

Annual Report

July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

A. DISTRICT NAME Gasconade County
Address 314 S. Olive Street
Owensville, MO 65066
Telephone Number 573-437-3478 ext 3
Fax Number 573-437-4771
Manager's
Email Address diana.mayfield@swcd.mo.gov

B. CURRENT SUPERVISORS as of June 30, 2013

Chairman Dennis Berger
Address 809 Hillcrest
Owensville, MO 65066
Phone Number 573-437-3262
Yrs. On Board 2010-Present Area II
Email Address denbobsplace@hotmail.com

Vice-Chairman Mike Haeffner
Address 1320 Hwy 100
Morrison, MO 65061
Phone Number 573-294-0016
Yrs. On Board 2011-Present Area I
Email Address mhaeffner@centurytel.net

Member Debra Nowack
Address 1515 Mint Springs Road
Owensville, MO 65066
Phone Number 573-646-3477
Yrs. On Board 2011-Present Area III
Email Address debra.nowack@mo.usda.gov

Treasurer Matthew Estes
Address 2162 Hwy 50
Rosebud, MO 63091
Phone Number 573-368-0442
Yrs. On Board 2013-Present Area IV
Email Address ball1@fidmail.com

Secretary Matthew Herring
Address 116 W Main
Union, MO 63084
Phone Number 636-583-5141
Yrs. On Board 2012-Present
Email Address HerringM@missouri.edu

C. MEETINGS

Number of SWCD Board Meetings Held: 10
Number of Special Meetings Held by Board: 1

ANNUAL MEETING -Open House
Number Attending: 172

OTHER INFORMATION EDUCATION MEETINGS (specify type)

TYPE	No. of Meetings	No. Attending
Forage & Beef Conference (Sponsorship)	1	195
Soil Health Workshop	2	170
Contract/Vendor Meeting	1	38
Pond/Timber Management Workshop	1	18

D ACTIVITIES

CONTESTS

	No. of Schools	No. of Entries
Poster Contest	6	232
Envirothon (Sponsorship-Central Region)	18	90

AWARDS

	Name
Family Cooperator Award	Joel & Sara Wehmeyer
Volunteer Award	Connie Doerr
Partnership Award	RR Donnelly

PUBLICITY

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

ISSUES/YEAR	CIRCULATION
2	850
WebSite (e-mail notification list)	210

	Number of
Radio Ads	2
Newspaper Articles	
Public Displays	2
Web Page	updated regularly

Gasconade Republican, Hermann Advertiser, Bland Courier, Cuba Free Press, County News Live

TOURS AND FIELD DAYS

Type of Tours and Field Days	No. of Tours	Attendance
4th Grade Field Day	2	310
Preschool Demonstration	2	30
Landowner Field Tour	1	44
FFA Ag Field Day	1	174

RENTAL AND SALES

Equipment Type	Rental Fee	No. of
John Deere 10'Drill/acre (10 acre minimum)	\$10/\$9*	500.5
Great Plains 7' Drill/acre (10 acre minimum)	\$10/\$9*	458.6
Rotowiper/day	\$25.00	4
Burn Equipment/use	\$10.00	1
ATV Equipment/day per piece	\$20.00	3
ATV Warm Season Grass Seeder/day	Free	3

*Over 50 acres

Items Sold by District	Donation
Flags	\$ 50.00
Plat Books	\$44.00

Soil Probe/use	Free	9
Audio Equipment/use	Free	1

E.

OTHER

No. of Cooperators Waiting for Service:

Average Time Waiting for First Contact: 1-2 days

Were accomplishments presented to county commission? Yes

Was budget presented to county commission? Yes

F.

CURRENT DISTRICT STAFF

Name Diana Mayfield Job Title District Program Specialist II
 Phone Number 573-437-3478 ext 3

Start Date 20-Jan-00 Termination Date _____
 Email Address diana.mayfield@swcd.mo.gov

Current Hourly Wage \$14.30 Hours Worked Per Year 2080
 Primary Staff Contact Y/N Yes

Name Kory Hubbard Job Title District Technician II
 Phone Number 573-437-3478 ext 109

Start Date 22-May-12 Termination Date _____
 Email Address kory.hubbard@swcd.mo.gov

Current Hourly Wage \$13.87 Hours Worked Per Year 2080
 Primary Staff Contact Y/N No

**Gasconade County
Soil and Water Conservation District**

**Narrative Report 2014
July 1, 2013– June 30, 2014**

The Gasconade County Soil and Water Conservation District's (SWCD) primary goal for the county is to conserve our natural resources. All programs and related activities are based on reaching the goal of "T".

