

AGENDA
OKLAHOMA CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Agriculture Building Board Room • 2800 N. Lincoln • Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Monday, September 11, 2017 – 9:30 a.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Discussion and possible approval of the August 7, 2017 regular meeting minutes.
5. Discussion and possible approval of Claims, Financial Statement and Purchase Card Summary (Exhibit #1).
6. Recognition of Commission employees:
 - a. Dan Dvoretz, Water Quality Program Wetlands Environmental Specialist, for being named Employee of the Year.
 - b. Johnny Pelley, Conservation Programs Watershed Technician, for 30 years of service.

7. Presentation of Commission Agreements (Exhibit #2)

Discussion and possible approval of the following ratified new agreement:

- a. Natural Resources Conservation Service (OCC-529) to provide assistance to fund 75% of 4 conservation technicians who will provide technical assistance and technical work related to conservation practice design and implementation in Arbuckle, Beaver, Jackson and Kay County Conservation Districts.

Discussion and possible approval of the following amended agreements:

- b. Natural Resources Conservation Service (OCC-525) to hire a Liaison/Plan Writer to work for both agencies to address water quality needs in Oklahoma. The liaison will coordinate and lead efforts to develop watershed plans that meet the needs of both agencies. **Extends** date to September 30, 2020.
- c. Natural Resources Conservation Service (OCC-526) to partner with OCC and The Nature Conservancy to hire two conservation plan writers to provide technical assistance in delivery of Farm Bill programs with specific focus on soil health. **Extends** date to September 30, 2020.
- d. The Nature Conservancy (OCC-527) to partner with OCC and NRCS to provide ½ of the funding for one conservation plan writer (reference OCC-526) to assist with Farm Bill delivery and provide technical assistance with specific focus on soil health. **Amendment** modifies original agreement to provide ¼ of the funding for two conservation plan writers and adds funding for ¼ of cost for a soil health coordinator

who will work to increase the knowledge and understanding of soil health and accelerate the adoption of soil health management systems in Oklahoma.

- e. Office of Secretary of Energy and Environment (OCC-351) to **extend the agreement to December 31, 2018** in order to allow for expenditure of funds in Project 5 – Conservation Partnership Support.
- f. Office of Secretary of Energy and Environment (OCC-406) to **extend** the FY2015 EPA Grant agreement to December 31, 2018.
- g. Office of Secretary of Energy and Environment (OCC-501) to **convey final award of** EPA funds from the 2017 grant to provide staff support and funding toward implementation of Oklahoma’s Comprehensive Nonpoint Source Program, monitoring program, Blue Thumb Statewide water quality education and volunteer program and Conservation Partnership program.
- h. Natural Resources Conservation Service (OCC-470) to will develop a model that will compute watershed benefits nationwide on a daily basis and provide reports of pertinent date. **Amendment adds \$75,000 and extends the agreement to September 30, 2018.**

Discussion and possible approval of the following new agreements:

- i. Natural Resources Conservation Service (OCC-530) to provide assistance to fund 50% of a Soil Health Coordinator Position. The purpose of the position is to increase the knowledge and understanding of soil health and accelerate the adoption of soil health management systems in Oklahoma.
- j. Natural Resources Conservation Service – 68-7335-17-206 (OCC-531) to provide funds for watershed operations / remedial repairs on Caney Coon Site 2, Cottonwood Creek Site 17, North Deer Creek Site 1M, Sallisaw Creek Site 18M and Sugar Creek Channel Site 269R GSS.

8. Out of State Travel Requests (Exhibit #3):

Discussion and possible approval of the following requests:

- a. Fourth Annual Southern Soil Health Conference, November 28-29, 2017, Wichita Falls, Texas

9. Discussion and possible approval of Recommendations for Appointment of Conservation District Director (Exhibit #4).

10. Discussion and possible approval of Guidelines for the Monarch Habitat Initiative Cost-Share Program – Program Year 2 (Exhibit #5).

11. Discussion and possible approval of attendance at the Governor’s Water Conference, October 31 – November 1, 2017, Embassy Suites, Norman, Oklahoma.

12. Discussion and possible approval of FY2018 Joint Plans of Operation for Cimarron County, Woods County, Shawnee, Adair County, Bryan, Haskell County, LeFlore County,

Little River, McIntosh County, Okfuskee County, Pontotoc County and Pushmataha Conservation Districts.

