

**Natural Resources Conservation Service
Report To
Papio-Missouri River NRD Board
March 9, 2017
Neil Jensen, District Conservationist**



**LOCAL WORK GROUP MEETS IN
PREPARATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018
PROGRAMS**

The Papio-Missouri River Natural Resource District Local Work Group will meet to provide recommendation on local natural resource priorities and criteria for USDA conservation activities and programs. Local Work Group meetings are open to the public.

The meeting will be held on March 28, 2017 in Blair, NE at the USDA Service Center Office. The address is 1060 Wilbur Street. The program will start at 9:00 a.m. and should conclude by noon.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide recommendations to the State Conservationist on how conservation programs like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), and the Agriculture Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) would be used most effectively in our area.

Topics of discussion will include:

- Addressing resource concerns at the local level,
- Adjustment of ranking system,
- Practice payment schedule review,
- Preferred application and ranking cut off dates,
- And suggested edits to practice payment guidance documents.



PAPIO-MISSOURI RIVER NATURAL RESOURCE DISTRICT EQIP FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 IS ALLOCATED

Local EQIP funds have been allocated to the Papio-Missouri River NRD for Fiscal Year 2017. The initial allocation is \$390,247.00

Local funds were divided to the Local Fund Pools accordingly:

- Cropland - \$259,247.00
- Grassland - \$120,000.00
- Forestry - \$11,000.00

In addition to the local fund pools, funding is available through area and state special initiatives.

AREA FUND POOLS – Beginning Farmer/Ranchers & Socially Disadvantaged

- Cropland
- Grassland

SPECIAL INITIATIVES – Nebraska

- Wildlife
- Forestry
- Seasonal High Tunnel
- Animal Feeding Operations
- Organic
- Energy
- Tribal
- Conservation Activity Plans
- Monarch Butterfly
- Nebraska Water Quality Initiative
- Soil Health Demonstration Farms (6 fund pools)
- Climate Change Initiative (3 fund pools)
- Working Lands for Wildlife
- Ephemeral Filter Strip



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