



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 17-18, 2016
Topeka, KS

Board of Directors Present

Bill Simshauser, President
Bevin Law, Vice President
Allen Roth, Secretary-Treasurer
Ron Brown, Director
Jerry Clasen, Director
Jim Krueger, Executive Director

Guests Present

Wayne Lukert, District Operations Committee
Scott Carlson, KDA Division of Conservation
Larry Biles, Kansas State Forester

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by president William Simshauser at 6:45 p.m. in Ramada Inn, Topeka, Kansas.

ADDITIONS TO THE MEETING AGENDA

Allen Roth moved to approve the agenda, Jerry Clasen second motion; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ron Brown moved to accept the minutes of the November 22 and November 24, 2015 meetings; Bevin Law seconded the motion and the motion carried.

SCC REPORT

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jim Krueger presented the budget and financial documents for the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. Jerry Clasen moved to approve the financial reports and pay membership dues to Kansas Forestry Alliance, \$50. Missouri River Restoration Project, \$500 and to pay the state fair booth for \$160. Allen Roth seconded the motion and the motion carried. Jim reported that dues notices had been mailed to all counties along with an email emphasizing that dues had not increased since 1995 and to recommend districts to pay the Maximum Club dues.

The balance of the Pat Lehman Memorial Fund was discussed with a balance of \$3918.05. It was decided to take a serious look at the dues structure at a later meeting to see how many districts pay the Maximum Club dues and the state of the KACD budget at that time. This discussion would also need to include the Finance Committee.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Bill Simshauser and Ron Brown led a discussion regarding the NACD Stewardship Committee and the intentions of NACD Board to do away with printed material from the NACD Marketplace. Bill Simshauser and Jim will work with Deb Bogar to ensure that KACD appeals the decision to turn down the Kansas Marketplace resolution at NACD annual meeting. Allen Roth moved and Jerry Clasen seconded to proceed with all three appeal options to NACD to try to keep the Marketplace providing printed materials. Motion carried. Jim was instructed to follow up with the Kansas Conservation Districts of the status of the Kansas resolutions after the meeting in Reno was over.

Ron Brown reported that Susan Shultz was no longer employed by NACD and he was being moved from the Stewardship committee to Liaison with National RC&D Council. The new representative of the Stewardship committee is Gary Moyer from the SW region. There was some discussion of does Kansas want to stay on the Stewardship committee. It was unanimously agreed to wait and see how things go at the NACD convention.

Jerry Clasen reported that Marion Krehbiel had been honored as Supervisor of the year at the Reno County Conservation District Annual Meeting. He also reported that they had a new District conservationist and District Manager in the Reno County office. Jerry reminded the board that a replacement for Marion Krehbiel on the Finance committee needed to be located. That committee really could use a couple additional members. Bill Simshauser designated that each area director find a person from their area to serve on the Finance committee.

Allen reported that he was attending several annual meetings in his area with Assistant State Conservationist Dan Meyerhoff. He said that Hays also had a new District Conservationist.

Ron Brown reported that he attended several annual meetings including awarding Darrell Donohue as Area Supervisor of the Year and Rod Vorhees as the Don Rezac Award winner.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill mentioned that it will be KACD's turn to host the joint meeting with DOC and SCC next year and that it would be in his area. He would like board members to give the subject some thought. He suggested that we have a barbeque at his house and then have the meetings at the hotel in Garden City. There is a new hotel being built in Lakin but he is not sure it will be completed by the scheduled for August 7, & 8, 2016 meeting date.

The NACD Northern Plains summer meeting was discussed. Bill stated that it would be nice to have a slide show featuring Kansas's landscapes and conservation practices. Jim was instructed to try to make that happen. Jim reported that the Double Tree by

Hilton in Wichita was contracted for the NACD Northern Plains meeting scheduled for June 6-8, 2016. Jerry Clasen suggested several ideas for tour stops including sites from the South Central Kansas Residue Alliance, Cheney Lake, Quivera, and a site on the Little Ark aquifer.

