

Minutes of the  
Gasconade County Soil and Water Conservation District  
Regular Board Meeting – USDA Service Center  
Tuesday, February 5, 2013

Chairman Ron Hardecke called the regular board meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. Those present were: Chairman Ron Hardecke, Member Mike Haeffner, Treasurer Debra Nowack, Secretary James Thompson, District Conservationist Melinda Barch, District Technician I Kory Hubbard, and District Specialist II Diana Mayfield. Vice-Chairman Dennis Berger was absent.

DNR District Coordinator Patty Chapman was in attendance.

The minutes of the January meeting were reviewed. Mike Haeffner made the motion to approve the minutes. James Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The January Treasurer's Report and timesheets were reviewed. Diana Mayfield explained that the Social Security withholding for Kory Hubbard and herself will be adjusted for the remaining 6 weeks of the quarter in order to increase the January 4<sup>th</sup> withholding from .042% to .062%. This adjustment was made in order to cause little financial hardship to the employees. Diana Mayfield also informed the board that the drill parts for the John Deere were on their way and the bill would reflect a 10% discount if not run through the Farm Credit Account. Ron Hardecke explained that he and Dennis Berger had compared the costs between Schoup and John Deere. The costs were comparable when looking at freight so the decision was made to go local. Mike Haeffner made the motion to approve the treasurer's report & time sheets. James Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

#### Unfinished Business

- ❖ Melinda Barch indicated that the CCPI is currently going through the ranking process. The cost estimates for money availability is \$30,180 for FY13.
- ❖ Ron Hardecke indicated that he would be attending the 2013 Education Seminar scheduled for February 26 & 27<sup>th</sup>. He will only be attending the evening of the 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### New Business

- ❖ The Board reviewed the fund status. The cost-share applications were present to the board for approval. Mike Haeffner moved to approve the following cost-share applications. Debra Nowack seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

#### Contracts and Conservation Plans

- Vera Nicks, DSP-3.2, 062-13-0082, \$9,800.50

#### Cancelled/Terminated

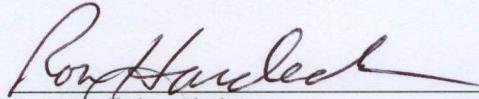
- Dennis/Bernadine Brune, N-574, 062-13-0074

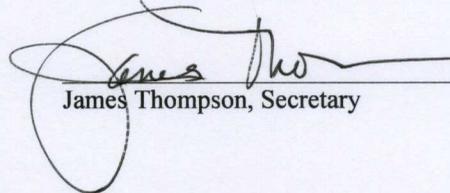
- ❖ The Board reviewed the cost-share request for Steven Niebruegge for a N-472 through the middle of a woodland area. James Thompson made the motion to deny the application based on the fact that the board does not feel the fence line meets the conservation criteria for the practice. Mike Haeffner seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.
- ❖ Debra Nowack made a motion to select Stanley and Kathy Shoemaker for this year's Conservation Family Award. Mike Haeffner seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.
- ❖ Mike Haeffner made the motion to approve Dorathea Koepke and Nicks Roberts for this year's Volunteer Award. James Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
- ❖ Debra Nowack made the motion to select the Extension office to receive the Partnership Award. Mike Haeffner seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.
- ❖ The outstanding drill bill for Terry Tune was discussed. Diana Mayfield explained that she contacted Mr. Tune by phone and he indicated that he would take his time paying the bill since we sent him a threatening letter. Diana Mayfield indicated that she sent him a letter when his payment was 4 months in the rear as was customary reminding him of his obligation and the district's policy on procedures if the drill was not paid in 6 months. He indicated that he did not have the money to pay the bill since the drought hit him hard. When asked if the drill worked okay, he indicated that it worked fine, though the crop failed. He did not have the time to write a letter to the Board to request more time or to stop the interest accumulation. He did think maybe he could make smaller payments. She drafted a letter outlining his options, and had Debra Nowack and Ron Hardecke reviewed it. Ron Hardecke signed the letter giving him 30 days to respond before we contacted the prosecuting attorney. James Thompson recommended that we go ahead and contact the Prosecuting Attorney to find out our options and to consider setting policy that the drill does not leave the county in the future. It was discussed that it would be very hard to limit it to just county residents since it is used across county lines quite frequently.
- ❖ James Thompson made the motion to send Diana Mayfield and Kory Hubbard to assist with the Regional Envirothon on March 20<sup>th</sup> and to also give a \$50 donation. Mike Haeffner seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.
- ❖ Melinda Barch explained a little about the textcaster procedure that Osage County District Technician Colby Nilges looked into. The initial cost to set it up is \$200 and there is an annual fee of \$500. Diana Mayfield told the board that she had two group addresses on her e-mail account that is sent out to all of the landowners who have provided e-mail address (approximately 200+) when the newsletter is posted to the web. The cost of the last mailing was: \$341 for printing and folding, \$190 for annual permit fee, \$134 for mailing, and about 8 hours of Diana's time for labeling and sealing. Melinda Barch explained that if

the districts would go together, they could split the costs as well as select who they wished to send announcements to. The district managers could build the data base as well as landowners putting in their own information. No action was taken at this time. James Thompson thought it might be worth looking into Twitter or Facebook. Patty Chapman would look into the availability of these accounts.

