

MEETING MINUTES

Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts &

Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts Foundation

May 19, 2022

Holiday Inn University Plaza, Bowling Green, KY & Electronic Zoom Meeting

In Attendance: Mr. Shane Wells, President; Mr. Allan Bryant, Vice President; Mr. Ted Jessup, Treasurer; Mr. David Rowlett, Past President; Mr. Steve Coleman; Mr. Rod Murphy; Mr. Doug Hensley; Mr. Roy Reynolds; Dr. Ernie Ezell; Ms. Jennifer Burgan; Mr. Doug Derossett; Mr. Rhodes Hester; Ms. Lisa Mullins and Mr. Jeff Rice, NACD Representative

Also, in Attendance: Ms. Sonya Keith, NRCS; Mr. Dean Schamore, FSA; Ms. Paulette Akers, DOC; Ms. Natalie Browning, KACDE; Ms. Pam Snyder, KDF; Mr. Doug McLaren; Mr. Vincent Thompson; Ms. Debbie Boyd, KACD Auxiliary 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 – January 24th – Mr. Steve Coleman made a motion to approve minutes from the meetings, and Mr. Doug Derossett, seconded the motion to approve. **Motion carried.**

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. Rod Murphy to approve payment to the Estill County Conservation District for the employee agreement for \$22,421.99. Seconded by Mr. David Rowlett. **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Mr. Ted Jessup to pay annual dues to NACD of \$1,000. Seconded by Mr. Steve Coleman. **Motion carried.**

Correspondence –

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NACD Director's Report - Mr. Jeff Rice updated the board about these items:

- The NACD SE Region HOF inductee was discussed. A motion was made by Mr. Steve Coleman for Greg Stone to be the 2022 inductee. Seconded by Ms. Jennifer Burgan. **Motion carried.**
- A motion was made by Mr. Allan Bryant to pay for travel to the NACD SE Meeting for Ted Jessup, David Rowlett, Jeff Rice & Steve Coleman. Seconded by Mr. Rhodes Hester. **Motion carried.**

- NACD will be reworking their committees on a National level, Kentucky has requested to remain on the Legislative Committee.

KACD Auxiliary Report – Ms. Lisa Mullins updated the board on the scholarship recipients and Auxiliary events to be held at the KACD Annual Meeting. The quilt is currently being worked on and the theme for next year is going to be wildflowers.

Watershed Rehab Discussion

- KACD worked to receive \$5 million in the last legislative session for watershed rehab funds to be able to leverage federal dollars into the state for rehab. This money will be administered by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission. At this time, we are unsure how the money will be spent.
- The National Watershed Coalition has been invited to the KACD Annual Meeting to speak about the programs they have worked on in other states with rehab projects using state and federal funds.

2022 KACD Annual Meeting

- Many aspects of the Annual Meeting were discussed. Meal prices were determined, and the draft agenda was reviewed.
- A motion was made by Mr. Allan Bryan to approve Mr. David Stahl to provide entertainment at the KACD Annual Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Steve Coleman. **Motion carried.**

2022 KACD Annual Meeting

- Updates were given about all the Area Meeting that had been held so far.

KACD Legislative Items-

- Mr. Shane Wells presented an update on the Legislative Priorities as well as, SBs 53 & 54.

KACD/NRCS TA Grant Program

- We currently have 30 partner technicians in the field.
- KACD is still looking for 20 additional employees.
- 2 counties are currently going through the process of hiring.

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.
- KACD Awards were discussed for the KACD Annual Meeting and nominations were made.
- Art & Writing sponsorship with KY Farm Bureau was discussed.

Agency Comments

- **Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Mr. Greg Stone updated the board on the tornado relief work currently going on in Western Kentucky. We have received 7 additional employees from other states to help with this work. Also, the field work with EQIP is going well. They have allocated their original \$18 million and have been approved for an additional \$900,000.

Ms. Sonya Keith gave an update on talking to all the watershed sponsors in Kentucky.

- **KY Division of Conservation** – Ms. Paulette Akers update the board on the State Envirothon Competition that was going on during the meeting. Some of the rules of the program were discussed and will be reviewed and updated before the contest next year. She also announced the Area 1 Soil and Water Conservation Commissioner is Mr. Don Overby from Calloway County.
- **Department for Natural Resources** –
- **Farm Service Agency** – Mr. Dean Schamore updated the board on the following:
 - Their offices are working on the Emergency Relief Program currently with the western KY tornados.
 - All FSA offices are currently open and currently accepting producer planning reports.
 - Loans are being offered at good rates at this time.
- **Energy and Environment Cabinet** –
- **KY Division of Forestry** – Ms. Pam Snyder updated the board on the following:
 - Currently they are working on which conservation district will be awarded the forestry award at the KACD Annual Meeting.
 - The tree seedling program will be done through online orders this year.
 - They are currently providing technical assistance with NRCS in the tornado hit areas.
- **Kentucky Department of Agriculture** –
- **KACDE** – Ms. Natalie Browning updated the board on these items:
 - The KACDE area training were very well received, and a request has been made for them to host additional trainings in the future.
 - KACDE Conference is September 13-15 in Mt. Sterling, KY. The full agenda has been finalized.
- **KYFB** –
- **KOAP** –

Adjournment - A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Doug Derossett at 12:13pm CT. Motion seconded by Dr. Ernie Ezell. **Motion carried, meeting adjourned.**

Next KACD Board Meeting –

- September 29, 2022, Franklin County Conservation District