



Missouri Department of Natural Resources

**MINUTES
MISSOURI SOIL AND WATER DISTRICTS COMMISSION
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL
LEWIS AND CLARK STATE OFFICE BUILDING
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI
MARCH 26, 2010**

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE: Kathryn Braden,
Thomas Bradley, Dan Devlin, Richard Fordyce

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT: MARK TEMPLETON, DEPT. OF
NATURAL RESOURCES: Mike Wells

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT: SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION
PROGRAM: Bryan Hopkins

ADVISORY MEMBERS VIA TELEPHON: MASWCD: Steve Radcliff; NRCS:
Drenda Williams

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Chrisi Armbruster, Kurt Boeckmann, Jim Boschert, April
Brandt, Allan Clarke, David Goggins, Jesse Higginbotham, Colleen Merideth, Theresa
Mueller, Jim Plassmeyer, Jennifer Sieg, Ken Struempf, Colette Weckenborg, Bill Wilson

OTHERS PRESENT: DISTRICTS: STATE OF MISSOURI ATTORNEY
GENERAL'S OFFICE: Tim Duggan

OTHERS PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE: Caldwell: Wendy Bowen; Cole: Peggy
Lemons; Jefferson: George Engelbach; Texas: Kaven Keller; Wright: Missy Wollard

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at the Lewis and Clark State Office Building, in
Jefferson City, MO, in the Nightingale Conference Room at 1:05 p.m.

Roll call was taken and the following commissioners were present via the telephone:
Kathryn Braden, Thomas Bradley, Dan Devlin and Richard Fordyce.

B. CLOSED SESSION:

Kathryn Braden made a motion to go into closed session to discuss legal, confidential, or privileged matters under § 610.021(1), RSMo 2000; audit issues under § 610.021(17). Thomas Bradley seconded the motion. A poll vote was taken to go into closed session. Kathryn Braden, Thomas Bradley, Dan Devlin and Richard Fordyce voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

When the commission came out of closed, Thomas Bradley made a motion to withhold all appropriate and necessary funding to Shannon County starting April 1, 2010, until all elected Shannon County supervisors resign. Dan Devlin seconded the motion. A poll vote was taken. Kathryn Braden, Thomas Bradley, Dan Devlin and Richard Fordyce voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

C. REVIEW/EVALUATION

1. District Operation Section

a. District Support

1. Election Policy – Relocating Ballot Box for Annual Meeting

Ken Struempf requested clarification regarding the relocating of the ballot box. He stated that several districts hold their annual meetings on the evening of the election. He stated that they keep the polls open and then move the box to the place of the annual meeting. He asked if a district did this, would it comply with the commission's policy so that they could be reimbursed.

After some discussion, it was the consensus of the commission that to receive reimbursement for following the commission's voluntary participation policy when holding an annual meeting, the poll may be closed to move the ballot box from the central location to the annual meeting as long as the open hours for the polls total six hours for the day with a portion of that time in the evening so that working landowner have an opportunity to vote.

2. Supervisor Appointment

a. Pemiscot SWCD

Kathryn Braden made a motion to approve the board's request to appoint Charles Cain to fill the position that he had recently resigned from. Dan Devlin seconded the motion. A poll vote was taken. Kathryn Braden, Thomas Bradley, Dan Devlin and Richard Fordyce voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

D. SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

1. Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI)

Bryan Hopkins provided the commission with information on the Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watershed Initiative (MRBI). He stated that providing some level of funding towards MRBI would assist the state's ability to leverage federal funds. He stated that Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is allocating approximately \$80 million in financial assistance in certain eligible watersheds. He informed the commission that NRCS and the program were working on what the project means. He stated the NRCS was working on how to deliver the program in the state. He stated there were not a lot of technical funds for personnel cost at this time.

Mr. Hopkins stated the proposal are due May 3, 2010, at the end of May there will be a selection made in Washington DC, and then the cooperative partner agreements with the selected watersheds by the middle of summer. He stated the goal is to have the cooperators signed up and projects being qualified for on the ground activity by September. He informed the commission that for the districts that want to apply, the program would help the districts with their proposals.

Next, Mr. Hopkins covered the funding proposal. He suggested that the commission approve up to \$200,000 total for the awarded projects in any of the six watersheds to use for instream monitoring on proposals that require it. He suggested that up to a total of \$100,000 be set aside as match to NRCS for technical assistance on edge-of-field monitoring. He suggested that up to a total of \$200,000 be set aside for qualifying districts that win one of the proposals to add to their allocation for soil and water practices that have a positive impact on nutrient issues. He stated that up to a total of \$500,000 be set aside for districts that win one of the proposals.

Mr. Hopkins stated that \$500,000 in expenditures could potentially bring into the state millions of dollars for incentive programs for the agricultural community. Discussion followed regarding the funding for this initiative, in which Mr. Hopkins stated that the funding elements should have flexibility since this is a new initiative.

Kathryn Braden made a motion to set aside from research funds up to \$500,000 or funds as they come available to support the initiative as described. Thomas Bradley seconded the motion. A poll vote was taken. Kathryn Braden, Thomas Bradley, Dan Devlin and Richard Fordyce voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

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E. ADJOURNMENT

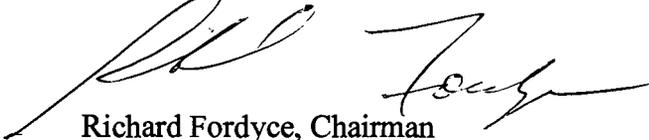
Kathryn Braden moved the meeting be adjourned. Thomas Bradley seconded the motion. When polled, Kathryn Braden, Thomas Bradley Dan Devlin and Richard Fordyce voted in favor of the motion and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Bryan T. Hopkins, Program Director
Soil and Water Conservation Program

Approved by:



Richard Fordyce, Chairman
Missouri Soil & Water Districts Commission

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