



**Arkansas
Association of
Conservation Districts**

Annual Meeting



*Dear Past,
Thanks for all
Of the Lessons*

*Dear Future,
We're ready...*



**January 16—17, 2020
Wyndham Hotel & Resort
North Little Rock, AR**



Agenda



Thursday, Jan. 16, 2020

- | | | |
|---------|---|--|
| 9:30am | Arkansas Natural Resources Commission | Silver City 1 |
| 11:30am | Commissioners Luncheon | Silver City 2 & 3 |
| 1:00pm | Resources & Director Training | |
| #1 | Water Resources
<i>Irrigation Water Management</i>
<i>Nutrient Management Planning & Certification</i>
<i>Floodplain/Dam/Levee Management</i> | Silver City 5 |
| #2 | District Director Training
<i>Roles and Responsibilities of District Directors</i>
<i>How to make my District Successful</i>
<i>Funding Opportunities</i> | Silver City 7 |
| #3 | NRCS Staff Meeting
Producer Forum | Razorback East & West
Razorback East & West |



AGENDA

Friday, January 17, 2020

- 7:30am **NRCS Staff Meeting** Silver City 5
- 8:30am **Opening Session & Call to Order** Silver City 1, 2, 3 & 4
Welcome & Introductions Jerry Don Clark, 1st Vice President
Pledge of Allegiance Amy Cowling, SW Area President
Invocation James Widner, NW Area President
- 8:45am **Conservation Partners Report**
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Mike Sullivan, Arkansas State Conservationist
National Association of Conservation Districts
Tim Palmer, President
U. S. Forest Service
Ken Arney, Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service
Arkansas Department of Agriculture
Wes Ward, Secretary
- 10:00am **The Honorable Governor Asa Hutchinson**
- 10:20am Break with Vendors Silver City 6
- 10:30am **Concurrent Sessions**
Soil Health: Benefits in Context Silver City 5
Matt Fryer, U of A Division of Agriculture
Adam Chappell, AR Soil Health Alliance
Forestry/Wildlife Management Silver City 7
Doug Akin, NRCS Forester & Ryan Diener, Quail Forever/NRCS
New Farm Bill: An Overview Razorback West
Jeremy Prater, Sebastian County CD & Jena Moore, NRCS
AACDE Business Session Razorback East
Carolyn Holcomb, AACDE President
- 11:15am **Pasture Management** Silver City 7
*A Personal Experience: Creating Silvopasture with
Productive Forages from an Overstocked Forest*
Jeremy Huff, NRCS Grazing Specialist
Wetlands, Hemp & Rules Silver City 5
Harrison Pittman, National Agricultural Law Center
Water Well Registration Traveler's Room
Mike Guess, ADA-NRD & Drew Westerman, USGS
Irrigation and Water Management 2018 Data Razorback West
Eugene Young, Regional Director, USDA-NASS

12:00pm

Arkansas Conservation Partnership Luncheon

Featured Speaker

Silver City 1, 2, 3 & 4



Matthew “Matt” Lohr, Chief, USDA-NRCS

ACP Agreement Signing Ceremony

NRCS Awards

State Conservationist’s Partnership Award- Individual

State Conservationist’s Partnership Award- Organization

AACDE Award

Dana Cherry Award

AACD Awards

Outstanding Conservation District Director

Outstanding Conservation District Employee

Forest Landowner of the Year

Conservation Steward Award

AACD Conservation Hall of Fame

2:00pm

Business Session

Silver City 5

Roll Call

NACD Legislative Update—Eric Hansen, NACD

Minutes— Feb. 13, 2019

Treasurer’s Report

Committee Reports

Other Business

3:00pm

Meeting Adjourns



USDA-NRCS Chief Matthew “Matt” Lohr

Chief Matthew “Matt” Lohr, raised on a century farm in Virginia’s Shenandoah Valley, now owns and operates Valley Pike Farm, Inc., with his wife Beth and their six children. Prior to his appointment by the Trump Administration, Lohr held public office, serving in the Virginia House of Delegates from 2006-2010. In 2008, Lohr was awarded Legislator of the Year in honor of his work as an ambassador for economic and community development in Virginia. He then served as Virginia’s Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services from 2010 to 2013. More recently, Lohr worked as Knowledge Center Director for Farm Credit of the Virginias, a customer-owned financial cooperative that provides resources and education outreach to local farmers and the community. Since June 2017, he has been farming full-time on the family operation, which includes poultry, beef cattle, row crops, and sweet corn.