

In the beginnings of the Belleville, KS main street businesses, you'll find the Republic County Conservation District. On a typical day in the USDA Service Center office, producers from any of the twelve towns in Republic County will be sitting at employee's desks learning about USDA programs. Housed with NRCS and FSA Staff, the RCCD prides itself in its ability to maintain excellent partner and producer relationships. RCCD is incredibly thankful for our producers and their commitment to keeping conservation implemented in their farms.

The Republic County Conservation District is composed of one full-time employee and five publicly elected board members. Conservation District Manager, Morgan Barnhart, has been employed with the Conservation District since early 2018. The RCCD board is composed of five gentlemen who understand the importance of conservation work and proper land maintenance. The board members are as follows:

Chairman: Wayne Pachta, Cuba, KS

Vice-Chairman: Jerry Strnad, Munden, KS

Treasurer: John Robison, Scandia, KS

Member: Doug Garman, Courtland, KS

Member: Wesley Thompson, Agenda, KS

RCCD's board members play an important role in State Cost Share programs and encouraging other producers to apply for assistance. The board members themselves are all longtime residents of Republic County and have watched the way farming practices have improved over the years.

RCCD owns a Great Plains Grass Drill with a contract employee, Mo Waite, to operate the drill for Republic County producers. The Grass Drill is perhaps one of the greatest assets to the Conservation District in providing a public service to the area. The District also owns two 16' dirt work blades, a root plow, drip torches, laser level, and soil probe for producers to utilize. The District prides itself on being able to provide these items as a service for area producers.

RCCD works closely with NRCS staff to promote and provide correct conservation practices. The Republic County NRCS Staff is made up of three full-time employees the District is fortunate to work with: Supervisory District Conservationist, Terry Alstatt; Soil Conservationist, Emily Colclazier; Conservation Technician, Kevin Elliott. Without their dedication to our producers, the Conservation District would not be able to provide assistance to the best of its ability.

The Republic County Conservation District is humbled by this opportunity to be recognized. RCCD wishes to extend a thank you to all of our area producers, NRCS and FSA staff, and DOC staff. Thank you for all that you do.