13. Discussion and possible action to co-sponsor the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts' Area Meetings as follows:
 - a. November 2 – Area 4 meeting in Chickasha (Grady County CD Host)
 - b. November 7 – Area 3 meeting in Bartlesville (Caney Valley CD Host)
 - c. November 9 – Area 5 meeting in Wilburton (LeFlore County CD Host)
 - d. November 14 – Area 2 meeting in Wayne (Garvin CD Host)
 - e. November 16 – Area 1 meeting in Cherokee (Alfalfa County CD Host)
14. Discussion and possible action to **ratify** co-sponsorship of the following conference:
 - a. Fourth Annual Southern Soil Health Conference, November 28-29, 2017, Wichita Falls, Texas.
15. Discussion of the Commission's FY2019 budget submission due October 1 to the Office of Management and Enterprise Services.
16. Public Comments
17. New Business
18. Break (at option of the Chair)
19. Partnership Reports:
 - a. Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry
 - b. USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - c. Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts
20. Status Reports:
 - a. Oklahoma Conservation Commission Members
 - b. Oklahoma Conservation Commission Staff
 1. Trey Lam, Executive Director
 2. Shanon Phillips, Water Quality Director
 3. Mike Sharp, Office of Geographic Information and Technical Services Director
 4. Robert Toole, Abandoned Mine Land Program Director
 5. Tammy Sawatzky, Conservation Programs Director
 6. Lisa Knauf Owen, Assistant Director
21. Proposed Next Meeting: Monday, **October 9**, 2017, Agriculture Building Board Room, 2800 N. Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma at 9:30 a.m.
22. Adjournment

OCC AGREEMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION

OCC PARTY ID	NO	PURPOSE	AMENDMENT PURPOSE	BEGIN DATE	END DATE	AMOUNT TO		AMOUNT FROM		FUNDING SOURCE
						OCC		OCC		
a	NRCS	OCC-529	NRCS will provide assistance to fund 75% of 4 conservation technicians who will provide technical assistance and technical work related to conservation practice design and implementation in Arbutle, Beaver, Jackson and Kay County Conservation Districts.	10/1/2017	9/30/2020	492,000				NRCS
b	Natural Resources Conservation Service	OCC-525	To partner with NRCS to hire a position that will serve as a liaison between OCC and NRCS for addressing water quality need in Oklahoma. The liaison will coordinate and lead efforts to develop watershed plans that meet both NRCS and OCC needs.	10/1/2017	9/30/2020	\$74,500				NRCS
			Extends date of agreement to September 30, 2020							

OCC ID	PARTY	NO	PURPOSE	AMENDMENT PURPOSE	BEGIN DATE	END DATE	AMOUNT TO OCC	AMOUNT FROM OCC	FUNDING SOURCE
c	Natural Resources Conservation Service	OCC-526	To partner with NRCS and The Nature Conservancy to hire 2 conservation plan writers to provide technical assistance in delivery of Farm Bill programs in Oklahoma, with specific focus on soil health.	Extends date of agreement to Sept 30, 2020	10/1/2017	9/30/2020	102,000		NRCS/EPA 319/TNC
d	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	OCC-527	Partner with NRCS and OCC to fund 1/4 of 2 conservation planner position to assist with Farm Bill delivery and provide technical assistance with specific focus on Soil Health.	TNC to fund 1/4 of 2 conservation planner positions and Adds funds for 1/4 of a soil health coordinator position.	10/1/2017	9/30/2019	\$130,000		TNC
e	Secretary of Energy and Environment, Office of	FY2014 319H (OCC351)	to provide staff support and funding toward the implementation of Oklahoma's Comprehensive Nonpoint Source Program, monitoring program, and the 2014 Blue Thumb statewide education and volunteer program.	Extends the grant to December 31, 2018	1/1/2014	12/31/2018	\$2,345,503.00		EPA

OCC ID	PARTY	NO	PURPOSE	AMENDMENT PURPOSE	BEGIN DATE	END DATE	AMOUNT TO		AMOUNT FROM		FUNDING SOURCE
							OCC		OCC		
f	Secretary of Energy and Environment, Office of	FY15/16 (OCC-406)	to set up the EPA grant facilitation between the Commission and OSEE for the FY2015/16 EPA Grant, C9-996100-18.	Extends the grant to December 31, 2018	1/1/2015	12/31/2018		\$4,738,006.00			EPA
g	OCC/OSEE	2017 319h	Is to convey EPA funding from the 2017 grant to provide staff support and funding toward implementation of Oklahoma's Comprehensive Nonpoint Source Program, monitoring program, and the 2017 Blue Thumb Statewide water quality education and volunteer progra	August 2017 represents final award for FY2017	1/1/2017	12/31/2020		\$2,485,503			Federal FY 2017 319h Grant from EPA (C9-996100-19)
h	NRCS	68-7335-16-204	NRCS will develop a model that will complete watershed benefits nationwide on a daily basis and provide reports of pertinent data (OCC/NRCS entered into Agreement No. 68-7335-15-48 to cover this project).	Adds \$75,000 and extends agreement 9/30/18	4/1/2016	9/30/2018			\$150,000.00		Federal

OCC ID	PARTY	NO	PURPOSE	AMENDMENT PURPOSE	BEGIN DATE	END DATE	AMOUNT TO OCC	AMOUNT FROM OCC	FUNDING SOURCE
i	NRCS	OCC-530	NRCS will provide assistance to fund 50% of a soil health coordinator position for 3 years. Coordinator will work to increase the knowledge and understanding of soil health and accelerate the adoption of soil health management systems in Oklahoma.		10/1/2017	9/30/2020	119,000		NRCS
j	Natural Resources Conservation Service	68-7335-17-206 (OCC-531)	Watershed Operations, remedial dam repairs on Caney Coon Site 2, Cottonwood Creek Site 17, North Deer Creek Site 1M, Sallisaw Creek Site 18M, and Sugar Creek Channel site 269R GSS.		9/11/2017	12/31/2020	\$834,750		NRCS

