

**AISWCD Board meeting  
December Quarterly Board  
December 12, 2012  
Northfield Inn & Suites  
8:15 a.m.**

**Present**

Lonnie Wilson, President  
Tom Beyers, Vice-President  
Van Bitner, Secretary  
Kenny Vosholler, Treasurer  
Jerry Snodgrass, Area I VP  
David McCormick, Area II VP  
Steve Stierwalt, Area III VP  
Barb Klinger, Council 1  
Terry Bogner, Council 2  
Lee Bunting, Council 3  
Terry Davis, Council 4  
Dan Duval, Council 5  
Randy Molitoris, Council 6  
Joe Rothermel, Council 7  
Darrell Roegge, Council 8  
Daniel Doedtman, Council 10  
Aaron Ferguson, Council 11  
Don Beisiegel, Council 12  
Roger Jackson, Council 13  
Dale Shumaker, Council 15  
Gerard Fabrizius, Council 16  
Marie Bunting, Auxiliary President  
Betty Buckert, ISWCDEA AC Co-Chair  
Rich Nichols, AISWCD  
Sherry Finn, AISWCD  
Kelly Thompson, AISWCD  
Gina Bean, AISWCD  
Mike Hoffmann, Lobbyist (Arrived 8:31 am)

**Absent**

Carlyn Light, Area IV VP  
Joe Rothermel, Council 7  
Mark Roth, Council 9  
Tom Anderson, Council 14  
Kara Downin, ISWCDEA Co-Chair

**Call to Order**

Lonnie Wilson, AISWCD President called the meeting to order at 8:20 am.

**Approve Agenda**

The agenda was reviewed. Additions to the agenda included discussion of and Outreach under New Business.

**Motion: A motion was made by Lee Bunting, seconded by Don Beisiegel, and passed to approve the agenda with additions.**

**Partner Reports**

**IDOA (Steve Chard)** – The Bureau has added two people. Jean Crane has finally been replaced after four and a half years. Dee Clark will perform some of the duties Mike had to pick up after Jean left, and will be secretarial support. A new Account Manager has also been hired, Terry Tiskes. A new Division Manager has also been hired, Laura Sova.

### **Partner Reports (continued)**

She is working out of the Chicago office, but is in close contact with the Bureau. Acting Director Flider is now Director Flider. Employee health insurance has not been paid for the entire fiscal year 2013. First quarter operations and first quarter cost-share has been sent to districts for fiscal year 2013. Hopefully the entire fy13 money will be sent out earlier this year since the money is coming from PFC funds. The Department has been participating in the Governors Drought Relief Task Force. Steve also discussed the "bottleneck region" where the Missouri River flows into the Mississippi River. The flow is normally limited from Missouri to Mississippi River this time of year. There might be some barge stalling. The Governors are appealing to the President to keep the channel flow open. Steve wanted to publicly thank Debbie Holsapple for all the work she had done as insurance administrator, and welcomed Melissa Cauble as the new Administrator for employee insurance.

**NRCS (Ivan Dozier)** – No Report.

**FSA** – A written report was included in the packet, but Rick Braden gave an oral report also. Rick discussed the fact they are working under a continuing resolution. He touched

**IEPA** - Chris Davis gave the report. Chris thanked the board for their enthusiasm and investment in protecting Illinois land and water resources. IEPA written report attached to these minutes.

**DNR** – No Report.

**ISWCDEA** – Betty Buckert, ISWCDEA Co-Chair introduced herself, went over new officers for the coming year. ISWCDEA report attached to minutes.

**NCDEA** – Cindy Moon reported plans are underway for the NCDEA Annual Meeting, to be held in conjunction with NACD Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. NCDEA will also be hosting the Partnership Luncheon, hold board meetings, sponsor an additional Education Workshop, and help to monitor and presenting at different sessions throughout the conference. Irene Moore, NCDEA President, has met with the national partnership quarterly.

