

Arkansas Association of Conservation Districts
1:00pm Thursday, January 05, 2017
Little Rock, AR 72201

Meeting called to order by Rocky Harrell, President

Members present:

Rocky Harrell, President	Martha Manley, 1 st Vice President
Bill Bailey, 2 nd Vice President	Woody Ray, Treasurer
James Mitchell, West Central Area President	James Widner, NW Area President
Robby Bevis, East Central Area President	John McAlpine, SE Area President
Charles Glover, Past President	Amy Cowling, SW Area President
Steve Martin, Central Area President	
Debbie Moreland, Program Administrator	Jeanette Hale, AACDE President
Ryan Benefield, ANRC	

Partners:

Mike Sullivan, Arkansas NRCS State Conservationist
Amanda Mathis, NRCS Partnership Coordinator

Minutes from September 16, 2016 Meeting Woody Ray, Secretary
Motion to approve by Martha Manley, 1st Vice President, seconded by Charles Glover. Motion Passed.

Treasurer's Report

Woody Ray, Treasurer

Financial Report attached.

Balance Sheet attached

Profit and Loss attached

Proposed Budget – based on a calendar year is still being finalized

Charles Glover made a motion to present an end of year bonus to Debbie Moreland, seconded by James Mitchell. Motion passed.

Motion made by Robby Bevis to approve the financial reports, seconded by Martha Manley. Motion approved.

Financial Procedure Update

Debbie Moreland reviewed the financial procedures that have been put into place as of July 2016.

- Two Board members sign the checks
- Program Administrator's contract labor and expenses will be submitted to the AACD Treasurer and another board member for review and approval
- AACD will no longer utilize a credit card. Expenses will be paid on a reimbursement form upon submittal to Treasurer
- Board members will have to make their own travel arrangements and be reimbursed individually rather than handled as a group.

Old Business

Youth Education Committee

Handouts attached

Dave Ferguson Essay Scholarship

A new committee will be appointed in March to review the contest and make changes as needed.

Arkansas Envirothon

Recommended that we continue to support

Monroe Samuel Forestry Clinic

We will move forward with setting up the 2017 clinic in Monticello, AR.

Annual Meeting

Martha Manley

Meeting workshops reviewed.

Charles Glover made the motion that add New Director Training day prior to the 2018 Annual Meeting, seconded by Martha Manley.

Motion passed.

Project Updates

Arkansas Feral Swine Initiative

Discussion was held regarding what steps could be implemented to improve participation in the program and how best to proceed.

ArkansasWater.org Website

This website is dedicated to the EPA 319 Grants and Watershed activities. It has been funded for one additional year by ANRC.

New Business

New Programs & Proposals

Handouts attached

Soil Health Alliance - Robby Bevis, Alliance Chairman

Groundwater Initiative – Mike Sullivan, NRCS State Conservationist

Working Lands for Wildlife Initiatives – Mike Sullivan, NRCS

Northern Bobwhite Quail Initiative

Pollinators Initiative

Conservation Stewardship Program – Mike Sullivan, NRCS

Training will be made held at the ANRC on January 10, 2017 for anyone wanting to understand the changes to this program

Meeting & Events

NACD Annual Meeting

Charles Glover, John McAlpine, Martha Manley & Debbie Moreland will represent AACD at the NACD Meeting

Auction Item

Robby made the motion to spend up to \$200 for the Auction Item, seconded by John McAlpine. Motion passed.

Other Business

Outreach Proposal – Mike Sullivan, NRCS State Conservation

A proposal was discussed to provided support to districts for outreach, “telling their stories” and educational activities to reach non-traditional clients and general population who may not utilize our programs.

Boot Camp Training Agenda – distributed to the board so they would understand what training is involved

Regional CIG Request – John Jennings requested a support letter from AACD for their proposal.
Motion made by Robby Bevis to support the proposal, seconded by Martha Manley. Motion passed.

SWCS Symposium Proposal – AACD has been asked to participate in a program at the next SWCS National Meeting in WI.
Robby Bevis made the motion to approve AACD participation, seconded by Steve Martin. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Moreland, Acting Secretary

Approved on February 7, 2017