

Annual Report

July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

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.dean@swcd.mo.gov

B. CURRENT SUPERVISORS as of June 30, 2023

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@outlook.com

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 ldm7352@gmail.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: 9
Number of Special Meetings Held by Board: 0

ANNUAL MEETING
Number Attending: 150
AREA MSWCDEA MEETING
Number Attending: 2
AREA MEETING
Number Attending: 3

OTHER INFORMATION EDUCATION MEETINGS (specify type)

TYPE	No. of Meetings	No. Attending
Forage & Beef Conference (Sponsorship)	1	133
Tri-County Grazing School (Sponsor)	1	25

D ACTIVITIES

CONTESTS

	No. of Schools	No. of Entries
Poster Contest	4, 1 homeschool	100
Envirothon (Sponsorship-Central Region)	20	250
Envirothon (Sponsorship-State)	18	90

AWARDS

	Name
Family Cooperator Award	Dale Ridder
Volunteer Award	Dean Winter
Partnership Award	Gasconade County Cattlemen

PUBLICITY
DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

ISSUES/YEAR	CIRCULATION
2	850
WebSite (e-mail notification list)	1013

	Number of
Radio Ads	0
Newspaper Articles	10
Public Displays	1
FaceBook	update periodically
Web Page	update periodically

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	212
OMG WIA Event	1	234

RENTAL AND SALES

Equipment Type	Rental Fee	No. of AC/#
John Deere 10'Drill/acre (10 acre minimum)	\$12.00	1015
Great Plains 7' Drill/acre (10 acre minimum)	\$12.00	324.44
Burn Equipment/use	\$10.00	2
ATV Equipment/day per piece	\$20.00	0
ATV Warm Season Grass Seeder/day	Free	0
Soil Probe/Soil Health Equipment	Free	32
Audio Equipment/use	Free	0

Items Sold by District	Donation
Flags	
Plat Books/Wall maps	\$1,350.00

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 Diana M Dean
Phone Number 573-437-3478 ext 3
Start Date 1/20/2000
Email Address diana.mayfield@swcd.mo.gov

Job Title: District Specialist IV, Manager

Termination Date _____

Current Hourly Wage \$22.41

Hours Worked
Per Year 2080

Primary Staff Contact Y/N Yes

Name Sarah Berkemeyer
Phone Number 573-437-3478 ext 109
Start Date 6/24/2018
Email Address sarah.berkemeyer@swcd.mo.gov
Current Hourly Wage \$21.52
Primary Staff Contact Y/N No

Job Title: District Specialist IV, Technician

Termination Date _____

Hours Worked
Per Year 2080

Gasconade County
Soil and Water Conservation District

Narrative Report 2023
July 1, 2022– June 30, 2023

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 August 29-31, 2022, in Owensville, MO. There were 25 people in attendance and certified.
- **OMG Women in Ag Event** –The September 8, 2022, event was held at the White Mule Winery with 221 ladies (and gentlemen) in attendance. Plans are on schedule to host the event on September 7, 2023.
- **4th Grade Field Day** – The 4th Grade Fields days were held on October 5-6, 2022, at the White Mule Winery. There were @212 students in attendance. We had the following stops: soil health trailer, a wagon tour of the grazing system, Extension and Farm Bureau had workshops on food groups, grapes and worms, fishing, forestry, watershed and survey.
- **Forage and Beef Conference** – The 2023 event was held on March 3th in Vienna, MO. District Specialists Sarah Berkemeyer and Diana Dean, along with NRCS Soil Conservationist Megan Brown assisted with this event. The District sponsored the event financially. There were 133 people in attendance.
- **Pond Workshop in conjunction with MDC.** We provided a soup and chili meal for the 64 attendees at the Pond Workshop on March 28, 2023 at the VFW Post 6133, Owensville MO.
- **2023 Annual Meeting**– We hosted a full Annual Meeting on March 23th at the Owensville High School. We had a producer panel that consisted of Jason Kopp on Cover Crops, Brian Rost on Animal Waste Facilities, and Cody Sassmann on Grazing systems. There were 150 people in attendance. In addition to the poster contest awards, the Board presented the 2023 Conservation Family Award to Dale Ridder, Partnership Award to the Gasconade County Cattlemen, and the Volunteer Award to Dean Winter.
- **Poster Contest** - This year's (2023) theme was "One Water." The poster contest is open to any student in Gasconade County in Grades 2 thru 8. There were 100 posters from 4 schools and 1 homeschool. The Top three posters from grades 2-3, 4-6, and 7-8 were forwarded, digitally, to the State Level Competition. Jahnvi Patel of Hermann Middle School placed 1st at the State Level for her 2022 poster, "Healthy Soil: Healthy Life." She and her family were able to attend the presentation at Margaretville at the end of November 2022. Her poster went on to take 3rd at the National competition in February 2023. Her national award was presented at her home on May 31st by Chairman Mike Haeffner and District Manager Diana Dean.
- **Regional & State Envirothon Competition:** The regional event was held on April 12th at the Runge Center. There were 15 regional teams and 5 Kansas City Region Teams at the Competition. Diana Dean served as test writer, scoring team, and treasurer for the Regional Event. The State Envirothon Competition was held on May 4th at Carver Farms in Jefferson City. District Manager Diana Dean, District Specialist Sarah Berkemeyer, and NRCS Soil Conservationist Megan Brown assisted with the State Event.
- **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 NRCS office supply coordinator for the FOSA and assists with the HEL determination uploads. She is the treasurer for the Regional Envirothon Competition and the OMG AgriPride Women in Ag Committee. She is also chair for the 2023 State Women in Ag Committee representing the Central Region. The Central Region State WIA Conference is scheduled to be held on September 18-20, 2023 and Diana Dean and Sarah Berkemeyer are serving on this planning committee.
- **4H Presentation on Soil Health:** District Technician Sarah Berkemeyer presented a program on Soil Health to the Bem 4H group which consisted of about 15 children.

The District has a 10 ft. 1590 John Deere no-till drill, a new 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.

A semi-annual newsletter was mailed to approximately 850 cooperators at each mailing this past fiscal year. The newsletter is now located on the District Web site, which is updated on a regular basis. We are currently using the E-Gov alert system to notify over 1013 landowners, when the newsletter or other special events are posted to the web. The purpose of the 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 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 (\$34,895.22), Sheet/Rill & Gully (\$109,186.38) Grazing System Management (\$43,035.86); Woodland Erosion (\$802.50), Sensitive Area (\$55,355.01) Nutrient/Pest Management (\$2,566.00). The District has claimed \$245,840.97 total, which is the second highest total in the history of the district.

The Annual Training Conference was held at Margaretville on November 28-30. Chairman Mike Haeffner, District Manager Diana Dean, and District Technician Sarah Berkemeyer all attended this event.

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. District staff are on the OMG WIA Committee, 2023 Central Region State Women in Ag Committee, and the District Manager is on the Central Region Envirothon Committee as well as the State Women in Ag Committee.

The district follows the federal guidelines for Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity. They review these policies annually with NRCS. District staff continue to process all Federal training requirements.

The Gasconade County Board of Supervisors meets regularly on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The Board is meeting at the USDA Service Center in Owensville. 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 several meetings.

A budget request was submitted to the Gasconade County Commission for \$6,000, 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.