Agenda

Roll Call

Orval Gigstad
Region Chair

Kansas: Jerry Clasen, Bevin Law
Montana: Steve Hedstrom
Nebraska: Orval Gigstad
North Dakota: absent
South Dakota: Fran Fritz, Bill Smith, Tami Moore, Lyle Stewart

NRCS: Astor Boozer, Sal Salinas
Kent Zimmerman NASCA

Approval of Minutes

Board Members
Approved as sent out

Executive Board Report

Bevin Law
Monthly board call was 24th of September, discussed financials, grants and agreements, MOUs, committee meeting updates, annual meeting updates, NCF report.

NACD Report

Sunni Heikes-Knapton

We are getting an upgraded Northern Plains website that will be where updates and meeting info are stored.

Update from 2019 NACD Staff Retreat

Annual meeting:

Registration: Early bird ends December 14 ($485) goes up to $535 until January 17th.
Sponsorships are open and it’s a great chance for those who want to feature their services or products to the 1,000 conservationists who attend the meeting. December 20th is the deadline for sponsors to be included in print material. Check out the Innovation Fair feature that we are doing this year to showcase concepts and products that are on the cutting edge.

The live auction will be Monday Feb 10th and the NCF programs will be the recipient of those proceeds- programs like Envirothon, stewardship and education, and NGLI. This is a great
motivator when asking about donation for the auction- every state has an Envirothon program and it’s benefitted over 30,000 kids. Auction items that always do well are those that are with real experiences and personality; hunting/fishing trips, wildlife tours, get aways, things that aren’t available at a retail store. To confirm the donation, fill out the online form. If you can’t make the auction, but still want to support these programs, NCF now has a campaign through the end of the year!

First timers scholarship: (1 per state, on a first come first serve basis). Interested applicants should contact their state or territory association for consideration. Once the association selects a scholarship recipient in cooperation with their NACD board member, they will fill out this online form no later than Friday, December 13, 2019.

Business:
There was a Sept 23 Email sent out from Deb Bogar. This is the complete information with attachments and explanations. The main important topics are:
- Sunsetting Policies – November 1, 2019 Deadline: NACD Board of Directors members may challenge the sunsetting of one or more policies online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/2G7TNJG
- Bylaw Amendments – December 6, 2019 Deadline
- Resolutions – December 31, 2019 Deadline

Grants and Programs:
Technical Assistance Grants for 2020: This is in the works with additional information to follow as details are finalized. I have been staying in touch with individual grantees in the Northern Plains, and we’ve seen a great deal of accomplishments by districts with this program.

Soil Health Webinars: These will be a new effort of the soil health champions network. They’ll be offered to members of that network and then recorded so publicly available. If you have ideas for topics, please let Beth Mason know (beth-mason@nacdnet.org) I have already suggested one session on grazing and soil health.

Urban Ag webinars: Next one is October 17th 12- 1 pm eastern and will focus on water quality outreach campaigns in South Carolina. Go online to register for the webinar.

Next Generation Leadership Institute: 15 applicants total, from 4 regions. None from Pacific, Northern Plains or southwest. Interviews with the 10 top ranked will take place next week. We will have info about the 2021 program (including application dates) at the Annual meeting. *I am interested in hearing from states as to what challenges or issues existed that prevented applicants from the Northern Plains Region. Please call me to give me feedback.*
Forum on NACD Website: This is an additional feature of the NACD website, allowing discussions and questions to be posted for members to engage with other members. [https://www.nacdnet.org/NACDforums/](https://www.nacdnet.org/NACDforums/)

NACD Speaker request form: Be sure to use this form for any requested NACD speakers (either leadership or staff). Be sure to add in any support provided so the financial description is clear.

Envirothon Education Specialist Position: Applications were accepted until Oct 11th.

2020 Conservation Careers Workshop: Open for applications starting today- current college undergrads can apply to participate in the 3 day workshop at the annual meeting. [Online application is here](#).

RCPP: Deadline December 3rd. Online webinar was done on Sept 26th which is available online. [https://youtu.be/yHlXTy2gQeM](https://youtu.be/yHlXTy2gQeM)
There is also a webinar on October 17th 3 PM Eastern which will cover the RCPP partner portal: [https://ems8.intellor.com/login/818277](https://ems8.intellor.com/login/818277)

**Committee, RPG updates**

S and E: The committee had a call on the 8th where they discussed youth in education program. Wisconsin’s Monte Osterman was on the call to discuss. His advice was to get 9-11 grade students. They used 4H and FFA as examples for ways to navigate challenges with chaperone requirements. Pollinator guide: Graphic designer has been identified from Utah with lots of experience. They are waiting to finalize recruitment process. Marketplace: Cap offer went well with good profit and many orders made. Fall promotion is a yeti cup $49 for 2 mugs with engraving, which is available through Nov 30. There are now 4 new cabalas items on the list. Agri drain wants to be on the market place with 70 projects. Stewardship week 2020 theme items are also available on the marketplace.

Forestry RPG: Schedule lined up for convention, and a summer meeting in the northeast. They are looking at how many states have a CD spot on their State advisory committee. Many states are re-doing their forest action plan, so the RPG is interested to hear how the process is going for these states.

Coastal: Lyle Stewart (SD) will be joining the first call tomorrow as the Northern Plains region representative on this RPG.

**State Updates and Upcoming Calendar Items:**
Kansas: Meeting at state fair went well. They also had a joint meeting with state conservation commission to discuss Kansas issues. Committees had meetings and attended an ag education luncheon in Kansas which went well.

Montana: New ED has been selected, and programs director is doing well after being in the position for a month. Convention will include new leadership.

Nebraska; They just finished the annual meeting, discussed a lot of flooding topics. State healthy soils committee has been established (Dean and Craig are on it) as well as a Soil health champion. Envirothon planning is underway for the 2020 competition in Lincoln, NE July 26-August 1.

**NASCA, NRCS, NCDEA - any other partner updates**

NRCS:
Sal: Thanks to the conservation partnership who helps get the work done across the landscape. In the northern plains, issues with weather disasters have been a challenge this year- flooding, snow, etc. Despite the challenges, NRCS was able to provide conservation assistance to communities and producers. CD staff has been very helpful with programs. Funding from farm bill programs was able to get on the ground to address those national disasters. NRCS wants to get work done- they are working through final numbers for what has been provided to producers. They’ll be providing some guidance for initial year allocations in the coming weeks. They are under a continuing resolution, so hopefully this should avoid some of the challenges from last year.

Astor: The work being done by the partners has been great- implementation in the field is underway. Next week NRCS leadership will be in MN for a leadership team meeting; to include dialog on farm bill. They conducted the office time study- 500 partners employees who played a key role. They’ll be asking for this again- it helps to see where people are needed. NASCA meeting in September was good. NCPP discussions on reinvigorating the planning process with all the partners has been valuable.

NASCA: They had a good 2019 conference with nearly 200 attendees- Northern Plains was well represented, Bill Smith will now be the secretary. Cindy Pulse (Kansas) will be the Northern Plains rep.

NCDEA: Teleconference coming up to discuss additional work. The leadership event in Sioux Falls was a big hit. Making plans for training sessions in March.

**Next meeting: Friday, November 15th, 12 PM Central time (11 AM Mountain time)**