

**AISWCD Quarterly Board Meeting
Forestry Committee
Monday, December 9, 2013 2:00 pm
Northfield Inn Conference Center – Springfield, IL**

Present:

Members

Tom Beyers
Terry Davis
David McCormick, Chairperson
Randy Molitoris

Advisors

Dick Breckenridge, IEPA
Elliot Lagacy, IDOA
Ray Herman, Tree Farmers
Mary Murphy, IFA

Gina Bean, AISWCD, Recorder
Rich Nichols, AISWCD Executive Director

Absent:

Darrell Roegge
Dave Bishop, Retired RC McLean Co SWCD
Wade Conn, NRCS
Mike Mason, IDNR
Dan Schmoker, IWPA
Paul Deizman, IDNR
William Gradle, IFA

1. **Call to Order:** David McCormick called the meeting to order at 2:06 pm.

2. **Roll Call:** Done by Gina Bean, AISWCD Office Assistant.

3. **Approval of June '13 Meeting minutes:**

First: Terry Davis *Second:* Randy Molitoris *Carried:* Yes

4. **Advisors' Reports**

A. *IDOA* – Elliot Lagacy had no updates for IDOA.

B. *IDNR* – No one from IDNR was present to give reports.

C. *NRCS* – No one from NRCS was present to give reports.

D. *IEPA* – Dick Breckenridge gave the report for IEPA. He reported that there wasn't too much to report on from the IEPA, but that he had been doing some research on literature he had been reading about erosion control. Mary Murphy asked if the IEPA had a solution or a plan. Dick responded telling her that they raise the issue and consider best management practices. There are a lot of gullies coming out of forests into the crop lands. Ray Herman suggested that the Forestry Committee have Wayne Kenny, who is a stream bank specialist, come and talk or run a program.

Tom Beyers let everyone know that during some of the advanced logging courses they will try and teach minimization of disturbance. When it comes to putting best management practices

into place, Tom said there is not enough money to make landowners interested. Randy Molitoris gave the suggestion of putting down grass seed where the soil was disturbed. Ray Herman brought up the committee needing to forward issues onto the right people. Ray thinks the Forestry Committee should come up with an action plan that is meaningful.

E. IFA – Mary Murphy gave the report for IFA. She let everyone know that they currently have a technical booklet to help forest landowners. They are working to have the brochure printed and it is online currently.

F. Others

a. *Tree Farmers* – Ray Herman reported that about 90 people were at their workshop and they would have had more people turn out if the weather had been better. Tree Farmers is trying to do a one day chainsaw safety class in Effingham County. It will be in January or February 2014 and will be \$100 per attendee. Ray would appreciate anything AISWCD can do to help get this event publicity.

Ray Herman talked about the Forestry Committee and thinks they need to strengthen relationships between others. He said he got a great response from his local SWCD in help with the Tree Farmers workshop. Randy Molitoris suggested getting Directors from counties with high amounts of timber to join the Forestry Committee. David McCormick will contact agencies to get individuals to the Forestry Committee meetings.

The next Tree Farmers meeting is January 24, 2014.

Ray Herman expressed to the group that it is important for the Forestry Committee to have a table at the summer conference in July. He suggested they decide by the next Quarterly Board meeting so it is not too late.

6. Old Business

A. Call Before You Cut

David McCormick reported that Rich Nichols has been contacted by DNR to have more Call Before You Cut brochures printed. They are hoping to have another 20,000 printed. Rich is getting bids from printing companies.

B. IFDC (IL Forestry Development Council) Update

David McCormick reported that the IL Forestry Development Council will be applying for grants again this year. They are interested in grants for Forestry workshops.

A motion to reapply for grants for the IL Forestry Development Council will be sent to the Board of Directors.

First: Terry Davis *Second:* Randy Molitoris *Carried:* Yes

7. New Business

A. Mary Murphy would like for Soil and Water Districts to have Forestry membership applications on their desktops to boost memberships for the IFA. Terry Davis gave the idea that to have more members, IFA should make it mandatory that if you are going to attend one of their workshops, you must be a member of their group. Ray Herman let everyone know that Tree Farmers already does this.

B. Ray Herman left David McCormick with an article of a possible Forester of the Year from Cook County.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by David McCormick at 3:11 pm.

Minutes by: Gina Bean, AISWCD Office Assistant