- ❖ The Board reviewed the following memos.
  - Memorandum 2013-013, Fiscal Year 2014 (FY14) Advance SALT Cost-share Funding and Nutrient and Pest Funding (did not apply to GCSWCD.)
  - Memorandum 2013-014, Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Outsourcing Payroll and Bank Reconciliation Process (did not apply to GCSWCD.)
  - Epple Family Holdings LLC Certified Letter. Mike Haeffner indicated that he knows the family and that the father lives on the property and so does the younger brother. There should be no reason why they cannot meet with the inspector. He said they need to understand that this is a Governor required inspection so it is not like any other ones. Diana Mayfield indicated that Jeff Epple had called her a couple of months ago complaining about the phone calls and constant inspections.
- ❖ The Board reviewed the NRCS & District reports as submitted. Melinda Barch indicated that Mark Brandt would be serving as Acting District Conservation for Cole & Moniteau Counties starting February 25th. He will be serving in this capacity 100% of the time. NRCS is currently under a Soft Hiring Freeze so she was unsure how long Mark would be gone. She indicated that Grant Phillips, Megan Ordway, and she would be covering Gasconade County in his absence.
- ❖ The Board discussed the performance of Kory Hubbard. It was the consensus that he is doing an outstanding job and that he needs to be promoted. Patty Chapman was asked to check on the dates for the upcoming Technician testing so that he can make the advancement.
- ❖ Diana Mayfield briefed the board on the election judges who will be serving during the course of the day on March 14<sup>th</sup>. She asked if we could provide their lunch. Mike Haeffner made the motion to provide lunch for the judges. Debra Nowack seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.
- ❖ James Thompson informed the Board that Summer Young will be the new 4-H Advisor for the Gasconade County Extension Office beginning February 11<sup>th</sup>. James thought that he would be available to serve on the board until at least July or August. He also passed out a copy of the Missouri Fence Law to everyone for reference. He indicated that Gasconade County is not a participant of the "Option Law". Debra Nowack indicated that someone came through, down by them, and cut the neighbors fence 27 times. She thought everyone should be aware of this.

- ❖ The Board reviewed the calendar of events.
- ❖ Ron Hardecke entertained a motion to adjourn. Mike Haeffner so moved. Debra Nowack seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.
- ❖ Next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled to be March 5, 2013, at 7 p.m. at the USDA Service Center.

  
Ron Hardecke, Chairman 3-5-13  
Date

  
James Thompson, Secretary 5 Mar 13  
Date

Reporting period: 01/01/13 to 01/31/13

Starting account: First Ending account: Last

Details are not shown

Print zero dollar accounts: No

Fund: 01 Local Funds

Account-#	Description	Beg-Bal	Tot-Debit	Tot-Credit	End-Bal
1-00-300	BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	(\$21,690.10)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$21,690.10)
01-00-400	INTEREST EARNED ON CHECKING	(\$26.97)	\$0.00	(\$3.70)	(\$30.67)
01-00-401	INTEREST ON CD	(\$46.66)	\$0.00	(\$47.04)	(\$93.70)
01-00-403	NEWSLETTER ADVERTIZING DONATIO	(\$112.50)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$112.50)
01-00-404	COUNTY COMMISSION	(\$2,250.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$2,250.00)
01-00-406	DONATIONS FIELD DAYS	(\$245.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$245.00)
01-00-407	INTEREST EARNED ON SAVINGS	(\$4.22)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$4.22)
01-00-415	SALE OF GOODS-PLAT BOOKS	(\$176.00)	\$0.00	(\$88.00)	(\$264.00)
01-00-431	ROTOWIPER RENTAL	(\$25.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$25.00)
01-00-432	JOHN DEERE DRILL RENTAL	(\$7,407.86)	\$0.00	(\$990.90)	(\$8,398.76)
01-00-433	GREAT PLAINS DRILL RENTAL	(\$2,213.50)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$2,213.50)
01-00-436	REIMBURSEMENTS	(\$8.09)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$8.09)
01-00-515	MANAGERS GROSS SALARY - DIANA	\$410.00	\$64.00	\$0.00	\$474.00
01-00-518	TECHNICIAN SALARY - KORY	\$194.00	\$30.40	\$0.00	\$224.40
01-00-540	EMPLOYEE TRAVEL-MGMT	\$135.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$135.01
01-00-541	EMPLOYEE TRAVEL-TECH	\$77.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$77.20
01-00-545	SUPERVISOR TRAVEL	\$203.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$203.83
01-00-547	BOARD MEETINGS	\$0.00	\$24.41	\$0.00	\$24.41
01-00-631	DRILL INSURANCE	\$474.69	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$474.69
01-00-632	JOHN DEERE DRILL REPAIR	\$5,519.10	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,519.10
01-00-633	GREAT PLAINS DRILL REPAIR	\$1,909.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,909.26
01-00-635	JOHN DEERE MAINTENANCE	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
01-00-637	ROTOWIPER INSURANCE	\$151.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$151.91
01-00-639	ATV REPAIR/EXPENSE	\$28.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28.36
01-00-640	ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION	\$39.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$39.20
01-00-833	DEMONSTRATIONS/FIELD DAYS	\$184.90	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$184.90
01-00-915	COST-SHARE MAINTENANCE	(\$351.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$351.00)

Summary Page:

Beginning Balance:	(\$24,629.44)
Total Income:	(\$1,129.64)
Total Expenses:	\$118.81
Funds Remaining:	(\$25,640.27)

Checking account #: MAIN  
 Dates: From 01/01/13 To 01/31/13

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Check/Dep-#	Date	Description	Payee	Amount
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Checking account: MAIN                      Beginning Checking Account Balance for: Jan                      \$16,892.79  
 Auto bal account #: 00-00-100

Bank ID: 081512407                      Bank name: Community Bank  
 Acct #: 2001322                      Phone: 573-437-4444