NEW BUSINESS

The 2016 KACD convention structure was discussed. It was decided to have an opening session that would include posting of the flags, Star Spangled Banner, Roll Call by county, keynote speaker, Presidents report and Executive Directors reports before proceeding to the committee meetings on Monday morning. It was also decided to do the Area meetings as the last thing on Monday afternoon prior to the banquet rather than on Tuesday morning. On Tuesday morning we will have breakfast a possible speaker and then go straight into the business meeting as a way to try to promote more participation in the business meeting. It was discussed and decided to have an auction prior to the banquet with an item from each area to be auctioned off. It was decided to do the entertainment again prior to the banquet.

Wayne Lukert led a discussion on the use of the KACD committees and how more tasks should be delegated to the committees. He reviewed the revised KACD Committee Blueprint policy that is in affect. He suggested that this year we have the committees select the breakout sessions separate from their committee meetings. That the committee meetings be shortened up to aggress committee activities of the past year, committee activity planning for the future year, acquire ideas from its membership, and take care of any other pertinent business. Awards that have previously been given during the committee meetings should be given at either the noon luncheon or banquet.

Wayne also discussion the resolution process with the board. He suggested that the board conduct Resolution training at the fall meetings. The training would include breaking into groups and developing a resolution to be presented to KACD at convention.

Recessed at 11:00 pm to reconvene at 1:30 on Monday at the Ramada.

Reconvened at 1:30 January 18, 2016 at the Ramada Hotel in Topeka, KS

SCC Report

Scott Carlson, Department of Agriculture Department of Conservation, (DOC) Assistant Director reported on activities at the DOC during the joint SCC/KACD meeting. He had been at the State Association of Kansas Watersheds meeting in Topeka and commented that they had a good attendance. Items reviewed included the Kansas Water Vision, cost-share program revisions, the Watershed Institute holding easements, the Agriland group and the state fair display, CSIMS updates, RCPP program activities, CREP Proposal, the Kansas Forestry Position being established at the DOC to assist with riparian area plantings, and Behavioral Economics. He also led a discussion of the fall and Spring Workshops. He suggested that Jim present the survey being developed by DOC at the Spring Workshops for the district supervisors to complete to aid in the decision making process regarding Spring and Fall workshops. That way the survey would be completed and compiled for the joint meeting with KACD and DOC/SCC in August. Scott led a discussion to determine if Rod and Bill wanted to do a joint video for

county supervisors. It was decided that it would be a good idea and would be scheduled for summer delivery. Scott shared that he intended to attend NACD in Reno. Scott also suggested that the KACD board consider CBEAR training as a session at KACD convention. This could be done during the opening general session and then follow-up with a breakout session on the subject. He also mentioned that the Kansas Department of Agriculture was leading a push to change the CREP program to a statue program rather than annually appropriated. It would also expand the areas to be covered under the CREP. State aid to conservation districts looks to be stable for 2016. He noted that the Blue Ribbon Committee is looking at ways to overhaul how to appropriate the water use fees, which would have an effect on district funding. This will more than likely be a 2017 issue. He stated there were 30 issues identified in the Governor's Water Vision. Eleven of those affect conservation districts. Conservation Districts need to remain the key implementation part of the Governor's plan.

Kansas Forestry Report

Larry Biles, Kansas State Forester, discussed the rollout of the Forestry RCPP program in 14 watersheds in Kansas. The work will be completed through the EQIP program. The program will have continuous sign-up and approval to facilitate getting the practices on the land in a timely manner. There are 35 counties involved in the program in SE Kansas. Counties will start taking applications next week. Larry said that partners are what have made the RCPP program happen with their ability to match funds from NRCS. \$8 million will be available in cost-share assistance through the program. Conservation District involvement in the program is paramount in the program succeeding. He said they had reorganized the Kansas Forestry districts and added three employees to help facilitate the RCPP program.

KACD EO REPORT

Stephanie Royer reported that districts had been busy with promotions and school programs. She noted that Megan Irwin is the district manager in Garden City. The next KACD-EO meeting is on April 21, 2016 at the NRCS Conference room in Salina. THE KACD-EO is planning on reviewing and editing the rules for their scholarship program in the near future. She noted that most districts are in the middle of preparing for their annual meetings to be held in January and February.

NRCS REPORT

Eric Banks, NRCS State Conservationist was unable to be present due to the last minute change to the KACD meeting, but a report was shared with the KACD board by email.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. with the next meeting scheduled for April 27, 2016 at Camp Wood near Elmdale, Kansas at 9:00 a.m.