Director Appointments

DISTRICT	FULLNAME	SUCCEEDS	TERM EXPIRES	POS#
Blaine County	John D. Clifton	Clay Loosen	30-Jun-18	A
Delaware County	Trent Holland	Joe Schneider	30-Jun-19	A
East Canadian County	Rita Wiedemann	Leo Demmer	30-Jun-18	E2
Nowata County	Tyler Gage Milliman	Joy Elledge	30-Jun-19	A

**OKLAHOMA CONSERVATION COMMISSION
 CONSERVATION PROGRAMS DIVISION
 Tammy Sawatzky, Director
 September 11, 2017**

Administration

- Reconciled O&M and rehab financial records.
- Continued work on watershed dam hazard class review project.
- Participated in the USDA-ARS Stakeholders meeting.
- Met with OKIE811 staff to update conservation district watershed dam contact information.
- Participated in an Earthquake Risk for Ag and Natural Resources meeting.

Operation & Maintenance

- Technical, administrative, and legal/easement assistance to 22 Conservation Districts:

Okfuskee County	Talihina	Atoka County
Washita County	Garvin	Coal County
Grady County	Creek County	Pittsburg County
Noble County	Murray County	Custer County
Love County	Lincoln County	South Caddo
Kiowa County	Pontotoc County	Bryan
Comanche County	McClain County	East Canadian County
- Claims: Processed 16 watershed claims for a total reimbursement of \$24,541.82
- Conservation District board meeting: Garvin
- Watershed Technicians and Aides used their skid steers to assisted the following conservation districts to perform O&M:

District	Dam
Little River	Whitegrass Waterhole 8-brush control
	Waterfall Gilford 6-brush control

- Approved wildlife service's requests:

District	# of Dams
Grady County	4
Okfuskee County	1

- Approved O&M Funding Requests:

District	Project	Amount
Coal County	Upper Clear Boggy 6-pump fuel to lower water	\$1,000.00
Custer County	Multiple Sites-equipment fuel	750.00
	Barnitz 39-replace gate	6,000.00
Grady County	Roaring D6-replace tower	1,441.00
Murray County	Mill 1-pump fuel to lower water	\$1,250.00
Washita County	Multiple Sites-vehicle/equipment fuel	1,000.00
	Cavalry 3-repair globe valve	59.25
	TOTAL	\$11,500.25

- Flood Damage Repair EWP Contracting:

District	Project	Contract Amount	Status
Arbuckle	Caddo 27	\$886,759.30	Work progressing

- Claims: Processed 2 EWP claims for a total reimbursement of \$50,592.83.

Watershed Rehabilitation

- Administrative, technical and land rights assistance to

Sequoyah County – Sallisaw 33	Logan County – Cottonwood 54
Murray County – Rock 15 and 16	Dewey County – Barnitz 5 and 11
City of Perry – Upper Black Bear 62	
- NRCS rehabilitation agreement management
- Conducted final inspection on Barnitz Creek Site 5 in Dewey County.
- Attended bid open for Rock Creek Site 16. Bids are currently being reviewed.
- Claims: Processed 3 Rehab claim for a total reimbursement of \$208,803.38.

Cost-Share Program

- Reviewed Program Year 17 and 18 monthly reports received from conservation districts.
- Certified \$25,581.74 of CSPY 17 carry-over funds for 8 conservation districts.
- Assistance: Provided Cost-Share Program assistance to 19 Conservation Districts:

Osage County	Kingfisher County	Muskogee County
Kiowa County	Latimer County	Woodward County
Mayes County	Wagoner County	Cherokee County
Dewey County	Sequoyah County	NFRR
Blaine County	Love County	Pawnee County
Pushmataha	McClain County	Nowata County
Jackson County		

# of Claims	# of Districts	Claim Amount
<u>PY 17</u>		
16	10	\$29,349.77
	Brush Management	9 acres
	Herbaceous Weed Control	623 acres
	Pasture Planting	145.18 acres
	Pipeline	9,797 lf
	Pond	4,336 cy
	Watering Facility	1

# of Claims	# of Districts	Claim Amount
<u>PY 18</u>		
73	33	\$179,987.50
	Brush Management	1,904.8 acres
	Cover Crop	15 acres
	Critical Area Planting	1 acre
	Diversion	706 cy
	Fencing	1,857 lf
	Heavy Use Area Protection	3,983 sf
	Herbaceous Weed Control	6,773 acres
	Pasture Planting	178.6 acres
	Pipeline	700 lf
	Pond	12,732 cy
	Pumping Plant	1
	Watering Facility	3
	Well	1