**Checks**

104134623	01/04/13	MCHCP W/H PYMT	MCHCP	\$1,138.76
4622	01/04/13	HUBBARD-PAYROLL 01/04/201	KORY	\$805.19
4623	01/04/13	MAYFIELD-PAYROLL 01/04/13	DIANA	\$836.88
4624	01/04/13	BOARD CHRISTMAS	WALMARTS	\$24.41
4625	01/14/13	POSTAGE OCT - DEC 2012	FSA	\$62.69
46260000	01/18/13	UNEMPLOYMENT INS	UNEMPLOY	\$41.18
4627	01/18/13	MAYFIELD-PAYROLL 01/18/13	DIANA	\$813.11
4628	01/18/13	SOIL HEALTH SEMINAR	COOPER SWC	\$5.00
4629	01/18/13	FENCE LAW TRNG	OSAGE EXTE	\$10.00
786	01/18/13	HUBBARD-PAYROLL 01/18/13	KORY	\$785.83
9414627	01/18/13	941 JANUARY 2013	EFTPS	\$694.98
4631	01/24/13	NEWSLETTER PERMIT	POSTMASTER	\$190.00
4630	01/28/13	DIANA'S AFLAC PYMT	AFLAC	\$174.90
Total Checks				\$5,582.93

**Deposits**

BI123112	01/14/13	BANK INTEREST 12/31/2012	(\$3.70)	Deposit
DR011413	01/18/13	DRILL RENTAL	(\$990.90)	Deposit
PLAT012813	01/28/13	PLAT BOOK DEPOSITS	(\$88.00)	Deposit
Total Deposits			(\$1,082.60)	

Total Deposits less Checks for the month:                      \$4,500.33

Ending Checkbook Balance: Jan                      \$12,392.46

-----End of report-----

By: DIANA  
01/30/13 8:21am

GASCONADE COUNTY SWCD  
Treasurers Report

Checking account #: 110  
Dates: From 01/01/13 To 01/31/13

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Check/Dep-#      Date      Description      Payee      Amount  
-----

Checking account: 110      Beginning Checking Account Balance for: Jan      \$2,060.14  
Auto bal account #: 00-00-110

Bank ID: 081512407      Bank name: COMMUNITY BANK  
Acct #: 248584      Phone:

**Checks**

Total Checks      \$0.00

**Deposits**

Total Deposits      \$0.00

Total Deposits less Checks for the month:      \$0.00

Ending Checkbook Balance: Jan      \$2,060.14

By: DIANA  
01/30/13 8:22am

GASCONADE COUNTY SWCD  
Treasurers Report

Checking account #: 120  
Dates: From 01/01/13 To 01/31/13

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Check/Dep-#      Date      Description      Payee      Amount  
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Checking account: 120      Beginning Checking Account Balance for: Jan      \$13,329.73  
Auto bal account #: 00-00-120

Bank ID: 081512407      Bank name: COMMUNITY BANK-BRANCH OF MARIE  
Acct #: 876660004479      Phone:

**Checks**

Total Checks      \$0.00

**Deposits**

011113cd      01/23/13      CD INTEREST      (\$23.52)      Deposit  
Total Deposits      (\$23.52)

Total Deposits less Checks for the month:      (\$23.52)

Ending Checkbook Balance: Jan      \$13,376.77

# MAYFIELD, DIANA M

62 - GASCONADE SWCD  
314 SOUTH OLIVE  
OWENSVILLE, MO 65066  
(573)437-3478 EXT. 3

Time Period Ending: 01/07/2013 11:30:00 AM

Status: Pending Board Approval

Week 1	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Total
Line Item	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
Start Time		07:00 AM	07:00 AM	07:00 AM	07:00 AM			07:00 AM	
Stop Time		04:30 PM	04:30 PM	04:30 PM	04:30 PM			11:50 AM	
ANNUAL LEAVE	0:00	0:00	7:30	9:00	9:00	0:00	0:00	5:00	30:30
COMP TIME	0:00	0:00	1:30	0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	1:30
HOLIDAY	0:00	8:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	8:00
Total	0:00	8:00	9:00	9:00	9:00	0:00	0:00	5:00	40:00

Week 2	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Total
Line Item	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Start Time	12:30 PM	07:00 AM	07:00 AM	07:00 AM	07:00 AM				
Stop Time	04:30 PM								
ANNUAL LEAVE	5:00	0:00	9:00	9:00	9:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	32:00
HOLIDAY	0:00	8:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	8:00
Total	5:00	8:00	9:00	9:00	9:00	0:00	0:00	0:00	40:00

Earned This Pay Period:

