

## **AISWCD Quarterly Board Meeting**

### **Urban and Community Conservation Focus Area Committee**

**Monday, June 11, 2012**

**Present:** Don Beisiegel  
Joe Bybee  
Melissa Cauble  
Chris Davis  
Dan Doedtman  
Don Kautz  
Don McCallon  
Jerry Snodgrass  
Kelly Thompson

**Call to Order:** At 3:00 p.m., Chairperson Jerry Snodgrass called the meeting to order.

**Agenda:** Dan Doedtman made a motion to accept the agenda as presented.

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Don Beisiegel

Carried: Yes

**Minutes of March Meeting:** No changes or additions were noted. Don Beisiegel made a motion to approve the minutes of the March meeting.

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Dan Doedtman

Carried: Yes

#### **Old Business:**

**a.) Green Infrastructure Grant:** Chris Davis of IEPA reported on the status of the grant. She stated construction has not yet started on the project at IDNR. She stated the grant would provide funds for work products including a bio-island, and a bio-swale area which would alleviate some erosion problems caused by road-side drainage.

**b.) IUM Update:** Kelly Thompson reported that she had been in several meetings with the technical and steering committees. Plans for the Illinois Urban Manual include:

- **Updating of seven standards by September 1**
- **Changes were open for public review on the Army Corps of Engineers website, but were due to close soon**
- **A new contract to update wetlands definitions would start July 1 and close in March of 2013**

#### **c.) Partner Reports:**

- **IEPA:** Chris Davis reported:
  - Green Infrastructure Grant money for 2013 remains questionable
  - Nine projects were funded in 2012. Most were installation of Best Management Practices (BMP)
  - NPSM program workshops were to be held every other year, covering both urban and rural land uses
  - The agency was still under an interim director, John Kim
- **IDOA:** Joe Bybee reported:
  - The agency was still being headed up by interim director Robert Flider
  - Laura Silva had been hired to assist with some urban projects
  - SSRP dollars for 2012 were limited

- FY 10 Bond money was to be spent by June 30, 2012
- Recent special grant projects were complete and four new applications had been received, for mostly urban projects
- The presence of the Emerald Ash Borer was expanding
- **NRCS:** Don McCallon reported:
  - Attended the Field Office of the Future meeting in his area. He stated 66 employees and directors were in attendance and he felt several good ideas were generated and forwarded on to the state office
  - Some employee positions were open in their area and he was hoping they would be filled soon
  - Budget cuts were likely coming across all agencies
  - Two student trainees were hired in the area
  - Area 3 had several CSP contracts approved recently
  - Requests for more EQIP money were being sent in
  - An air quality specialist had been hired for Area 3
  - 3 WQIP applications were funded in his area

#### **New Business:**

- a.) FY 2012 Annual Meeting Training on CPESC:** Jerry Snodgrass reported that training was scheduled for both days of the conference. He stated the second day would be a continuation of the training provided on the first day. Both sessions would be held in the Ramada Inn. He stated topics covered would include soils, disturbed soils and how to restore soils. He continued by saying there would also be case panel studies provided by two SWCDs, IUM updates, and an IEPA representative would be available for questions.

#### **Other discussions:**

Joe Bybee discussed Land Use Council 16's strategic planning meeting. He reviewed their ideas for tax reductions on land entered into the CSP program.

Chris Davis with the IEPA stated she would keep the committee up to date if they would like to hear more on what other states were doing or more on other EPA programs. Chairman Jerry Snodgrass agreed that would be a good idea.

Kelly Thompson mentioned that it was a possibility that AISWCD would write a grant to begin updating the IUM Brown Book, because it had not been done since 1999.

**Adjournment: At 3:56 p.m. Don Bieseigel made a motion to adjourn the meeting.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> by: Don Kautz**

**Carried: Yes**

Minutes taken by Melissa Cauble