

Annual Report

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

A. DISTRICT NAME Gasconade County
Address 314 S. Olive Street
Owensville, MO 65066
Telephone Number 573-437-3478 ext 3
Fax Number 855-842-7890
Manager's
Email Address diana.mayfield@swcd.mo.gov

B. CURRENT SUPERVISORS as of June 30, 2020

Chair 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 Harvey Hesemann
Address 2136 Drake School Road
Hermann, MO 65041
Phone Number 573-437-4334
Yrs. On Board 2017-Present **Area II**
Email Address thefarmh@fidnet.com

Vice-Chair Luke Mangrum
Address 4781 Gorrell Road
Bland, MO 65014
Phone Number 314-808-7352
Yrs. On Board 2019-Present **Area III**
Email Address ldm@blex.com

Treasurer Joel Wehmeyer
Address 3009 Rosebud Road
Rosebud, MO 63091
Phone Number 573-764-2913
Yrs. On Board 2017-Present **Area IV**
Email Address joelwehmeyer@gmail.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: $\frac{10}{0}$
Number of Special Meetings Held by Board:

ANNUAL MEETING
Number Attending: 4
AREA MEETING
Number Attending: 4

OTHER INFORMATION EDUCATION MEETINGS (specify type)

TYPE	No. of Meetings	No. Attending
Forage & Beef Conference (Sponsorship)	1	174
Tri-County Grazing School (Sponsor)	0	0

D ACTIVITIES

CONTESTS

	No. of Schools	No. of Entries
Poster Contest	7	367
Envirothon (Sponsorship-Central Region)	0	0
Envirothon (Sponsorship-State)	0	0

AWARDS

	Name
Family Cooperator Award	Richard & Connie Grellner
Volunteer Award	Jerome & Carolyn Winthorst
Partnership Award	Leann Meyers & Legends Bank

PUBLICITY

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

ISSUES/YEAR	CIRCULATION
2	830 mailed
WebSite (e-mail notification list)	375 E-Alert notification

	Number of
Radio Ads	0
Newspaper Articles	12
Public Displays	
FaceBook	updated regulary
Web Page	updated regulary

Gasconade Republican, Hermann Advertiser, Bland Courier,
Cuba Free Press

TOURS AND FIELD DAYS

Type of Tours and Field Days	No. of Tours	Attendance
4th Grade Field Day	2	181 Students
OMG WIA Event	1	265

RENTAL AND SALES

Equipment Type	Rental Fee	No. of AC/#
John Deere 10'Drill/acre (10 acre minimum)	\$12.00	656.7
Great Plains 7' Drill/acre (10 acre minimum)	\$10/\$9*	230.7
Rotowiper/day - Sold	\$25.00	0
Burn Equipment/use	\$10.00	1
ATV Equipment/day per piece	\$20.00	0
ATV Warm Season Grass Seeder/day	Free	0
Soil Probe/Soil Health Equipment	Free	12
Audio Equipment/use	Free	0

Items Sold by District	Donation
Flags	
Plat Books	\$360.00

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 M Mayfield Job Title: District Specialist IV
Phone Number 573-437-3478 ext 3
Start Date 1/20/2000 Termination Date _____

Email Address diana.mayfield@swcd.mo.gov
Current Hourly Wage **\$18.87** Hours Worked Per Year 2080
Primary Staff Contact Y/N **Yes**

Name Sarah Berkemeyer Job Title: District Specialist III
Phone Number 573-437-3478 ext 109
Start Date 6/24/2018 Termination Date _____
Email Address sarah.berkemeyer@swcd.mo.gov
Current Hourly Wage **\$15.91** Hours Worked Per Year 2080
Primary Staff Contact Y/N **No**

**Gasconade County
Soil and Water Conservation District**

**Narrative Report 2020
July 1, 2019– June 30, 2020**

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:

