Missouri Department of Natural Resources

MINUTES
MISSOURI SOIL AND WATER DISTRICTS COMMISSION
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL
LEWIS AND CLARK STATE OFFICE BUILDING
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI
August 21, 2012

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE: Kathryn Braden, Thomas Bradley, Gary Vandiver, and Richard Fordyce

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS: **DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES;** Sara Parker Pauley, Dru Buntin; **JON HAGLER, DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE:** Chris Klenklen

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE: **JON HAGLER, DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE:** Judy Grundler

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT: **SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM:** Colleen Meredith

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE: **NRCS:** J.R. Flores **MASWCD:** Steve Radcliff

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: April Brandt, Kerry Cordray, Christa Moody, Bill Wilson, Kurt Boeckmann, Terri Oesterly, Jim Plassmeyer, Ken Struemph, Colette Weckenborg, Lori Gordon, Darrick Steen

OTHERS PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE: **DISTRICTS: Clinton**: Teona Harris; **Camden**: Earnest Calvert; **Cape Girardeau:** Paula Meier; **Cole:** Peggy Lemons; **Oregon**: Sarah Stubbs; **MASWCDEA**: Sandy Hutchison; **MASWCD:** Kenny Lovelace; **NRCS:** Dick Purcell

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Richard Fordyce called the meeting to order in Jefferson City, Missouri, at the Lewis and Clark Building at 11:03 am. Poll of commission members was taken: Kathryn Braden, Thomas Bradley, Gary Vandiver, and Richard Fordyce were present, which made a quorum.

Sara Parker Pauley, Colleen Meredith, and Richard Fordyce thanked all the districts and the program staff for the above and beyond work done with the Drought Relief Assistance Program. Richard Fordyce stated that all our efforts are making an impact on Missouri agriculture around the state, not only now but also long term.

B. REVIEW OF COST-SHARE ALLOCATIONS

Richard Fordyce stated he has had several meetings with Governor Nixon on the Drought Relief Assistance program. The last meeting with Governor Nixon, Gary Vandiver, and himself it was determined that the Soil and Water Districts Commission would need to meet to make a commitment to provide additional funding for the Drought Relief Assistance.

Gary Vandiver stated that the Soil and Water Districts Commission has allocated 6.8 million dollars to the Drought Relief Assistance program and Governor Nixon's office has allocated 5 million dollars. Since that time the Drought Relief Assistance program has turned into a 28 to 30 million dollar program.

After discussion, Gary Vandiver made a motion to that the Soil and Water Conservation Program will split the cost equally with the state of Missouri for any cost exceeding 11.8 million dollars for the Drought Assistance Program and Executive Order 12-08. Kathryn Braden seconded the motion. A poll vote was taken. Thomas Bradley, Kathryn Braden, Gary Vandiver, and Richard Fordyce voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Richard Fordyce stated that the motion was to commit funds for the Drought Relief Assistance program. As the program moves forward, there will be discussions on numerous options on how this will be funded. A decision will not be made until final amount of contracts are known.

Kathryn Braden made a motion to pause regular Cost-Share starting on the close of business on August 28, 2012 thru October 1, 2012 at the start of business. Gary Vandiver seconded the motion. A poll vote was taken. Thomas Bradley, Richard Fordyce, Gary Vandiver, and Kathryn Braden voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Sandy Hutchison stated she would like to publically thank Colleen Meredith, her staff, and not only the program staff but also the Department of Natural Resources staff as well as Department of Agriculture staff. It has enabled the districts to work with new landowners.

Steve Radcliff stated that "some of the counties in north Missouri, that have rural water, have very few contracts to be worked on for this disaster. Some of us up here will be twiddling our thumbs until we can start doing cost-share again." Richard Fordyce stated that the districts have until August 28, 2012 to get the contracts in and it should give the landowners 30 days to complete.

F. ADJOURNMENT

Gary Vandiver moved the meeting be adjourned at 11:25 am. Thomas Bradley seconded the motion. A poll vote was taken. Kathryn Braden, Gary Vandiver, Thomas Bradley, and Richard Fordyce voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Meredith

Colleen Meredith, Director
Soil and Water Conservation Program

Approved by:

Richard Fordyce, Chairman
Missouri Soil and Water Districts Commission
/clm