

RESOLUTIONS

2014 Training Conference

Resolution #2014-01

Proposed by Livingston County

Whereas, all Missouri Soil and Water Conservation Districts are considered members of the MASWCD and,

Whereas, the business, property and affairs of the MASWCD is conducted by the Board of Directors composed of a Director from each Area and,

Whereas, for the purpose of providing representation on the Board of Directors, Districts are grouped into Areas with one representative from each Area elected to the Board of Directors and,

Whereas, Alternates will serve only in the case of the inability of the duly elected Director in order to preserve representation of the area so affected;

Therefore be it resolved: that all Area Directors must attend a minimum of 2 regularly scheduled MASWCD meetings and 2 Soil & Water Commission meetings. If the Area Director must miss a regularly scheduled meeting they need to make arrangements for their area to be represented by an Area Alternate and advise the MASWCD Chairman and Executive Director. If these conditions are not met, the Area Director shall give up their position as Area Director.

Supported By: Wright SWCD, Howard SWCD, Caldwell SWCD, Sullivan SWCD

Resolution Failed – Yes – 11 / No -- 38

Resolution #2014-02

Proposed by Gasconade County

Whereas, in 2007 the Soil and Water Conservation Districts Commission elected to provide a state wide health care plan based on the desire of the District Boards to better serve their employees with adequate, affordable healthcare.

Whereas, combining the 114 districts into one group plan should allow for substantial savings in premiums and allow for equal coverage for all concerned.

Whereas, the Affordable Care Act requires all individuals to be covered by some sort of healthcare insurance.

Whereas, the Commission contracted with the Missouri Consolidated Health Care Program to provide the services needed to cover employees and offer family benefits at employee expense.

Whereas, the premium for family members is 60% of a Technician II salary.

Therefore, be it resolved: that the Soil and Water Conservation Commission consider looking into other options for group health insurance coverage that is more affordable for employees and their families.

Resolution Passed – Yes – 47 / No -- 2

Resolution #2014-03

Proposed by St. Louis County

Resolution to Establish Cost-Share Category for Precision Agriculture

Whereas:

- Farmers are concerned with the most efficient use of chemical fertilizer and pesticide applications in order to minimize energy use, input costs, and negative impacts to soil health and water quality;
- A suite of tools related to yield monitoring, soil mapping, precision application equipment and variable rate technology (collectively known as Precision Agriculture) mitigates these issues;
- Precision Agriculture is increasing nationally but Missouri has lower adoption rates than neighboring states, with research suggesting that the large initial investments in equipment, complexity of the technology, and the need to use multiple precision technologies together are entrance barriers, particularly for limited-resource operations;
- The Soil and Water Conservation Program (SWCP), having established the importance of promoting farming techniques which protect soil and water resources, provides financial incentives to landowners to help implement such practices;
- The common mission among Missouri's Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) is to be locally responsive, to assume active leadership in conservation education, and to address producer, public, and natural resource concerns through cost-share programs;
- In addition to taxpayer-generated cost-share funds, there is support from private industry which would leverage those dollars by providing matching funds specifically for Precision Agriculture;

And whereas this convergence of conservation goals, producer needs, technological advances, and private-industry support reflects an opportunity to leverage public funds to serve the public interest, develop new channels to market conservation practices, and meet environmental goals through innovation rather than regulation,

Therefore be it resolved by the body of the Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts to request that the Commission work with the SWCP to establish a work group to (1) explore developing a cost-share category for Precision Agriculture—which would include components such as surveying, software, hardware, and after-market production equipment—that support the suite of tools related to yield monitoring, soil mapping, precision application equipment and variable rate technology, and (2) explore options for receiving and administering matching funds from private industry.

Resolution Failed – Yes – 11 / No -- 38

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

PROPOSED CHANGES

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Article VI -- Board of Directors - Officers - Organization Units

Section 2: Officers of the Association.

E. The President then completes the organization by appointing a Treasurer, an Assistant Treasurer and Committee Chairs.

F. A Past President elected to a dual role has the option to serve as needed.

G. Executive Director. The Board of Directors may appoint an Executive Director to serve under the direction of the Board. The Executive Director shall not be eligible to vote.

H. The decision of the Board of Directors as to the policies and activities of the Association shall be final and a report thereof given to the Annual Meeting.

Proposed Bylaw Change Failed – Yes – 14 / No -- 24

Article VII -- Eligibility - Term of Office - Compensation - Duties

Section 1: Eligibility.

A. Eligibility for Directors: In order to become eligible for nomination and election to the Board of Directors of this Association, a candidate must be a duly elected member of the governing body of a local Soil and Water Conservation District and not on any state politically appointed or elected Board or Commission. **Directors who have served consecutively or intermittently and are active SWCD Supervisors are eligible to be re-elected regardless of the number of terms served.**

Proposed Bylaw Change Passed – Yes – 14 / No -- 24

Section 2: Term of Office.

A. Term of Office: The term of the Officers shall be for two (2) years or until successors are elected. The Officers shall be elected bi-annually at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting and Conference activities in even years.

Section 4: Duties.

C. Duties of the Past President: The **Current** Past President shall act in an advisory role to the Board of Directors during the President's term. The Past President shall be a non-voting member but does have the power to make and second motions.

Proposed Bylaw Change Failed – No Motion made to adopt the change.