- **Tri-County Grazing School** - The grazing school is hosted by the Osage, Maries, and Gasconade County FOSA. The meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- **OMG Women in Ag Event** - On September 10, 2019, the 6th Annual Osage, Maries & Gasconade (OMG) Counties Women in Ag Event was held at the White Mule Winery with the theme of "Locally Grown." The committee for this event included staff from FSA, NRCS, SWCD, and Extension from all three counties. Sponsorship funds were received from many different sources. There were 265 registered attendees. The meal that was prepared by the White Mule Winery was outstanding. Our speakers were Brenda Van Booven with Tunnel Vision, Susan Mills-Gray with Preserving the Harvest, and Sharon Oetting - Life on the Farm. The 2020 event is was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- **4th Grade Field Day** - The District organized and sponsored their 19th 4th Grade Field Day on October 2nd and 3rd at the Kurrelmeyer Farm. There were 181 students from the Gasconade County R-I, Gasconade County R-II, Immanuel Lutheran and St. George School. The lunch for the students and staff was provided in part by donations from local businesses. This was Brenda Kurrelmeyer's last year hosting the event, so we gave her very special recognition. We continued to have the 8 sites that the children rotate through. Several volunteers, cooperating partners and staff work to make this project a success. Conservation Agent Jason Eikermann presents the lunch time program by discussing animal pelts and the animal's habits.
- **Forage and Beef Conference** - The Forage and Beef Conference for the area was held in Cuba on March 2, 2020, with approximately 174 people in attendance. The focus this year was on warm season grasses and soil health. An evening meal was provided at the end of the conference. The producer panel discussed their Warm/Season Grass operations - cattle/sheep/goats. 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, two Board Members and two NRCS personnel at the meeting, who helped with set up/down and registration.
- **2020 Annual Meeting** - The meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19. Our Conservation Family Award was presented to the Richard and Connie Grellner Farm, Volunteer Award went to Jerome and Carolyn Winthorst, and the Partnership Award was presented to Legends Bank, Leann Meyer. We also recognized our 2019 State Volunteer Award Winner - Brenda Kurrelmeyer.
- **Poster Contest** - This year's (2020) theme was "Where would we BEE without Pollinators?" The poster contest is open to any student in Gasconade County in Grades 2 thru 8. There were 367 posters from 7 schools. The awards were presented at the different schools due to the COVID-19 shutdown. The Top three posters from grades 2-3, 4-6, and 7-8 will be forwarded to the State Level Competition.
- **2020 Erosion Workshop** - There were 28 Landowners and Staff at our Erosion Workshop at the James E Decker Farm on February 4, 2020. Mark Brandt gave a very interesting presentation to crop farmers on how to stay in compliance with government programs. Diana Mayfield addressed the state cost-share programs available to assist the landowners in addressing their erosion concerns. We also had a presentation on the rainfall simulator and aggregate display by NRCS David Doctorian. A chili lunch was provided.
- **Regional Envirothon Competition**: The meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- **Partnership Support**: The GCSWCD District Manager is the lead NRCS Earth Team Volunteer coordinator for the four county FOSA which includes Cole, Gasconade, Maries, and Osage County. She is also the lead office supply coordinator for the FOSA. She is also assisting with the HEL determination processes.

The District has purchased a new 10 ft. 1590 John Deere no-till drill and still has a 7 ft. Great Plains no-till drill, and an ATV sprayer and seeder. 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 830 cooperators at each mailing this past fiscal year. The newsletter is now located on the District Web site, which has been updated. We are currently using the E-Gov alert system to notify over 375 landowners when the newsletter or other special events are posted to the web. 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, in part, by the Parks and Soil and Water Sales tax and local funding.

The District Staff works with NRCS to assist with the Federal Programs that are being implemented. They participated in the NRCS Quality Audit Review at the end of March 2019.

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 is putting information on Facebook now as well as a new web page. This is very effective in getting information and upcoming events out to the landowners.

Based on the new resource concerns, the following have been claimed: Sheet/Rill & Gully (\$111,468.55) Grazing System Management (\$62,009.76); Woodland Erosion (\$3,807.00) , Sensitive Area (\$13,657.25) Nutrient/Pest Management (\$3,008.00) The District has claimed \$193,950.56.

Two staff members and two supervisors attended the State Training Conference held on December 1 – 3, 2019. Our Board Chairman currently serves as the Missouri Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts Area 5 Representative and has attended the National Association of Conservation District's Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, February 10-13, 2020.

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 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.

A budget request was submitted to the Gasconade County Commission with a request for an increase in allocation, which was approved. We appreciate this very much.

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. Administrative and technical services are provided free of charge to Gasconade County Landowners. The office is supported by half of the 1/10th of 1% Parks and Soils and Water Sales Tax.