Annual Leave Accrued: 6:00

Sick Leave Accrued: 0:00

Compensation Time Accrued: 0:00

Hours Exceeding Work Schedule: 0:00

Note: Leave balances are as of the last approved timesheet

Annual Leave Balance: 193:45

Sick Leave Balance: 414:45

Compensation Time Balance: 1:38

Military Leave Balance: 0:00

Pay Rate: \$14.00

Employee Signature: *Diana Mayfield*

Date: 1/14/13

Board Member Signature: *Debra Korbach*

Date: 1/17/13

# Fund Status (2013)

62 - GASCONADE SWCD  
314 SOUTH OLIVE  
OWENSVILLE, MO 65066  
(573)437-3478 EXT. 3

<b>DA DROUGHT ASSISTANCE</b>									
Resource Concern	Total Allocation	Obligated	Unobligated	Contract Payments	Remaining Payments	Pending			
DROUGHT ASSISTANCE 2013	\$119,691.59	\$119,691.59	\$0.00	\$119,691.59	\$0.00	\$0.00			
<b>Project Sub Total</b>	<b>\$119,691.59</b>	<b>\$119,691.59</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$119,691.59</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>			
<b>GM GRAZING MANAGEMENT</b>									
Resource Concern	Total Allocation	Obligated	Unobligated	Contract Payments	Remaining Payments	Pending			
GRAZING MANAGEMENT 2013	\$19,662.00	\$19,613.22	\$48.78	\$16,165.54	\$3,496.46	\$0.00			
<b>Project Sub Total</b>	<b>\$19,662.00</b>	<b>\$19,613.22</b>	<b>\$48.78</b>	<b>\$16,165.54</b>	<b>\$3,496.46</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>			
<b>NP NUTRIENT &amp; PEST MANAGEMENT</b>									
Resource Concern	Total Allocation	Obligated	Unobligated	Contract Payments	Remaining Payments	Pending			
NUTRIENT & PEST MANAGEMEMENT 2013	\$11,000.00	\$2,441.00	\$8,559.00	\$2,441.00	\$8,559.00	\$0.00			
<b>Project Sub Total</b>	<b>\$11,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,441.00</b>	<b>\$8,559.00</b>	<b>\$2,441.00</b>	<b>\$8,559.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>			
<b>SA SENSITIVE AREAS</b>									
Resource Concern	Total Allocation	Obligated	Unobligated	Contract Payments	Remaining Payments	Pending			
SENSITIVE AREAS 2013	\$12,326.00	\$7,282.53	\$5,043.47	\$1,872.93	\$10,453.07	\$0.00			
<b>Project Sub Total</b>	<b>\$12,326.00</b>	<b>\$7,282.53</b>	<b>\$5,043.47</b>	<b>\$1,872.93</b>	<b>\$10,453.07</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>			
<b>SGE SHEET AND RILL / GULLY EROSION</b>									
Resource Concern	Total Allocation	Obligated	Unobligated	Contract Payments	Remaining Payments	Pending			
SHEET AND RILL / GULLY E 2013	\$51,694.00	\$26,679.36	\$25,014.64	\$16,194.56	\$35,499.44	\$0.00			
<b>Project Sub Total</b>	<b>\$51,694.00</b>	<b>\$26,679.36</b>	<b>\$25,014.64</b>	<b>\$16,194.56</b>	<b>\$35,499.44</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>			
<b>WE WOODLAND EROSION</b>									
Resource Concern	Total Allocation	Obligated	Unobligated	Contract Payments	Remaining Payments	Pending			
WOODLAND EROSION 2013	\$5,684.00	\$5,684.00	\$0.00	\$1,189.46	\$4,494.54	\$0.00			
<b>Project Sub Total</b>	<b>\$5,684.00</b>	<b>\$5,684.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,189.46</b>	<b>\$4,494.54</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>			
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>220,057.59</b>	<b>\$181,391.70</b>	<b>\$38,665.89</b>	<b>\$157,555.08</b>	<b>\$62,502.51</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>			

# Fund Status (2014)

62 - GASCONADE SWCD  
 314 SOUTH OLIVE  
 OWENSVILLE, MO 65066  
 (573)437-3478 EXT: 3

<b>GM GRAZING MANAGEMENT</b>						
Resource Concern	Total Allocation	Obligated	Unobligated	Contract Payments	Remaining Payments	Pending
GRAZING MANAGEMENT 2014	\$10,913.44	\$0.00	\$10,913.44	\$0.00	\$10,913.44	\$9,800.50
<b>Project Sub Total</b>	<b>\$10,913.44</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$10,913.44</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$10,913.44</b>	<b>\$9,800.50</b>
<b>NP NUTRIENT &amp; PEST MANAGEMENT</b>						
Resource Concern	Total Allocation	Obligated	Unobligated	Contract Payments	Remaining Payments	Pending
NUTRIENT & PEST MANAGEME 2014	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Project Sub Total</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>WE WOODLAND EROSION</b>						
Resource Concern	Total Allocation	Obligated	Unobligated	Contract Payments	Remaining Payments	Pending
WOODLAND EROSION 2014	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Project Sub Total</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>18,913.44</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$18,913.44</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$18,913.44</b>	<b>\$9,800.50</b>

## Conservation Family of the Year NOMINEES

**Stanley & Cathy Shoemaker** – Stanley & Cathy became cooperators of the District in 1978. They have crops as well as cattle on their farm. They have utilized the SWCD to build several pond structures to address not only erosion but also livestock water. He is the recipient of our first CCPI Streambank Stabilization Project and Riparian Forest Buffer, and he has just recently closed two old wells to protect our ground water. Stanley & Cathy have hosted a landowner tour to introduce landowners to the CCPI project and they have both assisted with our 4<sup>th</sup> Grade field days for several years.

**Joe & Amy Cartwright** – Joe and Amy are young farmers who are addressing many issues on their farm. They began participating in 2010 through the EQIP program where they developed a grazing system and they have installed several green houses, which enables them to grow fresh vegetables and plants for the farmer's market. They have a pumpkin patch, where they invite families to share in their love for farming. They live south of Owensville.

**Daniels Family Farm** - David Daniels and his brother, James, have been following a conservation plan since 2010. They have utilized the EQIP program to establish a grazing system. They have installed 3575 feet of pipeline with 6 watering facilities. They have fenced out their stream and created paddocks with cross fencing.

**Dwayne Loehnig** – Dwayne has been cooperating with the District by following HEL crop rotations and he has established a grazing system through the EQIP Program. He has improved his forage production and fenced out his woodlands through EQIP as well. He is currently developing a spring for livestock water through the GCSWCD cost-share program.

**Joel & Sara Wehmeyer** – Joel & Sara have been cooperating with the District since 2002. They have established a grazing system through EQIP. They established 4600 feet of pipeline, 5 watering facilities, 1800 ft of cross fencing and 4600 ft of woodland fencing.

