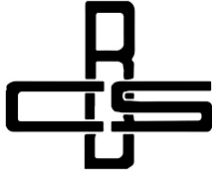


Thank you to our generous sponsors!



Kohls Seed



"Eventually, all things merge into one, and a river runs through it. The river was cut by the world's great flood and runs over rocks from the basement of time. On some of the rocks are timeless raindrops. Under the rocks are the words, and some of the words are theirs."

Norman Maclean
A River Runs Through It



Sedgwick County Conservation District
11832 West Central, Suite 100
Wichita KS 67212



We appreciate our partners in conservation who have made this meeting possible.

American AgCredit

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Helten Farm Repair and Sales

Schmidt & Sons

Horsch Trailer Sales

SG Co. Farm Bureau Ag. Assoc.

TK Excavation

Congratulations to our award recipients!

2023 Conservation Award

Joseph and Theresa Neville

Eugene and Gerald Zeller

2023 Urban Conservation Award

Brad and Shelby Beyer

Anchor Farm

Lynn Buerki Conservation Scholarship

Poster Contest Winners

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Steve Hermann, Chair
Greg Winterscheidt, Vice-Chair
Virgil Hill, Treasurer
Larry Kincheloe, Supervisor
Doug Kohls, Supervisor
Susan Erlenwein, Advisor
Abby Sroufe, Advisor

STAFF

Brenda Matson, District Manager
Kevin Arnet, Supervisory District Conservationist, NRCS
Mike Wallace, Soil Conservation Technician, NRCS
Kimberly Nijoka, Natural Resource Specialist, NRCS
Destiny Flemons, Pheasants Forever Farm Bill Biologist
Vivian Booker, PBP

Contact Us:

316-721-6127 ext. 7970

email: Brenda.Matson@ks.nacdnet.net

Equipment for rent:

We have a **10-foot No-Till Grass and Grain Drill** and **Root Plow** available to rent. We also have a **4-foot drill** that can be pulled behind an ATV. This is ideal for planting food plots and pollinator strips.

www.sedgwickccdks.org/equipment.html

For more details and availability, please contact Virgil Hill.

(316) 259-6627



Progress Report for 2023

Critical Area Planting	2.6 acres
Terraces	41,913 feet
Grade Stabilization Structures	7 installed
High Tunnels	1 installed
Cover Crops	1509 acres
Conservation Crop Rotation	3526 acres
Irrigation Water Management	131 acres
No Till Conversions	952 acres
Septic System Replacements	3 systems
Prescribed Grazing	58 acres
Water Well	1 installed
Pasture & Hay Planting	29 acres
Climate Smart Initiative – Cover Crops	3,621 acres
Irrigation Technology Initiative	2 projects



Cover Crops protect the soil and build soil health.

Photo by Brenda Matson

To conserve resources, we have:

- provided recycling boxes by the door for unwanted programs.
- partnered with Nudge Compost for composting of tonight's food waste.

Sedgwick County Conservation District 79th Annual Meeting February 22, 2024

Music by Thor Bonner

Welcome & Introductions

Business Meeting

Election

Invocation

Meal by Fence Post Catering

Conservation Poster Contest Awards

Conservation Awards

Water Quality Panel

Door Prizes/Adjourn

Thank you to Cheney, Clearwater, Garden Plain, Mulvane and Southeast High School FFA members for assisting with tonight's celebration!



Sedgwick County Conservation District 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

The 78th Annual Meeting of the Sedgwick County Conservation District was held on February 21, 2023, beginning at 6:30 pm at the Sedgwick County Extension Education Center in Wichita, Kansas with 179 conservation friends in attendance. Chairman Steve Hermann introduced the conservation board members and staff and thanked the 17 event sponsors for their contributions. The District Manager, Brenda Matson, shared about what the Conservation District does, highlighting the zero-waste meeting, cost share displays, and educational events. Tiffany Blank, Sedgwick County Farm Service Agency County Executive Director Trainee, spoke briefly about upcoming FSA deadlines.

Chairman Hermann called the business session to order at 6:42 pm.

