

Annual Report

July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

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: 10
Number of Special Meetings Held by Board: 0

ANNUAL MEETING
Number Attending: DRIVE THRU MEAL - 43 IN ATTENDANCE

AREA MEETING
Number Attending: CANCELLED DUE TO COVID

OTHER INFORMATION EDUCATION MEETINGS (specify type)

TYPE	No. of Meetings	No. Attending
Forage & Beef Conference (Sponsorship)	CANCELLED DUE TO COVID	0
Tri-County Grazing School (Sponsor)	0	0

D ACTIVITIES

CONTESTS

	No. of Schools	No. of Entries
Poster Contest	7	197
Envirothon (Sponsorship-Central Region)	CANCELLED DUE TO COVID	0
Envirothon (Sponsorship-State)	VIRTUAL	14

AWARDS

	Name
Family Cooperator Award	Jason & Tara Kopp
Volunteer Award	Dennis Berger
Partnership Award	Owensville Farm Bureau

PUBLICITY

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

ISSUES/YEAR	CIRCULATION
2	850
WebSite (e-mail notification list)	915

	Number of
Radio Ads	0
Newspaper Articles	15
Public Displays	0
FaceBook	updated regularly
Web Page	updated regularly

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	CANCELLED DUE TO COVID	
OMG WIA Event	CANCELLED DUE TO COVID	

RENTAL AND SALES

Equipment Type	Rental Fee	No. of AC/#
John Deere 10'Drill/acre (10 acre minimum)	\$12.00	617.6
Great Plains 7' Drill/acre (10 acre minimum)	\$10/\$9*	78.6
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	\$5,271.00

OTHER

E.

No. of Cooperators Waiting for Service:
Average Time Waiting for First Contact:

1-2 days

Were accomplishments presented to county commission?
Was budget presented to county commission?

Yes
Yes

F. CURRENT DISTRICT STAFF

Name	<u>Diana M Mayfield</u>	Job Title:	<u>District Specialist IV</u>
Phone Number	<u>573-437-3478 ext 3</u>	Termination Date	_____
Start Date	<u>1/20/2000</u>		
Email Address	diana.mayfield@swcd.mo.gov		
Current Hourly Wage	<u>\$18.87</u>	Hours Worked Per Year	<u>2080</u>
Primary Staff Contact Y/N	Yes		

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

**Gasconade County
Soil and Water Conservation District**

**Narrative Report 2021
July 1, 2020– June 30, 2021**

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 held on May 10-12 in Argle, MO.
- **OMG Women in Ag Event** –The September 2020 event was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- **4th Grade Field Day** – The October 2020 event was cancelled due to COVID-19.
- **Forage and Beef Conference** – The 2020 and 2021 events were cancelled due to COVID-19.
- **2021 Annual Meeting**– As we were still unable to host an in-person event as in the past, the Board opted to try a drive through meal with awards presentation. There were 41 people that attended in all, including board members and their wives. The Cooperator Family award was presented to Jason Kopp and his family. The volunteer award went to Dennis Berger and the partnership award went to the Owensville Farm Bureau. A brochure was given to all participants highlighting the activities of the District over the last two years. A drive thru meal of hamburgers and bratwurst, potato salad, chips and cookies was served. Numbers were small but the effort to reach out was appreciated by all.
- **Poster Contest** - This year's (2021) theme was "Healthy Forests=Healthy Communities." The poster contest is open to any student in Gasconade County in Grades 2 thru 8. There were 197 posters from 7 schools. Due to COVID restrictions, the awards were presented at different times on April 10th at the Owensville Park Pavilion #1. The Top three posters from grades 2-3, 4-6, and 7-8 were forwarded, digitally, to the State Level Competition.
- **Regional Envirothon Competition**: The regional event was not held. However, all teams were invited to participate in a virtual State Event on May 11-13th. The National Event will also be virtual.
- **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 the treasurer for the Regional Envirothon Competition and the OMG AgriPride Women in Ag Committee. She is also on the State Women in Ag Committee representing the Central Region. She is also the lead office supply coordinator for the FOSA. She is also assisting with the HEL determination processes and system uploads for EQIP, CSP, and GCI federal contracts.

The staff have worked diligently to serve the landowners through this trying health crisis. Limited staff numbers allowed in the office has been a challenge but we strived to do our best to meet all needs. We appreciate our landlord's efforts to remodel the entry door so people could be allowed into the foyer. We are fortunate to have an active and diligent Board of Supervisors. Our Board Chairman currently serves on the Missouri Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts for Area 5.

The District has 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 cool season grass seeder. The District also has burn equipment and soil probes available for public use. An ATV Warm Season Spreader is available free of charge.

The District sponsored their first Plat Book publication. They hosted a photo contest for the cover, with over 20 entries received. The 1st place winner was placed on the front cover and the 4 runners up were also printed in the publication. The District received 300 plat books and 30 wall maps. The County Assessor was gracious enough to provide us with their newly updated map layer. The book has been well received. Wall Maps were presented to the Gasconade County Commission, as well as the Owensville, Hermann, Bland, and Rosebud Fire Departments.

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 910 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 1/10th of 1% 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.

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 and their web page. This is very effective in getting information and upcoming events out to the landowners.

Based on the Cost-Share Resource Concerns, the following have been claimed: Animal Waste Management (\$80,632.17), Sheet/Rill & Gully (\$94,163.96) Grazing System Management (\$37,016.38); Woodland Erosion (5,164.98), Sensitive Area (\$6,737.17) Nutrient/Pest Management (\$3,021.00). The District has claimed \$226,735.66.

The Annual Training Conference was cancelled due to COVID-19 for November 2020, as well as the Area Meetings.

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. Due to COVID-19, the meetings have been held at the Farm Bureau Meeting Room at 1106 Hwy 28 West, Owensville. One meeting was held with a teleconference. 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 Southern County Commissioner, Jerry Lairmore, had the opportunity to attend one meeting this year. The DNR District Coordinator has attended either by phone or in person.

The bi-annual election was not held this year, due to the change in policy forth coming from the Program Office. As of last notification, we will be able to hold the Area election for Area II-Roark and Boeuf Townships and Area IV-Canaan and Brush Creek Townships in February of 2022, certifying in March 2022. In February 2023, we will hold the election for Area I-Richland and Boulware Township and Area III-Bourbois, Clay, and Third Creek Township, certifying in March 2023. In order to stay in line with DNR Policy and our election schedule, we may have to change the Area names of our specific areas.

A budget request was submitted to the Gasconade County Commission, 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 and local funding.