**VOLUNTEER AWARD** – I would like to nominate Dorathea Koepke and Nick Roberts for this year's volunteer Award. In 2001, the Gasconade County SWCD began on an adventure of our 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Days. Dorathea Koepke has been presenting farm safety for all these years. Nick Roberts has been by her side since 2005. They have been sharing the importance of letting people know where you are on the farm, to wear proper clothing around farm equipment and a whole lot more.

### PARTNERSHIP AWARD NOMINEES

**Gasconade County Extension** – The University of Extension office has always been there for us when we needed to have a presentation. They are instrumental in our Tri-County Grazing School, Forage & Beef Conference, Landowner Field days and even our 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Days.

**Owensville Walmarts** – I know that Walmarts has been donating a bicycle for the poster contest winners since long before I started my second tour of duty (2000). They are very generous when it comes to donating food items for our 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Days, FFA Ag Field Days.

**RR Donnelly** – Do you know where all that poster board comes from? Well, RR Donnelly has continued the tradition of donating thousands of pieces of poster board each year for our Annual Poster Contest. Even though they have changed names throughout the years, the loyal employees have continued this donation tradition.



January 15, 2013

Re: Missouri Envirothon

The Missouri Envirothon competition has been held in our state for 15 years. During this time you may have participated as a team member or been a worker and supporter of the competition. If so, you are aware of the program and its purpose. If not, we have included information in this correspondence and attached a brochure to answer any questions you might have.

The Envirothon is a problem-solving, natural resource education program for high school students. We are a 501 (c)3 tax-exempt nonprofit organization dedicated to raising students' level of interest in the environment and our state's natural resources. In 2012, Pembroke High School was our state winner and advanced to the national competition, where they ranked 1st Place in the nation!

Each year 80-90 teams from approximately 50 schools participate in the Missouri Envirothon competition. Due to a reduction in the amount of financial support that is being provided by Canon to the Missouri Envirothon, it is necessary to solicit sponsorships from individuals, businesses, etc. This will allow us to continue with the Envirothon activities at the regional, state and national level.

The annual expenses for the competition includes seven \$500 mini grants awarded to the eight regions for their events, expenses to conduct the state event (lunch, t-shirts, plaques, facility rental, port-a-potties, buses for advisors tour, snack items for students, bottled water) which totals approximately \$10,000. An additional \$5,000 supports and sends the Missouri winning teams to the North American Envirothon.

In the enclosed brochure we have included additional details of the competition and a request for your support in continuing the competition. Please choose your sponsorship level and mail back to the address provided. If you have questions, please contact Peggy Lemons, 573-893-5188 Ext. 3, or e-mail Peggy at [peggy.lemons@swcd.mo.gov](mailto:peggy.lemons@swcd.mo.gov).

Thank you for your past and future support of the Envirothon.

# Moniteau County Soil and Water Conservation District

410 West Buchanan  
California, Missouri 65018  
573-796-2010, Ext. 3

## Central Region Envirothon

January 24, 2013

Ladies & Gentlemen:

The **fourteenth annual Central Region Envirothon Competition** is rapidly approaching. On Wednesday, **March 20, 2013**, teams of high school students from the Central Missouri Region will gather at **Runge Nature Center at Jefferson City** to demonstrate their knowledge and problem-solving abilities on various natural resource topics.

The regional planning committee has been busy since the spring of 2012 preparing and planning for this exciting event. With most of the "planning phase" behind us, it is now time to solicit help from the SWCD Boards and staffs of the seventeen counties that make up the central region. In order for this annual competition to be successful, financial assistance and additional manpower will be needed.

**Financial assistance will be needed** to cover training expenses for participating teams and their advisors; event-day expenses (food, supplies, etc.); and registration fees for the top three teams to participate in the State Contest on May 2nd. To help defray the cost of these expenses, we are asking each district to contribute \$50, but would sincerely appreciate any amount possible.

**Additional "manpower" will also be needed** to make this event a success. We anticipate needing a minimum of 35 workers the day of the competition. Volunteers can be board members, landowners, SWCD or conservation partner employees, or anyone interested in working with talented, energetic students.

In order to know where we stand financially, and ensure we have enough workers, we ask that you send your contributions, or notify us of your willingness to work no later than March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

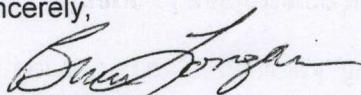
Soil & Water Conservation Districts have always been very generous in supporting educational activities for the youth, and we thank you in advance for your contribution to this exciting competition for our high school students. **Please send your contribution to:**

**Benton Co. SWCD  
535 N Hwy 65  
Lincoln MO 65338  
Attn: Tina Hovendick**

Also, contact Tina via phone or email if you are willing to volunteer your time. (phone: 660-547-2351 ext. 3)  
Workers will need to arrive no later than 7:30 a.m. on March 20th.

Thanks again for all your help!

Sincerely,



Bruce Longan  
Central Region Envirothon

## Mayfield, Diana

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**From:** Stratman, Sandy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2013 3:46 PM  
**To:** Nilges, Colby; Mayfield, Diana  
**Subject:** RE: textcaster

I think this sounds like a good idea! Like you said, the schools are using it as a way to make contact with parents. I thought it was very helpful when Holly was still in school. We have already had our board meeting this month, so it would be next month before I could get a yes or no. If all three counties agree, I would think they would be in favor of it. I guess my only question right now, would it be covered as an admin or info/ed expense or would we have to pay for it from local? I think it would be a legitimate expense but if you could check with the Program Office that would be a question I'm sure the board will ask.

