

**OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION OF RC&D COUNCILS, INC.
QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING**

**STATE CAPITOL, OKC. OK
April 21, 2009**

I. CALL TO ORDER: James Aldridge, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. Advance notice of today's regular meeting and agenda were filed with the Okfuskee County Clerk, and posted publicly at the home office, in accordance with provisions of the Oklahoma Open Meeting Law.

II. ROLL CALL: Randy Cotten, Secretary/Treasurer, called the roll:

Members Present	Members Absent	Coordinators/NRCS	Others
Pauline Fahle	Jim Bailey	Gary O'Neill	Kathy Allen
Coleta Bratten	Donna Baldwin	Larry Wright	
Alfred Miller	Alveta Taylor	Tom Lucas	
Jeff Lockett	Gerald Hayes	Carl Smith	
James Aldridge	Scotty Herriman	Marty Hern	
J.C. Awtrey	Jackie Smith	Greg Kindell	
Kristi Coker	Martin Roberts	Andy Tucker	
Judi Elmore	Eric Chapman	Angela Williams	
Garold DeWitt	Alveta Taylor		

A quorum was declared.

III. INTRODUCTIONS: None.

IV. MINUTES OF JANUARY MEETING: Minutes of the January 20, 2009 meeting were emailed to members in advance of today's meeting.

[Motion to accept the minutes: Alfred Miller.](#)

[Second: Garold DeWitt](#)

[Oral Vote Taken: Ayes: All. Nays: None. Abstain None. Motion carried.](#)

V. FINANCIAL REPORT:

A. Financial Statement for Period of January 1-March 31, 2009: The financial report is attached. The financial report was accepted as presented.

[Motion to accept the financial report: Garold DeWitt](#)

[Second: James Aldridge](#)

[Oral Vote Taken: Ayes: All. Nays: none. Motion carried.](#)

B. Claims & Bills: Randy Cotten presented an invoice for 21 months of internet service.

[Motion to pay the internet bill. Pauline Fahle.](#)

[Second: Alfred Miller](#)

[Oral Vote Taken: Ayes: All. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.](#)

VI. CURRENT BUSINESS:

a. **Chairman's Report:** ASCOG RC&D changed their name to Chisholm Trail RC&D. James Aldridge has a teleconference on Friday with the National RC&D President.

b. **Council Reports:** The RC&D Activity Report (as part of the NRCS Partnership Report) were emailed out to members prior to today's meeting by Kathy Allen.

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- c. **NRCS report:** Gary O'Neill discussed the change of ASCOG RC&D's name to Chisholm Trail RC&D and how it is a positive change and impact for their area, and for the state board, because it will have a positive affect on the whole board. JC Awtrey will serve as the chair. The need for this change has been discussed for several years. JC has been active in asking the cog to make this change. Gerald Hays, Bill Clan(president of the Cog) and Larry Wright also helped make this change possible. Gary thanked them for their help with this matter. The next step will be to get them a coordinator. As early as next week the position will be advertised.

Gary commented on the concern for the impact of the Presidents budget on whether or not to fill the **empty coordinator positions**. The chief said to go ahead. The position for Coordinator at Ouachita Mountains .RC&D has been closed, interviews have been done and they are close to making a decision. Within 2 weeks there should be a coordinator in place at Ouachita Mountains.

National RC&D Conference: Gary discussed the concern about the cost of the hotel and that only the Gov. rate would be paid toward the Coordinators rooms. He said they are working with a nearby hotel for a government rate. Gary would like for all the coordinators to attend this conference.

Farm Bill Forums: Gary explained that these forums would be discussing the new Farm Bill and Stimulus package. This is a real good example of a partnership effort with RC&D. He stated that "Some of the attendance has not been real great but the information put out at those meetings was very good." He thanked Tom Lucas and Larry Sanders for their hard work on planning the Forums

Project Proposals for Funding: Shovel ready project proposals were asked for by Washington, of the RC&D's. Gary discussed the number and type of proposals he received state wide. Those proposals were sent to Washington. We are still waiting on the response.

d. **Committee Reports**

1. **Strategic Planning:** Jeff Lockett had no new information on strategic planning at this time. Randy Cotten will email the strategic plan to everyone.
2. **Legislative:** Randy printed brochures for distribution today at the Capitol. He wanted everyone to break up into teams and visit the Legislators and Senators and pass out the brochures after today's meeting. He assigned floors for each team to cover.
3. **OACD & RC&D MOU:** In the MOU of RC&D and OACD it stated that they are suppose to meet together quarterly. Gary will send emails to committee members and pick a date for the meeting.
4. **2009 State Summit:** Kristi Coker, handed out a draft agenda. She discussed that in an effort to be cost effective the Summit has been shortened to a 2 day event. Monday will start with registration, OARC&DC meeting, maybe a tour of Norman, new member orientation then dinner at the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History. Tuesday will start with sessions, an awards luncheon and end with a group tour of Norman. "We are planning short speakers in the morning and social activities in the afternoon. Norman has a lot to see and offer."

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5. **Annual Financial Review/Audit:** A Financial review and audit was done by Garold Dewitt, Alfred Miller and Jeff Lockett. They reported that Randy Cotten has done a very good job keeping the Financial Books. They commended him for his efforts.

Motion to approve the books as presented: Alfred Miller.

Second: Pauline Fahle.

An oral vote was taken. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

- e. **OACD February Meeting Display Report:** Randy Cotten reported that OARC&DC set up a display at OACD's Annual Meeting in February. We spent \$250.00 on it. He said, "We had a good location and passed out RC&D Brochures. I think it was money well spent and that we should do it again next year. We should invite them to our summit to set up a booth.."
- f. **Leadership Conference Report:** Pauline Fahle and Coleta Bratten attended the Conference in Washington, D.C. in February. Pauline commented "it was different this time, the Speakers were very positive, it was very nice after hearing so much negative in the past. We went to visit the Senators but didn't get to visit with any of them, just their reps."

VII Public comments: Jeff Lockett thanked Martin Roberts for getting the Open record books for all of the RC&D's.

Jeff Lockett asked Randy Cotten to approve President, James Aldridge's way to the National RC&D Conf. according to New business? Or Old business?

Motion to pay James Aldridge traveling expenses to the National RC&D Conference up to \$1,500:
Randy Cotten.

Second: Alfred Miller;

An oral vote was taken: Ayes: All. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be Monday, August. 3, 2009 at the State RC&D Summit at the Holiday Inn of Norman, at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:32.

Approved

 /s/ James A. Aldridge
James Aldridge, Chair

Date: 3 August 2009

 /s/ Randolph P. Cotten
Randolph P. Cotten, Secretary

Date: 3 August 2009

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