

Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts

Friday, April 07, 2017

AACD Office, Little Rock, AR

Agenda attached

Meeting called to order by Martha Manley, President at 1:12pm.

Members present:

Martha Manley, President	Bill Bailey, 1 st Vice President
Robby Bevis, 2 nd Vice President	James Widner, NW Area President
James Mitchell, WC Area President	
Steve Martin, Central Area President	
John McAlpine, SE Area President	

Guests:

Jennifer Graves, Greene County Conservation District
Brandy Gardner, Poinsett County Conservation District
Sharon Arthur, Washington County Conservation District
Allen Shumate, Washington County Conservation District

Minutes from the Feb. 7, 2017

John McAlpine made the motion to accept the Feb. 7, 2017, seconded by Robby Bevis.
Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

AACD 2017 Budget
Previous Year Comparison
Budget vs Actual
Balance Sheet

Robby Bevis made the motion to accept for audit, Bill Bailey seconded the motion.
Motion passed.

Martha Manley spoke to the need to move the office to save additional funds. The office will be located at the Arvest Building, 4004 McCain Blvd., North Little Rock, AR.

Ryan Benefield notified the board that ANRC is donating the Dell computer to AACD.

Old Business:

Annual Meeting –
Board reviewed the attendance, content, etc. Martha stated that she was pleased with the meeting overall.

NACD Fly-In Congressional Visits – Martha Manley

Martha reported that visits were made to Senator Boozman, Rep. Rick Crawford, Rep. Bruce Westerman, NRCS Acting Chief Leonard Jordan, and Acting Regional Conservationist Denise Coleman.

Congressional packets were provided to each office with our funding and support request.

Forestry Clinics – John McAlpine

Monroe Samuel Natural Resources Clinic – April 25, 2017 at U of A at Monticello, Monticello, AR

Southern Regional Woodland Clinic – May 5, 2017 at the Little River Demonstration Forest, Ashdown, AR

Arkansas Soil Health Alliance – Robby Bevis

Reported that they have had two field days- one in Jefferson County and one in Cotton Plant.

- Jefferson County was done in conjunction with U of A Extension Service
- Cotton Plant hosted 190 folks with Ray Archuleta & Kevin Scoggins speak, field tour to see soil pits, cover crops and equipment demonstration
- Working on getting their 501 (c) 3 organization set up
- Plans are being worked on to visit other similar organizations elsewhere
- NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant - \$20,000 to implement the program initially
- Farmer-led organization
- NRCS provides some costs share but does cost about \$30/acre

New Business

New Committee Assignments

Annual Meeting – Martha Manley

Budget – Woody Ray

Forestry – John McAlpine

Grazing - James Mitchell

Bylaws – Bill Bailey

Water Resources – Robby Bevis

Agricultural Lands – Jerry Don Clark

Awards – Amy Cowling

Area Meetings

WC Area May 23, 2017 – Paris, AR

SW Area – August 8, 2017 – Hope, AR

NE Area – August 10, 2017 – Jonesboro

Topics – Director Training
“New” CSP

Steve Martin made the motion to approve the travel expenses for the board, Robby Bevis seconded that. Motion passed.

Dave Ferguson Scholarship –

Debbie Moreland reported that some changes needed to be made to the guidelines due to financial reasons and other issues.

John McAlpine made the motion to move it to the Awards Committee, seconded by Robby Bevis. Motion passed.

Robby Bevis made the motion to adjourn at 2:30pm, seconded by Steve Martin. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Moreland

(Pending Approval)