*Sandy*

Sandy Stratman  
Program Specialist II  
Maries County SWCD  
105 Parkway, Vienna, MO 65582  
573-422-3342

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

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**From:** Nilges, Colby  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2013 3:39 PM  
**To:** Stratman, Sandy; Mayfield, Diana  
**Subject:** textcaster

Sandy & Diana

We've been discussing for a while about utilizing other means of notification rather than the traditional newsletter mailings. With cost of materials and man hours associated its becoming more and more expensive to do a newsletter, so we were discussing the possibilities of doing what FSA does regarding the "textcaster" messaging notification and getting away from actually mailing the newsletter. For example, a text and email would be sent notifying landowner the newsletter has been posted, or a reminder of a sign up deadline, annual meeting, and so forth.

I know the Linn RII School uses it and it works very well, and is very beneficial.

I talked with a rep via phone for quite a while to discuss what it can and can't do and most importantly cost. He walked me thru a tutorial online and showed me what it can and cannot do. It costs \$500/year, with a one-time \$200 set up fee. This includes unlimited texts and emails. There is no software to install; it is a web based system so you basically just log in and use, very simple and easy. A landowner can simply click on an icon placed on the website and enter their phone # and email address and what subjects they would like to be notified about. You do not manually have to enter each landowners name and number; the web based program essentially does all that for you. Multiple admins can be set up on one user.

I was just wondering if Maries and Gasconade would at all be interested as it could be set up for the FOSA and there could be an admin from each county. The cost could be split amongst the three of us counties if everyone would be interested. We're not for sure going to this yet, as we have to talk to our board yet – but we're just putting ideas together to make this as functional as possible.

## Newsletter Spotlight

MASWCD Education Seminar is February 26 & 27, 2013 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City. There will be an evening reception on February 26 with legislators at the hotel and more in-depth visits with legislators on February 27 at the Capitol Building.

## Upcoming Events

January 27-30, 2013  
NACD Annual Meeting  
Marriott Riverwalk Hotel  
San Antonio, TX

February 2013  
Soil & Water Commission Mtg  
Elm Street Conference Center  
Jefferson City, MO

February 26-27, 2013  
MASWCD Education Seminar  
Capitol Plaza Hotel  
Jefferson City, MO



## Science Highlights from 2012

2012 has been an incredible year for science. A lot happened while the media remained preoccupied with an overload of election year political issues. Here's a tiny sample of science news that you may have missed...

\* Physicists at the Large Hadron Collider near Geneva announced they had discovered a particle so fundamental that without it there would be no atoms in the universe. This means no matter, no people, no research, and nothing to write about. Referred to as the "Higgs boson" particle, it's commonly been called the God particle, simply because it comprises all of what we call "reality." British physicist Prof Sir Peter Knight asserted that the discovery of the Higgs is as significant to physics as the discovery of DNA was to biology.

\* Hurricane Sandy did the impossible... it blew global warming right back into the spotlight. Thanks to ever rising average temperatures, the once in a century storm is becoming a once every couple years storm. Sea level, once thought to be rising at 2 mm. per year, is actually rising about 60 percent faster, a byproduct of global warming. It's rising so much that storms can now push into New York City, flooding tunnels that carry subway traffic as well as those that handle cars and trucks.

\* Dallas TX baked under three solid months of 100 plus degree temperatures, with no letup... Climate scientists described it as an "exceptional" drought. Texans are accustomed to hot and dry, but this was the worst since record keeping began in 1895. This year, clay soil cracked so much that many Texas football fields had to be closed... in Texas that IS bad. Roads buckled, shifting soil twisted water mains, breaking 200 of them in Fort Worth alone.

\* U.S. cities matched or broke 29,300 high temperature records this year. By September's end, nearly two thirds of the U.S. was suffering drought. Kevin Trenberth of the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, CO, stated, "The breaking of records is the best indication that we're outside the normal range of simply weather." In the '50's, record highs and lows were about equal. From 2000 thru 2009, record highs outnumbered record lows 2 to 1. So-called Attribution Science is indicating that observed change cannot be explained without including the effects of human generated greenhouse gasses. These gasses have been compared to steroids in sports. In effect, increasing the temperature 'moves the fence' closer, making 'home runs' more likely.

\* On Friday, May 25 this year, Germany produced the highest solar energy output ever achieved, obtaining a third of their entire energy needs from the sun. The total of 22 gigawatts is equivalent to 16 nuclear power plants operating at full capacity. By years end, this will have been increased by some 30 percent. Generous public subsidies have transformed Germany into the world's largest solar market. They installed more solar panels in one month than the U.S. did all year.

*Continued on Page 2...*



# MASWCD E-NEWS

*The Road to Conservation Starts at Home!*

Volume 6, Issue 1

January 2013

## *Science Highlights from 2012*

*Continued from Page 1 . . . .*

\* Recent reintroduction of wolves in the northern Rocky Mountains has already boosted ecological health in Yellowstone National Park, according to William Ripple, ecologist at Oregon State University. He characterizes the ecological restoration as "spectacular." Now that wolves are culling elk, woody plants such as willow and aspen are able to grow, providing habitat. This has led to repopulation of critters from birds to bugs to beavers. It would require ten times as many wolves to spread these benefits throughout the northern Rockies. The decision to remove wolves from federal protection led to this year's hunting and shooting of many collared animals which have been subjects of research for well over a decade. This decision was based not on science, but on politics and has harmed efforts to better understand our interactions with the environment.

\* New critters discovered in 2012... a New Guinea frog has dethroned a southeast Asian fish as the tiniest known vertebrate. The housefly sized frog is one-third inch long and weighs .02 gram. A new species of native spider was found in an Oregon cave. It grows up to three inches long and has hook-like claws at the end of each leg to capture small insects. A carnivorous sponge was discovered 11,000 feet below the surface off the California coast. It feeds on small crustaceans which it captures with harp-like vanes covered with hooks.

