# Notes to Presentation

**Slide 3** - Working in the world of collaborative consensus and networking to achieve these goals can be a daunting task for many organizations. The following slides will show some of the issues associated with collaborative consensus and networking and then conclude with possible solutions to overcome these barriers.

**Slide 4** – A lot of you right now might be saying to yourselves that I do not know what this guy is doing at his job, but I am so busy. Don't get me wrong. This is a catch phrase that I heard a lot. I am busy myself. I am just asking for the audience to think and ask themselves before they use this phrase with a conservation district, or any other entity, are they so busy? One of the main focuses of correcting this is you. Make yourself present. Be available for those that need your help.

**Slide 7** - How many of you feel like the dark blue ball at times in your place of employment or life in general? We start to isolate ourselves when we are too busy to help or be helped.

Does anyone have a conservation district in their region that feels like the dark blue ball? What can you do better to help them? How can we collectively help our districts nationwide?

**Slide 8** – Practice active listening. The first step is to receive the information from the individual or organization. Next, we want to make sure we understand the information that we are receiving. For example, we receive the information, then we say, let me see if I am understanding what, say said received message back. This is followed by evaluating the information that was received. Finally, we want to respond.

I know this sound a little elementary, but I feel that are many who do not fully understand this process. If this process is not followed in one format or the other, we get communication breakdown, which then may lead to a lack of trust and understanding.

**Slide 9** – This a trust pyramid that I have constructed, without the peak. Internal trust begets external trust. This in turn gives you the fundamental foundation to start building up.

**Slide 10** – It is great to collaborate and practice active listening, but this takes planning. Something that I have held on to, taught my children and believe in everyday is that proper planning prevents poor performance. This all ties into making the time for yourself and others. Getting help when you need it and helping when they need it. Building trust. And actively listening to those around you to better understand how to preform your duties better.