Gasconade County SWCD programs and activities encourage participation by the public, which include our children, who will be the future leaders of our nation. Some of the activities and programs of the district, which are funded by Administrative funds and local funds include:

- **Soil Health Meeting** – The Gasconade/Maries/Montgomery/Osage/Warren County NRCS/SWCD joined forces and hosted our 1st Soil Health Meeting on August 6, 2013 in Rhineland, MO. We had 92 landowners and staff in attendance from across the 5 county areas. The program consisted of a guest speaker from Iowa, a local producer panel, and a rain simulator/slag demonstration. A second Soil Health Workshop was held on March 12th with 78 landowners and staff in attendance. This meeting was held in High Hill, MO.
- **Farm Tour** – On September 6, 2013, we hosted a farm tour which traveled to three local farms. Forty-four landowners and staff were able to view wildlife habitat, CRP ground, a dry hole structure and a large grazing system. Speakers included representatives from FSA, NRCS, GCSWCD, and MO Department of Ag and the hosting landowners. A dinner was provided by the district.
- **2013 FFA Ag Field Day** – The Gasconade/Maries/Osage County FOSA hosted the FFA Ag Field Day at Ben Branch Conservation Area on September 24, 2013. There were 149 students from 5 schools and 24 staff and school sponsors. The event covered three areas: Soils, Grasslands, and Forestry/Wildlife. During the lunch hour, the MDC sawmill and feral hog trapping were discussed. Lunch was provided by all of the districts.
- **4th Grade Field Day** – The District organized and sponsored their thirteenth 4th Grade Field Day on October 2nd and 3rd. There were 258 students from 4 schools, and 52 additional school sponsors, volunteers and staff at this event. The students were allowed to visit eight different educational stops on the Dennis and Brenda Kurrelmeyer Farm north of Owensville, MO. Due to the governmental shutdown on October 1st, the District found itself without the support of NRCS and FSA. Several volunteers stepped up to assist with the educational stops and other jobs including our Board Members, County Commissioners and 4th grade teachers and bus drivers. The lunch for the students and staff was provided in part by donations from local businesses. Conservation Agent Jason Eikermann presented the lunch time program by discussing animal pelts and the animal's habits.
- **Contractor/Vendor Meeting** – The District co-sponsored a Contractor/Vendor Meeting with Maries and Osage Counties on February 4, 2014. There were 38 contractors/vendors and staff who braved the weather. Missouri One call was on hand to discuss excavation safety issues and an NRCS engineer discussed the new requirements that affect terrace tiles. Local NRCS staff discussed the vendor requirements for fertilizer and seed and how to calculate the product that is required. A chili dinner was provided by the three SWCD's.
- **Pond and Timber Management Workshop** – This workshop was held at the Swiss Evangelist Church on February 18, 2014. MDC Fisheries Biologist Scott Williams presented the Pond Workshop and MDC Forester Aaron Holsapple presented the Timber Management Workshop. There were 13 landowners and 5 staff in attendance.
- **Forage and Beef Conference** – The Forage and Beef Conference for the area was held in Cuba on February 24th with approximately 195 people in attendance. An evening meal was provided at the end of the conference. The producer panel discussed their pasture usage and their reducing hay production. There were several vendors at this event, who donated door prizes that were presented throughout the course of the evening. We had two SWCD staff members and two NRCS personnel at the meeting, who helped with set up/down and registration.
- **2014 Annual Meeting** – This year's Annual Meeting was held at the Owensville Middle School on March 27th. There were 172 people in attendance. The meal was catered. Our guest speaker, NRCS Soil Health Conservationist Doug Peterson demonstrated the rainfall simulator and the slag test. We celebrated our 50th year of service to Gasconade County and we recognized all past and present Supervisors and Staff. Our Conservation Family Award was presented to Joel & Sara Wehmeyer, Volunteer Award went to Connie Doerr, and the Partnership Award was presented to RR Donnelly.
- **Poster Contest** - This year's (2014) theme was "Dig Deeper, the Mysteries in the Soil." The poster contest is open to any student in Gasconade County in Grades 2 thru 8. Due to the extreme winter

weather, we only received 232 posters from 6 schools and our three judges had a very difficult time in making their selections as all entries were exceptional. The awards were presented at the Annual Meeting. The Top three posters from grades 2-3, 4-6, and 7-8 will be forwarded to the State Level Competition. We were very pleased to have two 2013 State Level Winners from St. George School at the Training Conference in December and one 2nd Place National Winner in January.