\* Old critters discovered in 2012... fossils of gigantic Jurassic fleas were found by Chinese paleontologists, who sent images of them to Michael Engel of the University of Kansas Natural History Museum. Nearly an inch long, the specimens were from 165 million to 125 million years ago. They were equipped with serrated mouthparts for piercing thick hides of dinosaurs. Prior to this Chinese find the earliest flea fossils dated back only 45 million years.

\* Factory farms are giving rise to increasingly dangerous, antibiotic-resistant bacteria. In February a methicillin-susceptible staph jumped from people to industrially farmed pigs. It was able to acquire resistance to the antibiotics the pigs are fed, and jumped back to human hosts having acquired drug resistance. These super germs are responsible for more than 250,000 hospitalizations each year. Over use of antibiotics is particularly dangerous to human health. Microbiologist Lance Price of George Washington University, states, "I truly couldn't design a better system for creating drug-resistant bacteria than a concentrated operation where you're feeding animals antibiotics."

\* Groundwater is being tapped out at unsustainable rates all over the world, but particularly in India, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Mexico, and the United States. The impact could be huge. It's being used up at 3.5 times the amount being replenished... as an average. Apparently we're not just warming, but dehydrating the planet.

Happy New Year!

*(Information from Peoria, IL newspaper, [www.thecommunityword.com](http://www.thecommunityword.com), January 8, 2013 by Dale Goodner)*



To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#). Questions or comments? E-mail us at [peggy.lemons@swcd.mo.gov](mailto:peggy.lemons@swcd.mo.gov) or call 573-893-5188 ext. 3



Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, Governor • Sara Parker Pauley, Director

## DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

[www.dnr.mo.gov](http://www.dnr.mo.gov)

CERTIFIED MAIL # 7099 3220 0009 3706 8100  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

January 31, 2013

Epple Family Holdings LLC  
1 Williamsburg Estates Dr.  
St. Louis, MO 63131

Dear Landowner:

You have two contracts through the Gasconade County Soil and Water Conservation District, numbered DA 062-13-0047 for a Livestock Water Source Development and DA 062-13-0048 for a Livestock Water Distribution for the Drought Assistance Program. You received payment for the development contract on September 11, 2012. For the Drought Assistance Program, an audit and compliance team was established to review completed projects to verify that projects were installed according to the approved contract.

Your contract has been selected for an inspection, but the inspector has not been able to make contact with you to schedule a time for the inspection. When you signed the contract, you granted the right to ingress and egress for the purpose of inspecting the project. When an inspector is reviewing a project, they prefer the landowner be present during the inspection.

Joe Boillot will be doing the inspection of the site. Please contact Mr. Boillot at 573-526-2793 or 573-821-6582 by February 15, 2013, to schedule a time for him to do an inspection of your project.

Thank you and if you have any questions, please contact me at the Department of Natural Resources, Soil and Water Conservation Program, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176, or by phone at 573-751-1741.

Sincerely,

SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'James Plassmeyer'.

Jim Plassmeyer  
District Operations Section

JP:dc

Enclosure

c: Gasconade SWCD  
Joe Boillot, Investigator II



## Mayfield, Diana

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**From:** Plassmeyer, Jim  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2013 9:58 AM  
**To:** Mayfield, Diana  
**Subject:** RE: Epple Drought Assistance

If a team from DNR was there for an inspection it would have been for eligibility or to assist the district with check out. I can't find any record that we had a team do an eligibility review on this one. I also checked with our internal audit program and they said they have not been out on any sites in your district.

As I mentioned in my first email this is coming from the governor's executive order to look at some of the projects after completion and we did not have any say over what contracts got pulled by this compliance team.

Jim Plassmeyer  
Soil & Water Conservation Program  
District Operations  
Phone 573-751-1741  
Fax 573-526-3508

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**From:** Mayfield, Diana  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2013 7:56 AM  
**To:** Plassmeyer, Jim  
**Subject:** RE: Epple Drought Assistance

Jeff indicated that he was inspected by DNR after it was completed. It seems that all of our applications were inspected after completion.

*Diana Mayfield*  
District Specialist II  
Gasconade County SWCD  
314 S. Olive Street  
Owensville, MO 65066  
573-437-3478 ext 3  
FAX 573-437-4771

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**From:** Plassmeyer, Jim  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2013 7:53 AM  
**To:** Mayfield, Diana  
**Subject:** RE: Epple Drought Assistance

He was one of the lucky ones that were randomly selected by the compliance team that was established by the Governor in executive order 12-09 to inspect a sample of the practices to make sure they were installed according to the contracts. The previous inspections I am guessing were for eligibility. When the compliance team selected the contracts for their inspections, they did not know who previously had an eligibility review. The team leader was getting a report out of MOSWIMS on the contracts paid and was selecting from there. I don't know what the criteria were for selecting projects. The only thing I do know is that they wanted at least one project in every county.

Jim Plassmeyer  
Soil & Water Conservation Program  
District Operations  
Phone 573-751-1741  
Fax 573-526-3508

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**From:** Mayfield, Diana  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 05, 2013 7:37 AM  
**To:** Plassmeyer, Jim  
**Subject:** Epple Drought Assistance

Hi Jim,

Just received the letter addressed to the Epple Family Holdings. I have had previous conversations with Jeff Epple in regards to the inspections of this project. He was very upset when he called because it has already been inspected by us and your team several times. He does not feel that he or his brother should have to take off work, again, to have an additional inspection. I do know that he was going to call the governor's office and complain about the "harassment" of constant inspections and phone calls.

What is the reason for the continual inspections? My Board meets tonight and I would like to explain it to them.

