

MEETING MINUTES

Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts &

Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts Foundation

September 9, 2021

Electronic Zoom Meeting

In Attendance: Mr. Shane Wells, President; Mr. Allan Bryant, Vice President; Mr. David Rowlett, Past President; Mr. Steve Coleman; Ms. Jennifer Burgan; Mr. Rod Murphy; Mr. Doug Hensley; Mr. Roy Reynolds; Dr. Ernie Ezell; and Ms. Lisa Mullins, President, KACD Auxiliary.

Also, in Attendance: Mr. Greg Stone, State Conservationist, NRCS; Ms. Christi Hicks, Acting Assistant State Conservationist for Partnerships, NRCS; Ms. Paulette Akers, Director, KY DOC; Mr. John Chism, KDA; Mr. Charlie Saunders, KDF; Ms. Natalie Browning, President, KACDE; 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 – May 20 & July 12, 2021 – Mr. Steve Coleman made a motion to approve minutes from the meetings, and Mr. David Rowlett, seconded the motion to approve. **Motion carried.**

Treasurer's Report – The KACD Treasurer's Report was presented with copies emailed. Mr. Allan Bryant made the motion to approve the report as presented. Motion seconded by Dr. Ernie Ezell. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Mr. Allan Bryant for the approval of the KACD Foundation Account Treasures Report. Seconded by Dr. Ernie Ezell. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Mr. Steve Coleman to pay KY Ag Council Dues for 2022. Seconded by Ms. Jennifer Burgan. **Motion carried.**

An invoice from the Estill County Conservation District for the KACD agreement with them was reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Steve Coleman to approve the invoice and to pay it from the KACD General Account. Seconded by Mr. Rhodes Hester. **Motion carried.**

Correspondence –

- The Franklin County Conservation District forwarded a letter requesting that KACD obtain a PO Box and to discontinue the use of their address in Frankfort. A motion was made by Mr. Roy Reynolds to obtain a PO Box in Frankfort. Seconded by Mr. Doug Hensley. **Motion carried.**
- The Daviess County Conservation District submitted a letter requesting a refund from the KACD Convention for one of their Board Members due to an illness. A motion was made by Mr. Steve Coleman to refund this registration. Seconded by Mr. Allan Bryant. **Motion carried.**

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

- NACD Southeast Meeting recap and updated regional officers.
- Update on WOUS
- NACD is currently taking applications for their TA Grant
- Urban grant application will be opening soon.

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

- The Auxiliary quilt theme for 2022 is Water.

2021 KACD Annual Meeting

- After meeting with the management of the host hotel they have given KACD a discount on the recent meeting due to the continued construction at the hotel and it not being ready to host.
- The host hotel has also given KACD a credit to host a future meeting at the Marriott within the next year.

KACD/NRCS TA Grant Program

- At the moment KACD is working with NRCS on reporting progress of these technicians and waiting on funding. Things are moving slower than expected here at the beginning of this program, but hopefully things will get progressively better as we move along.
- We currently have 21 partner technicians in the field.
- KACD is still looking for 22 additional employees.
- We have 4 interested counties that need to find partners in their Work Units.

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

- Update on the Monthly District Share Zoom Sessions. Looking for new ideas that we can cover.
- We will be purchasing a PDF Editor to help with the 75/25 Time Reports. Dr. Ernie Ezell will email Crystal the version he uses with high a recommendation.
- It was mentioned that next year we will attempt to accept credit cards at the KACD Auxiliary Auction in the future.
- Travel for the Executive Director will be paid out of the KACD General Fund.
- We will be working on a new format for the standing committees for next year. If anyone has any ideas on how to make them more uniform, we are very open to ideas.
- Updated the board about the new NACD Insurance options. This will include Health, vehicle, and house insurance options.

Agency Comments

- **Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Mr. Greg Stone updated the board on these items:
 - Introduction of Ms. Christi Hicks, she will be acting for Sonya while she is on her detail to Washington DC.
 - Discussed a training date for the 75/25 Technicians and new NRCS employees.
 - Update on watershed projects
 - Could be increasing cost share dollars this year.
 - Future funding is looking strong

- **KY Division of Conservation** – Ms. Paulette Akers updated the board on these items:
 - The tabloid for the Art & Writing Contest is finished. Districts have access to it at this point.
 - Hosting AWQP trainings statewide for Districts
 - Future supervisor trainings: Oct 19-20 Human Resources & Nov 9-10 Local Programs
 - Governors’ Conference for Energy and the Environment Oct 20-21, Free to register
- **Department for Natural Resources** –
- **Farm Service Agency** –
- **Energy and Environment Cabinet** –
- **KY Division of Forestry** – Mr. Charlie Saunders updated the board on these items:
 - Updates on trees seedling sales
 - First time the KDF had a booth at the KY State Fair
 - Update on Forest Stewardship Plans
 - Over 700,000 tree seedlings sold this year, 90% of those were for Conservation Districts
 - Looking for requests on new species of tree seedlings
 - Starting to do Forest Stewardship Plans in person again.
- **Kentucky Department of Agriculture** – Mr. John Chism updated the board on these items:
 - KY State Fair update. There was a great representation of KY Ag there.
 - KY Office of Ag Policy survey
 - Sept 19-22 National Association of Ag Commissioners conference in Louisville.
- **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.
- **KYFB** –
- **KOAP** –

Other Comments – Encourage conservation districts to work with the KY Department of Transportation local offices to make sure they are discussing their spraying schedule and what they are specifically spraying.

Adjournment - A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Roy Reynolds at 12:17pm. Motion seconded by Dr. Ernie Ezell. **Motion carried, meeting adjourned.**

Next KACD Board Meeting –

- November 18, 2021, 9:30am eastern