

## **Missouri Envirothon Committee Meeting**

Lincoln University Carver Farm

April 22, 2003

Present: Kathryn Braden, Taney SWCD; Mary Burt, St. Charles SWCD; Rose Marie Hopkins, DNR Soil and Water Conservation Program; Carol Hubbard, Shelby County SWCD; Craig King, Soil and Water Conservation Society representative; Peggy Lemons, Cole County SWCD and MASWCD Executive Secretary; Judy Stinson, DNR Soil and Water Conservation Program; and DeDe Vest, NRCS.

Guest: Erin Tanzi, SW RC&D

**Call to Order.** Peggy Lemons called the meeting to order at 10:10.

**Approval of the Minutes.** Carol Hubbard moved to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report.** Carol presented the financial reports including the treasurer's report, the 2003 competition budget, and the savings account report for the 2005 Canon Envirothon. Adjustments were made to the budget to reflect the increase in the donation from Bass Pro for \$5000. The check from Bass Pro was received yesterday by Judy Stinson but it is incorrectly made out to the Department of Natural Resources rather than the Missouri Envirothon. DeDe Vest agreed to return it to Springfield on her way home. Bass Pro is aware of the situation and will be writing another check. Also, the mini-grant for \$750 from Canon has been received. In reconciling the books with MASWCD to make the Envirothon a separate entity, David Dix has reported to Carol that the Envirothon owes MASWCD \$171.85. This is due to the Envirothon operating out of MASWCD's checkbook as the Envirothon's money was so cyclical. Carol was unsure if that includes MASWCD's regular \$750 donation. The expense for awards was corrected to reflect the actual amount of \$1032.44. The savings account balance for 2005 is \$8942.88. Mary Burt moved to approve the treasurer's and all financial reports. The motion carried.

**Review Regional Competitions.** Peggy went over a list that has been put together of what members of the state committee observed when attending the various regional competitions. There continue to be several very basic things that are occurring that must be corrected. These include the use of styrofoam, lack of recycling containers, and not keeping on the rotation schedule. Judy shared a list of suggestions that teams need to keep in mind when making their oral presentations. It was decided that these suggestions will be more completely compiled and shared with all the regional coordinators.

**2003 State Competition.** Judy went over the list of things to have and do for the competition on May 1. There was an in-depth discussion about the judges sheet. A category for appearance is being added before the information is being sent to the oral judges in advance. The forms will be on the website Wednesday. DeDe Vest did the

volunteers' nametags and gave them to Rose Marie Hopkins. Rose Marie will conduct the volunteer orientation at 7:30 and follow with more in-depth training with the oral judges afterwards. Mary will make numbers for the team guides to attach to their hats. DeDe went over the oral question and the accompanying maps. It will be posted on the website on April 24. Mary expects to be finished with the tests this week. She will be printing tests and keys this week. Judy went over the station materials list and the committee took note of various supplies they are to bring. After review of where the stations will be located, it was decided that we would only need one port-a-potty. Peggy will handle those arrangements. Lincoln University has two wagons to use for the rotations and two four-wheelers to use for runners, etc. The specific rotation will be determined at a later time. Arrangements have been finalized for lunch including vegetarian meals.

In regard to the advisor activity, Peggy has been having trouble making connections with Marjory Campbell so it was decided to move to a back-up plan. The original substitute plan was to do something at the Aquaculture Building but Peggy was concerned it wouldn't take enough time. Mary suggested touring the Capitol and around Jefferson City. Transportation is the issue. Renting a bus was discussed as was trying to get one of the buses that brought a team to let us use it. Peggy will make some calls to see if anybody is bringing a big bus and would allow it to be used for a tour. DeDe mentioned that the teachers should probably be touring something relevant to the event such as farms in the area. Peggy had some ideas and will talk with Gary Van de Velde about this.

Peggy is working on the computerized scoring worksheet. One of the regionals had inserted the names of the colors of the different resource sections on the scoresheet and made it much easier to keep the information straight so she intends to incorporate that improvement. Mary will make maps of the stations. If her copier doesn't make very good copies of the maps, then she will bring the original for Peggy to make copies here. Maps will be needed by the team guides, runners, and others.

**State Winner Financial Award.** The financial stipend for the winning team was discussed. Peggy has found airfares from different airports around the state to range from \$135 to \$325 round trip to Baltimore. The committee doesn't want to give too much but no one wants to short the team. Judy mentioned that one regional has supplemented the winning team if it comes from that area. That would be a nice thing for other regions to consider as finances are available. DeDe suggested announcing the travel stipend to the winning team without stating a specific amount.

**Names attending 2003 Maryland National Competition.** Peggy reviewed the list of those going to Maryland to learn what happens at the Canon Envirothon. Those attending will include: Peggy, Mary, Jennifer Lewis, Carol, Rose Marie, Judy, DeDe, Tina Hovendick, Deneen Jenkins, and Sheila Braden. It is still up in the air as to whether Travis Dinsdale will be able to go due to budget issues.

**Maryland Registration Information.** Peggy distributed the information for registration for Maryland. The Missouri workers are to arrive on Wednesday but the event doesn't formally begin until Saturday. There is no problem getting into the dorms

earlier but there will be an additional \$30 or \$50 per person per day charge for room and board. Everyone will need to supply their own towels. The dorms are air conditioned.

Peggy is coordinating the travel to limit the need for additional vehicles to two vans. The team will be coming in on Friday or Saturday so they will take the shuttle provided by the Envirothon to and from the airport.

**MEEA Participation.** MASWCD is taking a one year membership in MEEA. This will allow MASWCD to participate in MEEA's database showing all SWCD activities and the Envirothon. The thought is that this will help get the districts before these science teachers more and hopefully will increase interest for 2005. Peggy is also hoping this will allow the opportunity to present an Envirothon workshop at the next MEEA conference.

**2005 Update.** Nothing new to report but it is imperative to schedule a meeting right after the Missouri Envirothon to finalize the 2005 question to take to Maryland in July. Peggy asked DeDe to make the presentation to the committee. There was concern about scheduling conflicts this summer if this meeting was being held while DeDe was involved with the teaching or testing but Peggy and Judy were confident that arrangements could be made. We will also need to talk about give-aways to take in July.

**Next Meeting.** The date of the next meeting is now May 22 at 10:00 in Columbia. This is a different date than was originally set.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 with a walking tour of the building to discuss what would be done where on May 1.

Rose Marie Hopkins  
Secretary