**NACD & NACD North Central** – Jerry Snodgrass discussed the Farm Bill. Jerry encouraged board members to call their Senators and House Members and tell them that we need a Farm Bill. Jerry encouraged board members to try and attend a National Conference; they are very interesting and educational. There will be a North Central meeting January 3 & 4 in Chicago. Jerry expressed appreciation towards Dave White, who has stepped down as Chief of NRCS. NACD staff continues to work with legislative staffers daily on issues. Jerry also touched on endangered species issue. Webinars being held throughout the country was touched on. Lonnie Wilson reported on behalf of North Central. There will be a new chair elected for the North Central Region at the January meeting in Chicago. Lonnie told board members if they have any comments for him to take to the meeting, to send them to him. North Central will also be looking for a person to represent them on the Executive Committee. They will also be elected in January at the Chicago meeting. Jerry Snodgrass will be stepping down as the North Central representative on the National Executive Board. Jerry will be running for Second Vice-President of NACD at the National Meeting in San Antonio. Lonnie also discussed auction items from Illinois to take to San Antonio. He would like to take items from different areas in Illinois that has a "personal touch." If anyone has any ideas, please let Lonnie know. There was a national meeting held last week by video conference that Lonnie participated in. Reports from national partners were given.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Executive** – Lonnie Wilson reported the Executive Committee talked about items and programs that would be covered later in the different committee reports. Tasks were assigned to different committees.

**Forestry** – David McCormick gave the report. The committee discussed activities they are moving forward with. The committee is trying to put together a couple of workshops for the coming year. Dave indicated they would like to invite the Illinois Forestry Association, the Tree Growers, and Walnut Growers to the next Quarterly Board committee meeting so they could conduct a round table discussion. Motion to approve the report was made by Dan Doedtman, second by Barb Klinger. Motion carried.

**AISWCD Auxiliary** – Marie Bunting gave the report. Possible programs and raffle items were discussed at their meeting on Monday, for Summer Conference. Marie reported she would be stepping down as National President at the NACD San Antonio meeting in January 2013. She also promoted the quilt that would be raffled off at the National Meeting on "State Commodities." Marie passed around an envelope for money for raffle tickets.

**SWCD Insurance** – Annyce Winters, President of the SWCD Insurance Group introduced Melissa Cauble to the board, and gave a brief background on Melissa being hired. Melissa Cauble gave the report (attached to these minutes).

**Mississippi and IL River Coordinating Councils** - Lee Bunting gave the report. The committee has met three times since the June Quarterly board meeting; once in person, and two by teleconference. The big thing with the council right now is that in LaSalle County a sand mine is being developed. Permit process has been completed. The local community is very concerned about it, because it is adjacent to Starved Rock State Park. The council is making recommendations to the IEPA.

**Lobbyist Report & Action Item from Legislative Committee** – was given by Mike Hoffman. Mike talked about the Gaming Bill. Senate Bill 1849 was not called during the veto session. The Governor said he wanted to work on a bill for January. The Speaker has assigned one of his top lawyers to try and put the Gaming Bill together that can pass and the Governor can sign in January. The goal is to have the bill heard in the house on January 6, which is a Sunday. They are starting from scratch as far as allocating the revenue. The Governor opinion is that the money should be used for education. There is approximately 40,000,000 in ag funding that is now in limbo. Mike urged board to talk to legislators about funding for Soil and Water Conservation Districts. It is going to happen quickly. He is not confident that ag funding will be in it. Representative Mautino is trying to get something together for next year regarding and ag fee bill. Mike feels that is an initiative the AISWCD needs to engage in. Directors need to talk with the Farm Bureau to make sure they will support an ag fee bill. A similar fee bill was done this year with DNR. Mike gave Lonnie some legislators' names to talk to about HB 5315, which passed the house last year, to allow open meetings training for Soil & Water Conservation Districts and Drainage Districts to be held in an open group session so that people that don't have access to a computer can take the training. Right now it is only available on a website. Hopefully it will be voted on in January. Tom Byers introduced information from the Legislative Committee meeting. **Dan Doedtman made a motion to move Legislative Day into February, seconded by Barb Klinger. Motion passed.**

