

KASCOE CONFERENCE CALL

The KASCOE Director's held a conference call on August 24, 2010 at 9:00 A.M.

Those in attendance on the call were:

Brandon Wilson
Darin Slack
Marsha Gerstner
Karen Holloway
Lisa Crockett
Ernie Battin

Not present were David Sweany and Sean Rafferty. Frank Sayles joined the teleconference at 9:50 A.M. Sean Rafferty provided written comments to the group based on the set agenda.

The following items were discussed:

Joint Meeting with KACS and KASE: The group discussed KASCOE's participation in the 2010 joint KACS and KASE meeting tentatively scheduled to be held in Salina on November 11th and 12th. KASCOE has been afforded the opportunity to attend the general session and hold a Director's meeting. This will not be a KASCOE Convention, but rather a joint meeting that all KASCOE members are invited to attend. At this point there are no details on the joint meeting. Brandon will be discussing the meeting details with KACS and KASE in the near future and will report back to the Directors on what he learns.

Possibility of changing the 2011 KASCOE Convention Location: Presently KASCOE has a Convention every other year. During the 2009 KASCOE Convention, the membership voted to have the 2011 convention at Hays, Kansas. The Director's discussed the possibility of the lodging at Hays not being adequate to host a convention. It was decided by the Directors that Brandon will notify the membership that the Director's will be reconsidering the decision to have the meeting at Hays during the November 2010, Joint Meeting. The decision will depend on present lodging conditions at Hays. Membership will be notified of this issue by e-news in September.

Possibility of having a Joint Area Rally in 2012: Brandon told the group that the SED and the President of NASE have visited with him about potentially having an all employee 2012 Joint Area Rally to be held in Kansas. Brandon noted that this would be a good potential step toward consolidating financial resources and securing good speakers from the national office. He also said that this issue was presented to the NASCOE SW Area at the 2010 NASCOE convention. The SW Area expressed interest in exploring the idea of a Joint Area Rally.

County Office Grievance Committee: Brandon discussed with the group the nomination process for the Kansas FSA CO Grievance Committee members. Brandon will recommend to the SED a CED, PT and COC member to serve on the committee. Regular Committee members will also have alternates that will be nominated by Brandon. The SED may or may not accept the nominations.

Next KASCOE Newsletter: The group discussed the need for three KASCOE Newsletters instead of two each year. Ernie expressed the need for three a year so that KASCOE could show the membership what is happening with the organization. Marsha noted that earlier this year KASCOE only budgeted for two newsletters in 2010. Karen said that this year she only has enough news articles and pictures for two editions. The next edition is scheduled to be released in November. No action was taken on changing the number of newsletters that KASCOE will issue this year.

KASCOE e-News: The KASCOE e-News was discussed. The e-News will generally be only one page in length and contains quick news items that need to be brought to the attention of the membership. It was determined by the Directors that at this point the e-News is adequate and no changes are needed. Brandon would like to send out one e-News every month to the Membership. Directors and members are encouraged to submit articles.

2010 Election of Directors: Brandon noted that all odd numbered KASCOE Director Districts will be up for election this fall. According to the KASCOE bylaws the elections must take place before October 1, 2010. Elected Directors will be installed at the January Organizational Meeting. Brandon will send out information about the upcoming election to the Directors and the Membership in the September e-News.

KASCOE Position on Depositing FLP Loans in Outlying Offices: KASCOE has recently been made aware of the fact that there are still ongoing discussions about Farm Loan deposits being made and applied toward loans in County Offices that do not house FLP staff. These discussions involve concerns regarding the practicality of having Farm Program staff making Farm Loan deposits in lieu of mailing checks to the servicing FLP Office. Initially, this discussion was initiated at the second quarter meeting with management held in June 2010 by FLP staff (see minutes of the June meeting on the KASCOE website). Brandon asked the KASCOE Directors for a formal opinion on this matter. The Directors decided that there should not be any problems or issues with Farm Program staff making deposits and applying money toward loans. Further, the Director's noted that FSA Loan Programs are very important to agricultural producers and customer service should be top priority at any location.

NASCOE 2011 Convention in Texas: Brandon asked the Directors to make plans now to attend the 2011 NASCOE Convention to be held in Corpus Christi Texas next August. It is very important the Directors and Committee Chairpersons attend so that they can deliver reports and news to the KASCOE Membership. Brandon also asked the Directors to encourage other KASCOE Members to attend.

With there being no further business, the call was concluded at 10:00 A.M.

/s/ Marsha L. Gerstner, Secretary