Hermann informed guests that the meeting agenda, as well as the minutes of the 77th Annual Meeting and the 2022 financial reports were printed in their program. A motion was made by Doug Kohls and seconded by Greg Winterscheidt to approve the minutes as printed. Motion carried.

Chairman Hermann asked if there were any questions about the financial reports and stated that the reports would be filed for audit.

An election was conducted by Jackie Neville, SCCD Advisor, to fill the expiring terms of Steve Hermann and Virgil Hill. The nominating committee had nominated Hermann and Hill prior to the meeting. Additional nominations were requested; ballots were counted by Jackie Neville and Joseph Neville during the meal.

Supervisor Doug Kohls gave the invocation before the meal, which was catered by Fence Post Catering of Harper, KS. During dinner, Eric Shumaker provided live music. Cheney FFA, Renwick FFA, and Wichita Southeast FFA members cleared the tables.

Following dinner, Steve Hermann reported that Hermann

The Conservation District staff participated in continuing education opportunities throughout the year to be able to offer a high level of service to the population within the Conservation District's boundaries. Those activities included Division of Conservation, Kansas Association of Conservation Districts, National Association of Conservation Districts and Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education workshops.

The Sedgwick County Conservation District supports the Division of Conservation, Kansas Association of Conservation Districts, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Sedgwick County Commissioners, KSU/SG CO Extension, Equus Beds Groundwater Management District No. 2 and other cooperating groups in the conservation of natural resources.

The Sedgwick County Conservation District is a member of the Kansas Association of Conservation Districts, Kansas Association of Conservation Districts Employee Organization and the State Association of Kansas Watersheds.

2023 Conservation Education in Sedgwick County!



Demonstrating streambank erosion at the Sedgwick County Zoo



Environmental education at Earhart Environmental Magnet

Activities

The Sedgwick County Conservation District Board of Supervisors takes seriously their role as conservation leaders for the community. Board members' roles include: meeting monthly to review and approve Conservation Compliance Plans and Resource Management Plans, conducting business in accordance with the mandates set forth in the Conservation District Law, and assisting our District Manager.

Throughout the year, Conservation District staff and board members participated in efforts to promote conservation education and involvement to all segments of the community, both rural and urban. Some of those outreach activities include:

- Maintaining streambank trailer for use at educational events
- No-Till Drill Rental & Root Plow Rental
- Earth Day at Sedgwick County Zoo—streambank trailer
- Soil Tunnel Trailer, Agriland, at Kansas State Fair
- Earth Balloon, Vermillion Elementary—Maize
- Wonders of Water-Water Festival- R. Martin Elementary, Andover
- Friends University- Conservation Science Sr. Project partner
- Renwick Ag Advisory Board
- KTC Sub-Committee - Urban Agriculture and Innovation Production (UAIP) Issues— member
- Attended KACD Annual Convention & No-Till on the Plains Conf.
- ICT Farms Volunteer Event
- Earth Day Extravaganza— Earhart Environmental Magnet
- One Water—NACD Stewardship Event-Riverside Leadership Magnet Elementary
- Site Council—USD 259, Riverside Leadership Magnet Elementary
- Customer Appreciation Lunch—USDA Service Center
- Awarded Lynn Buerki Memorial Conservation Award scholarship
- Offered scholarships for new farmers to attend No-Till on the Plains Winter Conference
- Offered scholarships for youth to attend Youth Range Camp
- Climate Smart Initiative (KACD, ADM)-3,000+ acres cover crops
- Assisted Andale with KDHE Drinking Water Protection program
- Participated in Eco-Harvest with ESMC, NACD, General Mills – carbon market program-one producer
- Hosted 3 Farmer-to-Farmers meetings to discuss soil health/cover crops.
- Assisted with Wichita MU—KS Small Scale Growers Focus Meeting
- Demonstrated pollution with EnviroScape at Mulvane Public Library
- Recognized as 2023 Kansas Earth Team Volunteer (NRCS)

and Hill were elected to the Conservation District Board of Supervisors with 55 and 57 votes, respectively.