*Diana Mayfield*

District Specialist II  
Gasconade County SWCD  
314 S. Olive Street  
Owensville, MO 65066  
573-437-3478 ext 3  
FAX 573-437-4771

District Manager Report  
Diana Mayfield  
February 2013

I have been getting back into the swing of things since my Grandma Maternity Leave. I have drafted and mailed the January 2013 newsletter. This newsletter contained the election information and Annual meeting announcement. This information will also be placed in the local newspapers around February 27, 2013.

NRCS purchased new furniture for the office so we spent several days rearranging and re-organizing the office. I think it is very functional now and looks nice. I wish to thank NRCS for this change.

Melinda Barch has asked me to assist NRCS with the payment process for their EQIP contracts. I will be reviewing the documentation to be sure that everything is in order. Just acting as another pair of eyes.

Spent some time dealing with the outstanding drill bill for Terry Tune. As of 02/05/13, I have not heard from him. The letter was sent on January 24<sup>th</sup> and he should have had it by January 28<sup>th</sup> for sure.

Kory delivered the poster contest packets and poster board in my absence. The posters are due on February 28<sup>th</sup>. I have selected the poster contest judges for the March 1<sup>st</sup> judging. They are Shirley Landwehr, Sharon Mace, and Connie Doerr.

I have obtained Barb Zelch for catering the Annual Meeting meal at \$7.50 per plate. Kate Gerlemann, Brenda Kurrelmeyer and Kathy Shoemaker will be serving as volunteer election judges on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The polls will be open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. here at the office and then from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Owensville Middle School.



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
1315 E Main  
Linn, Missouri 65051

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## January 2013 NRCS Board Report

During the month of January I attended the Osage, Maries and Gasconade Counties Soil & Water Conservation District Board meetings.

A FOSA staff meeting was held in Linn. Reviewed the Vegetation Establishment standard and the new Planned Seeding sheet. Since the Area did not have an awards program this year the following staff were recognized for assistance to the local Soil and Water Districts and NRCS: Mark Brandt, Megan Ordway, Grant Phillips, Colby Nilges, and Ken Franken. Diana Mayfield and Amy Neier were absent from the FOSA meeting so they were recognized during their monthly board meeting for their contributions to our Team. I want to thank all NRCS and SWCD staff for the work they do for making this a successful FOSA.

Seth Barrioz, PLC, and I attended a planning meeting for the Mid MO Grazing Conference which will be held February 28<sup>th</sup>.

Diana Franken, BARA contract employee started working two days a week to help out with management of our federal contracts.

Wally and Darrel were down to look at three potential waste storage structures for closure.

EQIP sign up ended on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Our FOSA ended up with 120 applications. Staff has been busy working on updating eligibility, ranking applications and developing cost estimates. Rankings are to be complete by March 1, 2013.

The first two Winter Seminars were held in Osage County. First night was Doug Peterson speaking on Cover Crops and Soil Health. The second night was Dr. Kevin Bradley talking on Weed Management Considerations for 2013 along with Jim Jarman speaking on Insect Pest Management.

The Day with Wildlife was held in Linn on Saturday January 26<sup>th</sup>. SWCD and NRCS staff took shifts in working at the event. Approximately 600 folks came through to the event.

Megan and I took some time off to attend the Missouri Natural Resources Conference.

Melinda L. Barch  
District Conservationist

REGULAR OPEN MEETING GASCONADE COUNTY SWCD

Posted January 30, 2013, 3:00 p.m.

**AGENDA**

USDA Service Center, 316 S. Olive Street, Owensville

**Tuesday, February 5, 2013, 7 p.m.**

- Open Meeting – Chairman
- Review Minutes of the January Board Meeting – Secretary
- Financial Report for January- Treasurer
  - Treasurer’s Report
  - Time sheets

**Unfinished Business**

- CCPI Update
- 2013 Educational Seminar

**New Business**

- Cost-Share –
  - Fund Status
  - Niebruegge DFR-5 Request
  - Approve Conservation Plans, Cost-share Contracts, Change Orders, and Payments

Name FY13	Cons Plan	Cost-Share Practice	Contract, Change Order or Payment	Application Number
Vera Nicks	C/S	DSP-3.2	Contract	062-13-0082
Dennis/Bernadine Brune RLT			Termination	062-13-0074

- Annual Plan of Action
  - Conservation Family Award
  - Volunteer Award
  - Partnership Award
- Drill Bill - Terry Tune
- Envirothon Donation Request – State and Regional
- Textcaster
- DNR Memorandums & Letters
  - Memorandum 2013-013, Fiscal Year 2014 (FY14) Advance SALT Cost-share Funding and Nutrient and Pest Funding
  - Memorandum 2013-014, Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Outsourcing Payroll and Bank Reconciliation Process
  - Epple Family Holdings LLC Certified Letter
- NRCS and District Reports
- Probation Evaluation of Kory Hubbard – SWCD Board may vote to go into closed session to discuss personnel issues pursuant to personnel actions under §610.021(3); personnel records or applications under §610.021(13) under the Sunshine Law.
- Mail
- Calendar of Events
  - February 11, 2013, Forage & Beef conference, Cuba, MO Staff out of Office
  - February 18, 2013, President’s Day Holiday, Office Closed
  - March 1, 2013, Judge Posters
  - March 5, 2013, Next Board of Supervisor Meeting, 7 p.m.
  - March 10, 2013, Daylight Saving Time Begins
- Adjourn.

Soil & Water Conservation District Boards may go into closed session at this meeting if such action is approved by a majority vote of the board members who constitute a quorum to discuss legal, confidential, or privileged matters under § 610.021(1), RSMo 2000; personnel actions under §610.021(3); personnel records or applications under §610.021(13), records under § 610.021(14), or audit issues under § 610.021(17), which are otherwise protected from disclosure by law.