

**AISWCD Board meeting
March Quarterly Board
February 26, 2014
Northfield Inn & Suites**

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
Joe Rothermel, Council 7
Darrell Roegge, Council 8
Mark Roth, Council 9
Dan Doedtman, Council 10
Steve Fulling, Council 11
Don Beisiegel, Council 12
Roger Johnson, Council 13
Dale Shumaker, Council 15
Gerard Fabrizius, Council 16
Sondra Baker, ISWCDEA AC Co-Chair
Rich Nichols, AISWCD
Sherry Finn, AISWCD
Kelly Thompson, AISWCD
Gina Bean, AISWCD
James Todd, AISWCD Past President

Absent

Carlyn Light, Area IV VP
Randy Molitoris, Council 6
Tom Anderson, Council 14
Mike Hoffman, Lobbyist
Marie Bunting, AISWCD President
Kara Downin, ISWCDEA RC Co-Chair

Call to Order

Lonnie Wilson, AISWCD President called the meeting to order at 1:18 pm.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Secretary Van Bitner.

Approve Agenda

The agenda was reviewed. Lonnie Wilson would like the agenda to be updated with the Envirothon report from DeWitt County to be added to new business. **Motion to approve updated agenda made by Darrell Roegge, seconded by Van Bitner; MCVV.**

Partner Reports

IDOA –Steve Chard reported.

ISWCDEA – Sondra Baker reported; see written report on page 49.

No other reports were given due to no other representation.

Committees/FAC/Taskforce Reports:

Executive –Business Items included Resolution Policy Manual and discussion on how to eliminate some Resolutions; there needs to be a By-Law Amendment; President Wilson appointed a taskforce to look into this; Envirothon Bridge Fund account was appointed to the Education FAC; the Legislator of the Year and Friend of Conservation were appointed to the Legislative FAC; Personnel changes were made-the Executive Committee wants to change Sherry Finn's title to Administrative Specialist and Kelly Thompson's title to Executive Director when Rich retires in September. Since Sherry is taking care of the CREP and the Pilot Program-**Motion was made by Jerry Snodgrass for change to Sherry Finn's title from Administrative Assistant to Administrative Specialist when Rich retires in September and seconded by Dan Duval; MCVV.**

Motion was made by Jerry Snodgrass to promote and make offer to Kelly Thompson from Program Coordinator to Executive Director when Rich retires in September and this was seconded by Gerard Fabrizio, MCVV.

IUM-Grant replacement-Lonnie appointed a taskforce consisting of Tom Beyers, Jerry Snodgrass and Gerard Fabrizio to hire a replacement and advertise for the position of Program Coordinator and wants the board to approve the committee and give them power to hire a new replacement. **Motion for the above proposal was made by Roger Johnson and seconded by Dan Duval; MCVV.**

Communications- Steve Stierwalt reported on Director Training and LUC Roles and Responsibilities as a session for the 2014 Annual Meeting; **Stierwalt made the motion and Dan Doedtman seconded to have the session at the 2014 Annual Meeting; MCVV.** Discussion followed about teleconferencing which many felt had good advantages-one being the Partners and AISWCD participation and disadvantages-not being face-to-face.

Education- Jerry Snodgrass reported; Jerry took the time to thank everyone for their well wishes while he was absent; the Director training pin was received from NACD; Prairie Garden (Rain Garden) at AISWCD office will be done by Lanphier High School; Envirothon event has been contracted to DeWitt County SWCD Staff; Teacher of the Year applications are due by May 16, 2014; Bridge fund account raised \$1,540 with another \$1,000 match by AISWCD-holding funds until National Envirothon Event determined; would like the Board to contribute up to \$150 for plaques for the Teacher of the Year winners to be presented at Ag Day at the State Fair-**Motion to spend up to \$150 for Teacher of the Year plaques to be presented at Ag Day at the State Fair was made by Roger Johnson and seconded by Barb Klinger; MCVV.**

Financials- Kenny Vosholler reported the auditors for the FY 2013 will be at the AISWCD office in Mid-April to conduct the audit; new van has been purchased and handouts with information are with your packet materials; the AISWCD Budget will be reworked.

Legislative- Tom Beyers reported on current bills-Prevailing Wage, Nutrient Taskforce, and Shell bills; discussed Envirothon Resolution/Proclamations-no progress yet; wants Board to accept Legislative of the Year nominee-US Representative Rodney Davis; **Motion made by Lee Bunting and seconded by Steve Fulling to have US Representative Rodney Davis as the 2014 AISWCD Legislator of the Year; MCVV.** Tom Beyers also asked the Board to approve the Meijer Corporation as the Friend of Conservation nominee. **Motion made by Dan Doedtman and seconded by Jerry Snodgrass to have the Meijer Corporation serve as the 2014 AISWCD Friend of Conservation; MCVV.** Gerard Fabrizio had proposed information to the Legislative FAC for a Chicago based Legislative Tour-still in the working stages-for a 1 day event with transportation and lunch; support provided by Ag Moms.

Planning- Van Bitner reported committee would like to change the 2014 AISWCD Annual Meeting theme to "All Roads lead to Conservation" with a new logo to include the Route 66 sign; **Motion made by Van Bitner to change the 2014 AISWCD Annual Meeting theme and logo and the motion was seconded by Darrell Roegge; MCVV.** Van noted that the Farm Family application possible update for 2015 has an appointed taskforce of Van Bitner, Steve Fulling, Terry Davis, and Sherry Finn.

