

**Legislative Focus Area Committee Meeting Minutes
AISWCD Quarterly Board
Northfield Inn, Springfield, IL
December 9, 2013**

Member/Advisors Present:

Tom Beyers, Chairman
Terry Bogner
Dick Breckenridge, IEPA
Sue Davis
Terry Davis
Steve Fulling
Mike Hoffmann, AISWCD Lobbyist
Ken Kesler
Sondra Baker
Jim Todd
Rich Nichols

Members/Advisors Absent:

Tessa Chadwick, NRCS
Steve Chard, IDOA
Carlyn Light
Mark Roth
Joe Rothermel
Dale Shumaker

Chairman Tom Beyers called the meeting to order. Roll Call was done by Sue Davis.

Approve Agenda- Added to New Business is Envirothon Day Resolution, a motion was made by Steve Fulling and seconded by Ken Kesler to approve the Agenda with the addition, motion carried.

Approve June 10, 2013 Meeting Minutes- A motion was made by Terry Bogner and seconded by Steve Fulling to approve the June 10, 2013 minutes as presented, motion carried.

Legislative Update- Mike Hoffmann reported that there is not a lot going on now in the General Assembly. The pension bill approved last week and there was hope that the Budget might move along after that was done. Mike reported that the Gaming Bill is considered every year for possible dedicated funding for Districts and that Illinois Farm Bureau may be supporting a resolution for dedicated funding for Districts. There was discussion on Prevailing Wage and trying to get it in a Bill this year.

Partner Reports- Dick Breckenridge from IEPA.

Task Force Updates-None

OLD BUSINESS

Memorandum of Understanding Update-The District Employees and NRCS have updated and amended the MOU and it is ready for approval. The existing MOU is

from 1968 and needed rewording to correct terminology and to be updated because of funding opportunities from NRCS.

Legislative Action Group Update- It was stated that there are 12 Director's email addresses and 6 Director Phone numbers for the Action Alerts.

FY 2012/2013 AISWCD Resolutions Updates/Variance- Tom Beyers reported that 3 of the 4 Resolutions from 2012 are still active and for 2013 there were 2 adopted and are being worked on; the Policy Book is being compiled and they are working on the Cover Crop being tax exempt. Plans are to follow up at the March meeting on the progress of the Policy Book.

FY 2013 Legislative Tour in Peoria Update- The Peoria tour was cancelled due to lack of interest.

NEW BUSINESS

FY 2014 Legislative Day/Capitol Visits- Plans are to have Legislative Day and/or Field Day tour in the North Eastern part of Illinois. Mike Hoffmann will look into the Legislative Schedule. Kelly Thompson addressed the Committee about adding a Legislative Reception to the Legislative Day visits and serve appetizers to the Legislators. The reception could be held the night before the scheduled Legislative Day visits. A motion was made by Terry Davis and seconded by Jim Todd to have March Quarterly Board in conjunction with Legislative visits on Tuesday, March 4th and Wednesday, March 5th along with the Legislative Reception, motion carried. (Dates are subject to change!)

NACD Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA- Judy & Tom Beyers and Lonnie Wilson are registered and will be attending. There was discussion about NACD National Resolution By-Law Change concerning the nominating committee process.

Envirothon Day Resolution- It was stated that AISWCD will approach Legislators and ask for a Proclamation for an Illinois State Envirothon Day to be held on April 30 or May 1, 2014. And to possibly invite the Governor to come to the State Envirothon to sign this Proclamation. A motion was made by Ken Kesler and seconded by Terry Bogner for the Envirothon Day Resolution, motion carried.

A motion was made by Terry Davis and seconded by Steve Fulling to adjourn, motion carried.

Submitted by: Sue M. Davis
AC, Christian County SWCD