions on CRP vs EQIP.

KACD Auxiliary Report –Ms. Ava Adams updated the board on the following items:

- Using mail outs to get more districts involved and sending out tickets for the raffle.
- The quilt that will be auctioned off at the convention is coming along nicely.

2017 KACD Convention –Crowne Plaza, July 9-11 -

- **Meal Ticket Pricing** – Ms. Kim Richardson requested an increase in meal ticket pricing. An increase from \$40.00 to \$50.00 for Banquet meal and an increase from \$20.00 to \$30.00 for all other meals at convention. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Steve Coleman and was seconded by Mr. Ted Jessup. **Motion carried.**
- **Agenda** – Ms. Kim Richardson, Ms. Johnna McHugh, Ms. Kayleigh Evans and Mr. David Rowlett will have a meeting later today to discuss the convention agenda.
- **Banquet** – Discussion was held on how to make adjustments to banquet to cut down time between awards. The decision was made to use last year's format as a guide.

Awards-

- **NACD South Eastern Hall of Fame** – Jon Bednarski
 - Motion to approve was made by Mr. Allan Bryant and was seconded by Mr. Ted Jessup. **Motion carried.**
- **Conservation Person of the Year** – Mr. Don Dott, Mr. Rick Rand, and Ms. Joy Edwards
 - Motion to have Executive Committee choose the POTY was made by Mr. Steve Coleman and was seconded by Mr. Ted Jessup.

Report on Spring Area Meetings -

- **Area 3** – Mr. Bobbie Wilson said the meeting was well attended, and Mr. Ethan Brown will replace Mr. Wilson.
- **Area 4** – Mr. Ray Adams introduced Mr. Mike Farmer to the board. Mr. Mike Farmer helped set up the area meeting and said that it was well attended.
- **Area 9** – Mr. Orville Bennet said the area meeting was held at Buckhorn State Park and was well attended. Mr. Orville Bennet was re-elected.

Division of Conservation Report – Ms. Kim Richardson updated the board about these items:

- **KACD Resolutions-**
 - Franklin County P.L. 566 Resolution -
 - Franklin County Conservation District is asking that the KACD, SWCC, and the DOC work with the DOW and the Kentucky Water Resources Board to resolve the conflicts of differing programs within the Energy and Environment Cabinet.
 - Marion County Area 4 Resolution -
 - Marion County conservation district would like to propose a resolution to the SWCC to mirror other similar cost share programs in the state of Kentucky by allowing those cancelled funds to be returned to that county and fund the next eligible applicant.
- **AWQA Meeting** – The meeting will be held on Thursday, May 25 at 300 Sower Blvd. in conference room 216.

Agency Comment

- **Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Ms. Karen Woodrich updated the board about these items:
 - NRCS is interested in partnering with the Kentucky conservation districts in the addition of a Soil Conservation Technician positions in the district. This would be a contribution agreement with 50 percent contribution from each party, and allowing for a 10% administrative cost for the partner.
 - Ms. Karen Woodrich gave a Power Point presentation on the importance of Conservation Technical Assistance Program (CTA).

- **Department for Natural Resources** – No Report given.

- **Farm Service Agency** – Mr. Jacob Bowman did not attend, Ms. Karen Woodrich updated the board in his place about these items:
 - The CRP enrollment dead line was for last Friday, May 5th.
 - The CRP acreage cap has been reached and no new enrolments will be accepted, with only CREP being allowed.

- **Energy and Environment Cabinet** – Not attended.

- **University of Kentucky** – Not attended.

- **Kentucky Department of Agriculture** – Not attended.

- **Division of Forestry** – In Mr. James Wright absence, Mr. Steve Kull updated the board about these items:
 - DOF is currently working on a new budget and looking at free up more funds for the future.
 - The new Director, Mr. James Wright is working hard and learning every day.
 - The DOF is working with new technology on how to better fight forest fires.

KACDE – Ms. Kayleigh Evans updated the board about these items:

- KACDE has sent out the soil stewardship materials.
- Convention mail outs were sent out to all districts.
- Ms. Kayleigh Evans invited all KACD board members to attend the business lunch at the convention.

Adjournment – 11.50 A.M.

Next Board Meeting –2017 Meeting Schedule: July 9-11 KACD Convention – Louisville

- September 21
- November 16