**Legislative FAC Report-** Tom Beyers gave an update on resolutions passed at 2012 AISWCD Annual Meeting as follows:

2012 – 1 – Dead

2012-2 – Proposed presentation at Summer Conference

2012-3 – Ongoing

2012-4 – No progress

### **Focus Committee Reports**

**Communications** – Steve Stierwalt gave the report. Social media was discussed, along with push text messaging. Steve encouraged LUC Reps to bring this up at the LUC level and would like to see it filter down to the district level. **A motion to proceed and also to adopt social media, privacy policy & push texting by AISWCD was made by Gerard Fabrizius seconded by Terry Davis. Motion passed.**

**Education** – Jerry Snodgrass gave the report. Jerry stated FFA teams do not feel like they are getting enough information on the Envirothon. Districts need to contact all schools with an FFA team. Only if the FFA team wins at the regional level will they be at the State Competition two days. Jerry encouraged the board to promote Teacher of the Year Award. There were no action items.

**Financial** – Kenny Vosholler gave the report. **A motion was made by Roger Jackson, second by Barb Klinger to approve the financial. Motion carried.** Recommended adjustments were made in the FY13 budget in the following line items – 5401 – Reduction due to reduced audit costs; 6601 - \$4,000 was added for \$2500 in Presidential travel and \$1500 in Vice-Presidential travel; 6602 - \$1000 added for auto vehicle maintenance; 6707 - \$1600 was added for website. **Motion by Roger Jackson, second by Barb Klinger to approve the FY13 budget with changes. Motion passed.**

**Financial (continued)**-AISWCD employees were excused from the board meeting temporarily. Kenny discussed employee bonuses and gave the recommendation made by the Financial Committee, and ask for discussion.

**A motion was made by Kenny Vosholler, second by Roger Jackson, and passed, to approve Christmas bonuses in the following amounts:**

Gina Bean - \$100.00

Kelly Thompson - \$250.00

Sherry Finn - \$750.00

Rich Nichols - \$500.00

**Planning** – Tom Beyers gave the report. The Annual Meeting was discussed. It will be held June 22 – 23, 2013, at the Northfield Inn in Springfield, which is a Monday and Tuesday. Most of the surveys for the 2012 conference were good. Some comments were that there were not enough sessions directed towards the directors. A tour is hopefully going to be put together for Sunday, for those wishing to attend. The rate for the hotel will be \$70.00, plus tax, per night, with 19% gratuity. The committee recommended "Can you hear us now," with a logo of then (dust bowl days), and now on either side. **A motion was made by Randy Molitoris to approve the theme for 2013, seconded by Don Beisiegel. Motion carried.**

**Urban Community & Conservation** – Jerry Snodgrass gave the report. Kelly is working on updating the manual. There were no action items.

**Executive Directors Report** – Attached to the packet for the boards review.

#### **Area VP Reports:**

**Area 1** – No Report

**Area 2** – No Report

**Area 3** – No Report

**Area 4** – No Report

**Approve Minutes – Motion to approve June Quarterly Board Minutes and also the Financial Reports made by Darrell Roegge, seconded by Terry Bogner. Motion passed.**

#### **Old Business**

**SWCD Dues Update** – Sherry Finn gave an update. For FY 2012 – there are ten districts out of 97 who have not paid all their dues. Four districts have paid no dues, Gallatin, Randolph, Scott, and Pope Hardin counties; one district has paid one half (Adams); Pike County has paid \$300.00; four districts that haven't paid the remainder of third quarter and all of the fourth quarter, Boone, Greene, Hamilton, Jefferson. The outstanding balance is \$9,545.13. For FY13, eight districts have paid the first quarter dues. Delinquent notices will not go out until around January 15<sup>th</sup>, to SWCD Chairmen.