Urban Community & Conservation- Gerard Fabrizio reported that the Kelly Thompson and Megan Andrews presented at the NACD Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA; Technical steering committee has hard copies of updates; Kelly, Megan and Gerard attended the RPG session at the NACD annual meeting. Gerard asked that the Board to consider having a soil health session at the 2014 AISWCD Annual Mtg with information about the Indiana Conservation Cropping Initiative which includes Urban practices and presented by the Indiana Assoc of SWCDs. **Motion was made by Lee Bunting to have a Indiana Conservation Cropping Initiative Session which was seconded by Dan Doedtman; MCVV.** Gerard would also like the Board to approved a legislative tour for North Eastern IL Legislators to be a half day event (8:30-lunch) in September-October with Field Moms (Linda Olsen, President) as supporters. **Motion to host a NE IL Legislative Tour was made by Lee Bunting and seconded by Barb Klinger; MCVV.**

AISWCD Auxiliary – Lee Bunting reported the auxiliary is looking for a speaker for the Soil Stewardship luncheon and speakers for sessions.

Forestry-David McCormick reported about grant proposals; noted the Forestry Development committee has cancelled meetings twice due to inclement weather; David would like the Board to approve to send a letter to IDNR requesting they fill the State Forester position. **Motion was made by David McCormick and seconded by Barb Klinger to send a letter to IDNR requesting the State Forester position be filled; MCVV.**

SWCD Insurance – Melissa Cauble reported on the handout that was presented to members with their packets.

Motion to accept all reports was made by Tom Beyers and seconded by Barb Klinger; MCVV.

Area VP Reports:

Area 1 – Jerry Snodgrass –Jerry Snodgrass reported LUC 16 will have three (3) Resolutions to submit and they will include Soil Health, Nutrient Reduction, and Certainty.

Area 2 – David McCormick had nothing to report

Area 3 – Steve Stierwalt had nothing to report

Area 4 – Carlyn Light was not present to report

Old Business

SWCD Dues Update –Sherry Finn reported there were fifteen (15) Districts unpaid at this time for the FY 2014 AISWCD Dues first installment amount of \$764.52.

FY2014 EPA Grant and CREP Staffing Update –Sherry Finn reported there are six (6) full time CREP Resource Specialist on staff at this time and Administration fees for 2013 were almost \$26,000.00.

FY 2014 IUM Grant Update – Kelly Thompson asked the Board to see her hand out with their packet materials and noted the new IUM Grant is a 604B grant which includes more outreach and AISWCD does not have a match.

MOU – Lonnie Wilson reported that NRCS has the final draft and Ivan Dozier, NRCS, is happy with the language but will need to insert some new farm bill legalities.

Affiliate Membership – Gina Bean reported there are seven (7) paid members – one (1) District, four (4) individuals, one (1) Corporate, and one (1) Lifetime Member; pins have not been ordered yet because Gina and Kelly Thompson are reworking them; email has been put together and Kelly and Gina will forward and update in the Conservation Catchall.

FY 2014-State Budget-Rich Nichols noted there was nothing to report at this time; they have a hearing meeting.

Resolution/Variance/Policy Book Update – 1st Draft Proposal was handed out, but the AISWCD By-Laws do not have direction on how to handle Resolutions that are completed so discussion followed and it was decided to exam how this plays out in By-Laws as well as check with Parliamentarian and come back in June to see if it can be done; By-Law change on how to handle dissolved Resolutions and have updated Policy Booklet

NACD North Central Region Mtg in Chicago – Lonnie Wilson reported that he and Gerard Fabrizio attended the meeting in Chicago; resolutions were presented for approval to the NACD delegates; new North Central Region chair is Lonnie Wilson; Vice Chair is Ian Cunningham; Gerard learned a lot and observed the inner workings; have a Farm Bill with added sections for Urban and River Issues.

NACD Annual Meeting in Anaheim, CA – Lonnie Wilson reported National Envirothon has been cancelled in Georgia due to lack of funding and no sponsor (Canon has pulled funding); Lonnie and Tom Beyers are working on a goal to establish the event or have a North Central Region event; Kelly Thompson and Megan Andrews presented on the IUM and were very impressive.

Envirothon Bridge Fund Update- This has already been reported on.

New Van Status-Lonnie Wilson asked everyone to look over the handout with their packet materials.

New Business:

IL Envirothon Coordinators Contract-DeWitt County SWCD-Sondra Baker, AC from DeWitt County SWCD reported and thanked everyone for trusting DeWitt County SWCD staff. Registration and Volunteer Packets with 5th Category are completed and on the AISWCD Website; T-Shirt design is done and cost for T-shirts is \$4.75 each; this is 10 cents cheaper than last year's shirts; they have sixteen (16) judges secured, three (3) presenters, and have purchased winning trophies – three (3) of them for \$283.12; U of I Campground contract is secured; Brown Bag Menu with new vegetarian options has been completed; Oral Presentation buckets are completed except for the new batteries ordered for the stop watches and calculators; Prairie Farms is donating the ice cream for the social; Pheasants Forever contacted for donation; and new evening games for students will be glow in the dark kick ball.

National Envirothon Update – Lonnie Wilson reported the AISWCD has a taskforce appointed and we are moving forward with a possible event; deadline date is scheduled for 3/14/14 with funding and location or possibly having a North Central Region event in place of National event.

Legislator of the Year and Friend of Conservation - Was already covered. See Legislative Committee report

Accept Written Reports –Motion to accept all repots was made by Kenny Vosholler and seconded by Barb Klinger; MCVV

Accept Financial Reports – Motion to accept all financial reports was made by Kenny Vosholler and seconded by Barb Klinger; MCVV.

Approve December 2013 Board Meeting Minutes –Motion to approve December 2013 AISWCD Board Meeting Minutes was made by Dan Doedtman and seconded by Darrell Roegge; MCVV.

Adjournment –Motion made to adjourn meeting was made by Darrell Roegge and seconded by Don Beisiegel; MCVV. The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Minutes taken & transcribed by:

Sherry Finn