- **Day with Pre-school** – District staff gave a presentation to one of the local preschools on April 23rd to two classes. The staff assisted the students in making “soil babies” and then discussed how our food can be traced back to soil using the “Hamburger” demonstration tool borrowed from Osage County. The staff presented to 30 young students. The staff and students really enjoyed this project and have had very positive feedback from parents and students alike.
- **Community Support:** The GCSWCD District Manager was the lead person for the USDA Service Center participation in Operation Christmas and the Feds Feed Families Program. For Operation Christmas, we serviced 3 large families and we donated approximately 535 lbs of food to the local food bank.

The District still owns a 10 ft. John Deere no-till drill, a 7 ft. Great Plains no-till drill, an ATV sprayer, seeder, and disk, and a Rotowiper. The District also has burn equipment and soil probes available for public use. An ATV Warm Season Spreader is available free of charge.

A semi-annual newsletter was mailed to approximately 850 cooperators at each mailing this past fiscal year. The newsletter is now located on the District Web site. We are currently sending the newsletter via e-mail to 210 landowners. The purpose of this newsletter is to make the landowners more aware of district goals, programs, and accomplishments in controlling soil erosion, water quality, etc. The newsletter also contains information and events for the cooperating partners - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), and Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC). The funding of this newsletter has been made possible by the soil and parks tax and local funding.

The Soil and Water Conservation District co-sponsored the Mid-MO Grassland Competition. The District sent two staff member to assist with the Regional Envirothon, which serviced 90 high school students.

The District Staff works with NRCS to assist with the Federal Programs that are being implemented. We are currently working on our final CCPI Streambank Stabilization project through NRCS. We have completed three other projects to date. There have been staffing changes within NRCS and MDC this year. We welcomed NRCS Soil Conservationist Braden Schmitz and MDC Private Lands Conservationist Seth Barrioz. Seth will be servicing the entire FOSA.

The NRCS, FSA, MDC, University Missouri Extension, County Contractors, the County Commission, and county and state public officials continue to be very supportive of the District.

A combination of the news media, radio, a District Newsletter, website, correspondence, and personal contacts are used to keep the public informed of state programs and Board sponsored activities. The District Manager and NRCS District Conservationist were featured for an hour talk show on a local radio/TV station.

Based on the new resource concerns, the following have been claimed: Sheet/Rill & Gully (\$17,150.41) Grazing System Management (\$57,181.59); Woodland Erosion (\$13,812.39); Nutrient/Pest Management (\$1,404.00). This year the district was able to assist the CCPI landowner with an additional \$13,718 towards his streambank stabilization practice through a variance granted by the Soil & Water Conservation Commission. Unfortunately, due to complications, this project has been rolled over into FY15. The District has claimed \$89,548.39 which is 58% of our fiscal year allocation of \$154,408.00.

Two office personnel and three supervisors attended the State Training Conference held in December. The District initiated two Resolutions and both passed unanimously during the Annual Association Meeting.

The Board Chairman attended the NRCS Technical Review, which was held in Columbia on June 17th.

The Annual Plan of Action is followed monthly as a guideline for district activities during the year. The District is continually looking for educational opportunities. The district follows the federal guidelines for Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity. They review these policies annually with NRCS.

The Gasconade County Board of Supervisors meets regularly on the first Tuesday of each month. Effective April 2, 2013, the meeting time has been permanently set at 6:30 p.m. The agenda for each meeting is posted in the USDA Service Center on the Wednesday before each meeting. The County Commissioners, Natural Resources Conservation District Area Staff, and the Department of Natural Resources are invited to each meeting and any visitors wishing to attend the meetings are encouraged to do so. The County Commissioners have attended quite frequently as well as the DNR District Coordinator.

The Board of Supervisors continues to stress the need for soil and water conservation and they are very conscious of their responsibility of being faithful stewards of tax payer dollars.