**Taskforce for SWCD Dues Structure** – Lonnie Wilson reported the taskforce is dissolved for now.

**Taskforce for District Funding Update** – Lonnie Wilson reported the taskforce is dissolved for now.

**FY2012 – FY 2013 Grant Updates/Crep Staffing** – Rich Nichols gave an update to the board on current grants. Six people have been hired for the Crep Resource Specialist positions, and started on November 1, 2012. Two positions in Council 8 – Schuyler and Brown; one in Council 4 – McDonough; one in Council 5 – Peoria; one in Council 2 & 3 – LaSalle. There is a Crep training scheduled for December 18, at IEPA in Springfield. Rich told the board if they were interested in going, they should RSVP. There could possibly be a webinar available. Gina Bean, new hire at the AISWCD Office introduced herself and gave a little background.

**Website Bids** – See Financial Committee minutes, voted in budget above (Financial Committee Report).

**AISWCD Area I VP Alternate Replacement** – The board took a five minute break so that a replacement could be appointed for Area I VP Alternate – after reconvening, Lonnie Wilson reported Chuck Hanley is the new Area I VP Alternate.

**AISWCD Plan of Work - Ongoing** and will be discussed at the March Quarterly Board Meeting.

**AISWCD New Money/Revenue Stream Ideas** – Was discussed at the September Executive Meeting. A list has been drawn up and the Executive Committee is studying them is where the AISWCD is now.

**FY13 2013 State Budget Update** – Lonnie said the last he heard the State is 12.3% short on revenue.

We are now off the GRF funds, and are on grant lines.

**FY 2012 64<sup>th</sup> AISWCD Annual Meeting Resolutions Update/Variance** - Already covered.

**AISWCD FY 2013 Budget Update** – Already covered.

**AISWCD FY 2013 Quarterly Board Meeting Dates/Location/Expenses** – Lonnie reported that was part of the packet, with the exception of the Executive Board Meeting in March, the meeting will be Monday, March 11, at 1:00 pm at IDOA, in Conference Room 1. The next day will be a full day of committee meetings and Board meeting at the Northfield Inn.

## **New Business**

**NACD Annual Meeting – San Antonio, Texas** – Kenny Vosholler will attend as the Scholarship recipient (North Central monies) this year. Lonnie Wilson ask for a motion to accept himself as the NACD voting delegate, and Tom Beyers as the alternate. **A motion was made by Randy Molitoris, second by Barb Klinger to accept Lonnie and Tom as voting delegate and alternate to NACD. Motion passed.**

**NACD North Central** - Lonnie reminded the board of the North Central Meeting in Chicago the first part of January (covered in NACD report above).

**AISWCD Driveway Maintenance** – Part of the driveway is starting to deteriorate. The pours were incorrect as far as the mix. There will probably need something done to it in the next year. Rich is going to get a hold of the general contractor to see what they recommend. He has had a preliminary conversation with Chris at EPA about this. Rich will update the board in March.

**AISWCD 2006 Dodge Caravan Maintenance Bids** - **Already** covered.

**AISWCD FY 2012-2014 Auditor Bids** – Already covered.

**Approval FY 2012 Updated Budget** – Already covered.

**Outreach** – Already covered in Communications Report.

**Memorandum of Understanding with NRCS** – Lonnie has talked with ISWCDEA and at Executive Committee meeting. A new modernized agreement is needed. The State Conservationist agrees. Lonnie is asking for a couple of representatives from the employees, and will be putting together a task force soon and will be also contacting directors.

**AISWCD Financial Reports** – Already covered.

**Questions on Written Reports** – No questions.

**The meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm, with a motion by Darrell Roegge, second by Barb Klinger.**

Minutes taken & transcribed by:

*Cindy Moon*