

## MEETING MINUTES

### Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts

March 18, 2021

#### Electronic Zoom Meeting

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In Attendance: Mr. Shane Wells, President; Mr. Allan Bryant, Vice President; Mr. Ted Jessup, Secretary-Treasurer; Mr. David Rowlett, Past President; Mr. Jeff Rice, NACD Representative; Mr. Steve Coleman; Mr. Bill Harned; Ms. Jennifer Burgan; Mr. Doug Hensley; Mr. Lenville Martin; Dr. Ernie Ezell; Mr. Rhodes Hester and Ms. Lisa Mullins, President, KACD Auxiliary.

Also, in Attendance: Mr. Greg Stone, State Conservationist, NRCS; Ms. Sonya Keith, Assistant State Conservationist for Partnerships, NRCS; Ms. Paulette Akers, Director, KY DOC; Mr. Kyle Kelly, KYFB; Mr. John Chism, KDA; Mr. Steve Kull, KDF; Ms. Natalie Browning, President, KACDE; Mr. Roy Reynolds and Ms. Crystal Renfro, Executive Director, KACD.

Quorum was met.

**Meeting Called to Order** - at 9:30am by KACD President Mr. Shane Wells.

**KACD Minutes of the Last Meeting – February 12, 2021** –Dr. Ernie Ezell made a motion to approve minutes from the meeting, and Mr. Bill Harned seconded the motion to approve. **Motion carried.**

**Treasurer's Report** - Treasurer Ted Jessup presented the KACD Treasurer's Report with copies emailed. Mr. Ted Jessup made the motion to approve the report as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Lenville Martin. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Mr. Ted Jessup for the approval of the KACD Foundation Account Treasures Report. Seconded by Mr. Lenville Martin. **Motion carried.**

**Correspondence** – All correspondence should be forwarded to 103 Lakeview Court, Frankfort.

**NACD Director's Report** - Mr. David Rowlett updated the board about these items:

- The 2022 Annual Meeting will be in Orlando, FL & 2023 New Orleans, LA
- The NACD SE Meeting will be August 8-11, 2021 in Gulf Shores, AL
- We need to be watching the 2023 Farm Bill concerning Carbon Sequestration.

**KACD Auxiliary Report** – Ms. Lisa Mullins updated the board on the following:

- KACD Auxiliary received 16 scholarship applications.
- The Quilt is currently being quilted and we should have a picture soon.

### 2021 KACD Spring Meetings

- We have completed one Spring Area Meeting and have three remaining. Each of these virtual meetings will cover the same information. Supervisors are welcome to join any of the 4.
- KACD is also holding voting meetings for those Areas who need to nominate a new Director. A complete list of new and returning Directors will be provided at the May Meeting.

### 2021 KACD Annual Meeting

- KACD will be hosting an in person Annual Meeting July 11-13 at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington. A motion to move forward was made by Mr. Jeff Rice and to allow the KACD Executive Committee and Crystal to continue working with the hotel. Seconded by, Mr. Rhodes Hester. **Motion carried.**
- We will also be researching an online option to be able to offer a hybrid meeting due to the COVID situation.
- We will need to develop a waiver for participants to sign due to the COVID situation.
- A motion was made by Mr. Steve Coleman to let the KACD Executive Committee research and select award recipients for the 2021 KACD Awards. Seconded by, Mr. David Rowlett. **Motion carried.**

### NRCS/KACD Technical Position Agreement

- KACD received 33 letters of intent for the TA Grant program
- We are currently finishing up the 29 approved contracts.
- 19 new hires, 10 existing 50/50 employees
- We have 4 interested counties that need to find partners in their Work Units.
- KACD has opened the next round of funding. Any interested counties need to contact Crystal and start the letter of intent process.

### KACD Executive Director Report – Ms. Crystal Renfro updated the board on these items:

- KACD checked into getting a larger ZOOM account for larger meetings, but the price was out of our budgeted range. (\$1,999/year)
- The KACD Executive Committee is planning to meet with Kentucky Congressional Leaders to discuss NRCS Programs and goals.
- KACD has sent out the 2021-2022 KACD Dues Notice and a Reminder Notice for those counties who have not paid their 2020-2021 Dues.
- A motion was made by Mr. Steve Coleman to move the September KACD Meeting Date to September 9<sup>th</sup>. Seconded by Mr. Ted Jessup. **Motion carried.**

### Agency Comments

- **Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Mr. Greg Stone updated the board on these items:
  - NRCS offices are functioning with a great deal of employees still teleworking due to the COVID 19 situation.
  - Mr. Terry Cosby is the new Acting NRCS Chief
  - The State Technical Committee Meeting is April 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - Opportunity to add staffing, bring on 30 new people.
  - Their yearly budget is looking good.
  - Focused conservation projects are being worked on, these projects will become more competitive in the future.

- “Climate Smart Ag” new key words from the new President.
- EWP: gathering date and letters from counties who need assistance after the flooding in early March.
- **KY Division of Conservation** – Ms. Paulette Akers updated the board on these items:
  - The DOC is hosting Area Voting Meeting for Commission nominations. An update will be given at the May KACD Meeting.
  - DOC is holding New and Returning Supervisors Training in the month of March virtually. These meeting can be counted toward incentive per diem.
- **Department for Natural Resources** –
- **Farm Service Agency** –
- **Energy and Environment Cabinet** –
- **KY Division of Forestry** – Mr. Steve Kull updated the board on these items:
  - Fire updates and currently offering help with flood relief across the state.
  - Mercer Co Conservation District sponsors a tree for an elementary school that KYDOF will be taking part in on April 30<sup>th</sup> for Arbor Day.
- **Kentucky Department of Agriculture** – Mr. John Chism updated the board on these items:
  - Their office is currently helping in the transition of GOAP Staff over to KDA Staff.
  - Update on Beef Show
  - The Ginseng Resolution from KACD Area 9 is currently being reviewed by KDA.
- **KACDE** – Ms. Natalie Browning updated the board on these items:
  - The KACDE Annual Meeting will be September 14-16, 2021 at Lake Barkley State Park
  - Joining with KACD on Monthly District Zoom Meetings.
  - A motion was made by Mr. Steve Coleman to let KACDE have half of the remaining mini padfolios from the 2018 KACD Annual Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Rhodes Hester. Motion carried.
- **KY Farm Bureau** – Mr. Kyle Kelly updated the board on these items:
  - We need to contact our Legislators now to discuss the Budget for 2021-2022.
  - Legislative Update
  - SB3 update relocating GOAP to the Kentucky Department of Ag
  - The Budget Bill should be on the Governors desk at this time.

**Adjournment** - A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lenville Martin at 11:47 am. Motion seconded by Mr. Steve Coleman. **Motion carried, meeting adjourned.**

**Next KACD Board Meeting** –

- KACD Annual Meeting July 11-13, 2021 Marriott Griffin Gate, Lexington, KY