



Morris County Conservation District

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NEWS RELEASE

Approximately 180 people were in attendance of the Morris County Conservation District's 80th Annual Meeting on Saturday, January 25, 2020, 6:30 p.m., at the Morris County Community Center! Jim Parker, District Chairman, was the master of ceremonies. Theme for the event was "***Where would we BEE without Pollinators?***" Father Andrew Seiler, Priest for the Council Grove St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, gave the litany and prayer. Brian Burhoop, District Treasurer, gave introductions and annual report. A Baked Ham/Smothered Steak/BBQ Beef Brisket and BBQ Meatball Dinner was served by Ricky's Café of Hanover.

The program consisted of: Student Conservation Awards; KACD's Honorable Mention State Limerick Winners of Excellence to Bailey Rapp and Koden Sanford and KACD's Honorable Mention State Essay Winner of Excellence to Remy Marsteller; and the Grassland Award went to Steve Moser, Twin Lakes WRAPS Water Quality Award went to Jeff Rue, and the Kansas Banker Award went to Shane Tiffany and Shawn Tiffany. Supervisors: Cynthia Engle and Brian Burhoop gave trophies and certificates to Poster/Limerick/Essay and Coloring winners with Angela Anderson's help. Alex Miller announced the upcoming Kansas Range Youth Camp. An election of two Supervisors was held and conducted by Tim Biehler, Nomination Chairman; with Chad Sanford and Brian Burhoop re-elected to another three-year term respectively.

Door prizes were announced by Courtney Parker and Shannon Ney for students and adults with the grand prize being a \$25 Council Grove gift card. A group effort to produce several different centerpieces was accomplished by Dwight and Marylin Andres and Carl Smitheran who designed, assembled and painted the (11) brightly colored mason bee houses; Jim Henry donated pinecones and Carl Jarboe donated plywood for the project. Angela Anderson contributed the clever and creative pastel painted tin can mason bee homes. Council Grove's Neosho Gardens grew the "Succulent Plants" that highlighted the tabletops and Flint Hills Floral of Council Grove added the green and yellow foil with twine for a pop of color to the succulent plant centerpieces. The Willing Workers 4-H club helped serve drinks during the meal and tore down after the event. The Flint Hills 4-H club also tore down immediately following the meeting and stayed to finish the clean-up.

****WATER QUALITY *CONSERVATION *DEVELOPMENT *SELF-GOVERNMENT***