

## MEETING MINUTES

### Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts &

### Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts Foundation

November 17, 2023

### Franklin County Conservation District & Electronic Zoom Meeting

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In Attendance: Mr. Allan Bryant, President; Mr. Ted Jessup, Vice President; Mr. Steve Coleman, Treasurer; Mr. Shane Wells, Past President; Mr. Doug McLaren; Mr. Rod Murphy; Mr. Doug Hensley; Mr. Roy Reynolds; Mr. Doug Derossett; Mr. Vincent Thompson; and Mr. David Rowlett, NACD Representative

Also, in Attendance: Mr. Greg Stone, NRCS; Ms. Natalie Browning, President, KACDE and Ms. Crystal Renfro, Executive Director, KACD.

Quorum was met.

**Meeting Called to Order** - at 9:30am by KACD Treasurer Mr. Steve Coleman.

**KACD Minutes of the Last Meeting – Sept 29<sup>th</sup>** – Mr. David Rowlett made a motion to approve minutes from the meetings, and Mr. Vincent Thompson seconded the motion to approve. **Motion carried.**

**Treasurer's Report** – The KACD Treasurer's Report was presented with copies emailed. Mr. Vincent Thompson made the motion to approve the report as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Doug Derossett **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Mr. Doug Derossett for the approval of the KACD Foundation Account Treasures Report. Seconded by Mr. Doug Hensley **Motion carried.**

A motion was made by Mr. Shane Wells to pay Ms. Terri Shaw \$595 for her help to KACD. Seconded by Mr. Roy Reynolds **Motion carried.**

**Correspondence** –

#### **Agency Comments**

- **Natural Resources Conservation Service** – Mr. Greg Stone updated the board on NRCS Business and announced his retirement.
  - Updated reimbursement to KACD for Federal Audits
  - In future agreements with NRCS we need to make sure to include travel and training.
  - EWP Mayfield Project is finished, Received additional funding for tornado work
  - In Eastern Kentucky all survey reports are complete with requests over \$25 million.
  - Update on Watershed projects
  - During the NACD Fly-In we need to discuss the IRA money with hopes of doubling program money.
  
- **KY Division of Conservation** –
- **Department for Natural Resources** –
- **Farm Service Agency** –
- **Energy and Environment Cabinet** –

- **KY Division of Forestry –**
- **Kentucky Department of Agriculture –**
- **KACDE –** Ms. Natalie Browning forwarded a report:
  - Update on the Southeast Employees Meeting.
  - KACDE is currently working on a t-shirt design for the Art & Writing Contest
  - They are looking for a central location for the KACDE Conference more than likely in the Elizabethtown area.
- **KYFB –**
- **KOAP –**

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

- NACD Annual Meeting 2023 is February 11-15 in New Orleans, LA.
- A motion was made by Mr. Shane Wells to spend \$250 on an auction item for the NACD Annual Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Vincent Thompson. **Motion carried.**
- The NACD Fly-In was discussed and will be discussed more during the next meeting.

**KACD Auxiliary Report** –

**Watershed Rehab Discussion**

- The Energy and Environment Cabinet is going to ask the Legislatures in the upcoming session to clarify if the \$5 million is a grant or loan.
- The DOC is currently working on an application for the program.
- A discussion was had on updates for the possibility of hiring a Watershed Coordinator.

**KACD Legislative Items-**

- The Legislative Reception will be held February 21<sup>st</sup> 6-8 pm at The Elizabeth. Linda Aldridge has been contacted for catering for 450 people. Event insurance will also be acquired.
- The KACD Legislative Priorities were set for 2023. They include the Commission Appointment, Age Limit, Equipment Loan Program changes, and appreciation for State Cost Share and Direct Aid.

**KACD/NRCS TA Grant Program**

- We currently have 36 partner technicians in the field.
- KACD is still looking for 14 additional employees.

**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.

- A discussion about the KACD District of the Year was had due to a resolution from the KACD Annual meeting. At this time KACD is still working to improve the program and will discuss this further at the next meeting.
- A motion was made by Mr. Roy Reynolds to require DIGS Score, KACD Dues Paid and a portion of NACD Dues to be paid to be eligible for KACD District of the Year. Seconded by Mr. Doug Derossett. **Motion carried.**
- Sponsorship letters will be sent out before the next meeting. If you know of any group that would like to sponsor KACD please let Crystal know.

**Adjournment** - A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Shane Wells at 12:51pm. Motion seconded by Mr. Doug McLaren **Motion carried, meeting adjourned.**