Following election results, District Manager Brenda Matson presented poster contest awards to K-1st grade: Meadow Zimmerman, Quinn Johnson, and Levi Alley; 2nd-3rd grade: Aragorn Casteneda Torres, Dalton Moore, and Dayn Grow; and 4th-6th grade: Chloe Judd, Allison Peters, and Anna Schomacker. Their teachers also received \$50. William Tice, 2022 recipient of the Lynn Buerki Memorial Conservation Scholarship, was not able to attend, but his Renwick FFA Advisor, Cody Holliday, was recognized.

Destiny Flemons, Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist with Pheasants Forever, presented 2022 Conservation Awards to Michael and Nancy Betzen and Gary and Peg Sigg. Flemons also presented a 2022 Urban Conservation Award to Josh and Cindy Molello, Strong Roots Healthy Farming LLC. Each landowner received a metal award sign to post at their farm and a wall plaque.

The guest speakers were a Milpa Project growers panel of Cody Holliday, Garden Plain agriculture teacher; Thomas Monteil, Monteil Farms and Walking Roots; and Max Tjaden, a Clearwater area farmer. They shared how a growing process with roots in Mayan culture has been put into practice in Sedgwick County in both farm and urban settings. The Milpa Project was a soil health education outreach effort for the Conservation District funded by the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture, Division of Conservation.

The program concluded with drawings for 4 door prizes and 25 attendees took home aloe vera plants.

Chairman Hermann thanked everyone for their support of conservation. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.



Congratulations to Camryn DeVore, recipient of the Lynn Buerki Memorial Conservation Scholarship!

www.sedgwickccdks.org/scholarships.html

FINANCIAL STATEMENT For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Operations Fund	Enterprise Fund
Balance January 1, 2023	\$111,773.49	\$35,892.55
Receipts		
Appropriations-Sedgwick County	\$40,000.00	
Appropriations-State of Kansas	\$24,639.72	
WR—Cost share earnest money		\$2,927.80
Equipment Rental		\$10,211.00
Annual Meeting		\$5,150.00
KACD & NACD Climate Smart Initiatives	\$1,236.25	
KACD CCGA- Urban Conservation	\$2,000.00	
Interest	\$229.97	\$133.80
Total Receipts	\$68,105.94	\$18,422.60
Expenditures		
Salaries/Payroll Taxes/Emp benefits	\$54,961.09	
2022 Audit	\$1,075.00	
Dues/Subscriptions	\$950.00	\$50.94
Insurance and Bond	\$2,339.00	
Mileage/Meals/Lodging/Registration	\$3,657.61	\$846.95
WR—Cost share earnest money refunds		\$3,096.55
Information & Education	\$3,578.94	\$573.27
Annual Meeting		\$5,037.87
Equipment Repair & Maintenance		\$1,665.51
Office supplies/Administrative	\$1,715.40	
KACD & NACD Initiatives	\$601.60	
Buerki Memorial Scholarship		\$1,000.00
Savings Fund (Certificate of Deposit)		\$15,000.00
Total Expenditures	\$68,878.64	\$27,271.09
Balance December 31, 2023*	\$110,000.79	\$27,044.06
Other Assets		
	Operations Fund	Enterprise Fund
Savings Fund (Certificate of Deposit)		\$47,811.90

*The audited financial statement will be available after September 1st.

**Non-Point Source (NPS) and
Water Resources (WR) Cost-Share**

The Sedgwick County Conservation District received \$17,532.00 from the State Division of Conservation to be used for NPS and \$57,403.96 for WR cost share during the 2024 program year. Funds from this program aided landowners at the local level to improve or protect water quality, reduce soil erosion, and enhance water supplies.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) continues to assist the Conservation District in designing practices that are built through the Water Resources Program. Onsite waste systems are the exception to the requirement for NRCS built “Standards and Specifications.” Metropolitan Area Building & Construction Department (MABCD) permits and inspects onsite waste systems in Sedgwick County outside of city limits.



The Sedgwick County Conservation District Annual Poster Contest is open to all students in kindergarten through 6th grade in all Sedgwick County schools including public, private and home schools.

Prizes will be awarded in February of 2025 during the Sedgwick County Conservation District Annual Meeting.

www.sedgwickccdks.org/contests.html