



AISWCD

ASSOCIATION OF ILLINOIS SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

AISWCD Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

November 5th, 2019 | 9am

Via teleconference call

MEMBERS PRESENT:

President Steve Stierwalt
Secretary Dale Shumaker
Treasurer Dan Duval
ISWCDEA Vice-Chair Rich Stewart
ISWCDEA Vice-Chair Terina Coffey

STAFF/ADVISORS PRESENT:

Grant Hammer | Executive Director
Rebecca Osland | Grants Manager
Steve Chard | Special Projects Manager
Alan Howard | Financial Manager

The meeting was called to order at 9:04AM. A roll call was not taken, as a quorum was evidently not available.

President's Report:

Steve Stierwalt presented a report on the S.T.A.R. Program. He shared that Jeff O'Conner of the Kankakee county SWCD is working with Syngenta, whose has an interest in a S.T.A.R pilot program in Pekin. Treasurer Dan Duval added that he is also having discussions similar but separate of this, as well. Stierwalt shared additional updates concerning the progress of discussions with Corteva to implement a midwestern pilot program using S.T.A.R. Finally, he noted IDOA's adoption of the program as a requirement of receiving state cost share dollars.

Executive Director Report:

Executive director Hammer provided miscellaneous updates in his report. The Illinois General Assembly met last week for its first week of veto session. Veto session issues are largely irrelevant to AISWCD, except for the Clean Energy Jobs Act (CEJA), which is something to continue to monitor. Other veto session issue has centered around pension consolidation, ongoing corruption investigations, gaming, and Chicago area property taxes.

Hammer also noted that November is celebrated as "No-Till November", and has begun to participate in promotional activities supporting USDA NRCS's no tillage campaign.

Hammer noted that the contracts for the Envirothon Coordinator, Annual Meeting & Summer Conference venue, and Steve Chard have all been executed per the Board's September approvals.





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Hammer provided updates towards his discussions with IDNR to assist the agency by providing CREP outreach services as the AISWCD has done in times past. He also provided an overview of known RCPP project grant opportunities.

Financial Report:

Hammer indicated that committee members were provided with a second draft of the budget. This second draft follows the draft presented to the full board in September. This second draft includes an additional \$500 for officer travel, at the request of a board member to increase this line. Hammer requested that committee members provide any other requested revisions to staff during November, to have a finalized draft to present in December. Secretary Shumaker requested to discuss the budget further independent of the meeting to gain some additional clarity.

New Business:

Board business items needing action in December were discussed. These included the following; approve budget, approve audit, approve annual report, complete conflict of interest statements, executive director evaluation (officers could help Stierwalt with this) select 2020 meeting dates, set committees for 2020, set 2020 committee chairs and approve committee membership rosters.

Hammer provided an overview of the two documents staff presented to committee members. These documents explored ways to enhance AISWCD committee operations and provided a plan of work for the 2020 year. The documents were provided in response to a request from AISWCD officers. Discussion on these items was limited, however, Shumaker indicated they were helpful documents.

Announcements:

NACD North Central meeting in January (around the 6th or 7th) in St. Louis.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35AM. A motion was made by Dale Shumaker and seconded by Dan Duval. Motion carried.

Minutes taken by:

Grant Hammer, Rebecca Osland, Steve Chard

