

**AISWCD Board meeting  
March Quarterly Board  
March 15, 2011  
Northfield Inn & Suites  
1:15 pm**

**Present**

James Todd, President, NACD Delegate  
Lonnie Wilson, Secretary  
Phil Fossler, Treasurer  
Darrell Roegge, Area II VP  
Kenny Vosholler, Area IV VP  
Tim Keller, Council 1  
Jim King, Council 2  
Lee Bunting, Council 3  
Van Bitner, Council 5  
Randy Molitoris, Council 6  
David McCormick, Council 8  
Daniel Doedtman, Council 10  
Don Beisiegel, Council 12  
Tom Beyers, Council 13  
Gerard Fabrizuis, Council 16  
Debi Slade, ISWCDEA

**Absent**

Aaron Ferguson, Vice-President, NACD Alt.  
Jerry Snodgrass, Area I VP  
Eric Suits, Area III VP  
Terry Davis, Council 4  
Jim Bell, Council 7  
Terry Monke, Council 9  
Tom Anderson, Council 14  
Phyllis Mace, ISWCDEA Co-Chair  
Dean Johnson, ISWCDEA Co-Vice Chair  
Council 11 (Vacant)  
Council 15 (Vacant)  
Jim Nelson, AISWCD  
Mike Hoffman

President James Todd called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.  
Roll call was conducted by Secretary Lonnie Wilson.

**Approve Agenda**

Agenda was reviewed.

**Motion: A motion was made by Randy Molitoris, seconded by Don Beisiegel, to approve the agenda; MCVV.**

**Partner Reports**

**IDOA --** Director Tom Jennings was present when the meeting opened and addressed the board and guests. Director Jennings explained he had submitted a budget request for SWCD's with level funding from last year. SWCD's turned back almost \$600,000.00 in cost-share funds. Even though the money returned was cost share funds and not operations, the director believes that is the reason for the \$600,000 cut for the 2012 Budget. IDOA allocation has gone from 47 million to 28.7 million since 2007, which is a 28.7% decrease. Director Jennings strongly suggested SWCDs need to change their delivery system (to consolidate or re-organize). He also said the money would come later in the year. IDOA is committed to paying SWCDs insurance. Don Beisiegel ask how consolidating would save money. Director Jennings stated the money is not there to survive and to sustain programs at present levels. Terry Bogner brought up the fact that if districts could have transferred the money within other districts, that money could have been spent. Director Jennings stated he was trying to be respectful of what SWCD's do, but the money is just not there. Director Jennings noted funds-operational and cost share were to be paid in the next couple of weeks.

**IDOA (Steve Chard)** – Steve indicated districts should be receiving the first two quarters of their allocation in the next couple of weeks. He also indicated that Rich had told him Sangamon County had received their allocation today. Steve said it was very hard to substantiate who can legally vote in the district act resolution. A shell bill has been drafted with language to do away with the resolution.

A question was asked if the District Act is going to be opened, why not put in the act that a district has taxing authority. Debi Slade said that some of the northern Illinois counties had met and were putting together an action group. Steve reported the Advisory Council in their meeting last week had also talked about establishing a task force. Steve reported the reason grant agreements were sent so late this year, was because of the Grant Agreement Recovery Act. Steve also discussed the Prevailing Wage issue, and said he thought LICA was working to exempt cost-share projects of under \$20,000.00.

**NRCS** – No Report.

**FSA** – No Report.

**EPA** – No Report.

**DNR** – No Report.

**ISWCDEA** – Debi Slade talked about district employees and a few directors going to the Capital earlier this month. Everyone received a fact sheet, along with green ribbons to hand out to the legislators.

**NCDEA** – Cindy Moon reported on the new NCDEA board and officers for the coming year. A National Quarterly Partnership was held last week in DC. NCDEA had a successful follow-up to the leadership training conference held in December in Louisville, KY. NCDEA acted as administrator for the conference, and over 100 stipends were paid out. Streamlining deliverable to NRCS is almost complete.

**NACD** – Jim Todd went thru the new officers for 2011. He directed the board to look at the NACD website for resolutions from the 2011 Annual Meeting. Jim asked districts to pay what they could for NACD dues.

### **Committee Reports**

**Executive** – Jim Todd gave Executive Committee report, and directed board to the Executive Committee minutes from March 8 conference call, passed out to all directors that morning.

**Forestry** – Dave McCormick gave the Forestry Committee report. No quorum at the committee meeting. No action taken.

**Auxiliary** – Marie Bunting gave the report. She reported they have programs in place, and items for the silent and AISWCD auction for the 2011 Annual Meeting. Marie has been elected the National Auxiliary President for 2011.

**Insurance** – Debbie Holsapple reported on financials through February 2011. The fund is in good shape, due mostly to employee turnover. The fund has enough money to cover insurance through June 30, 2011. We have lost 102 district employees (69 full-time, 33 part-time). Twenty-four offices currently have only one employee. Twenty-one offices are working reduced hours.

**Mississippi & Illinois River Coordinating Council** – Lee Bunting reported there would be a meeting tomorrow (March 16, 2011).

**Focus Committee Reports:**

**Communications** -- Phil Fossler gave the report. The committee talked about having a breakfast with the Latino Caucus, and also the Black Caucus. This was forwarded to the Legislative Committee.

**Education** – Jim King gave the report, filling in for Jerry Snodgrass. Director training was discussed. The possibility of bringing Spring Workshops back on a regional basis was also discussed. Jim urged board members to promote McKibben Scholarship and Teacher of the Year Awards.

**Legislative** – Lonnie Wilson gave the report. Breakfast with the Latino Caucus and with the Black Caucus was discussed. The subject of the Prevailing Wage Act and cost-share funds was brought up. LICA is going to sit down with Department of Labor, and wants AISWCD support that anything under \$20,000 cost-share project be exempted (HB3094).

**Motion: A motion was made by Terry Bogner, seconded by Dan Doedtman to approve the transfer of funds not used from tractor fund to legislative, and to hold the two breakfasts; MCVV.**

**Motion: A motion was made by Lee Bunting, seconded by Tom Beyers to support LICA; MCVV.**

**Financial** – Phil Fossler, Treasurer, gave the report. The financial report was presented and reviewed.

**Motion: A motion was made by Dan Doedtman, seconded by Don Beisiegel to approve the financial report as presented; MCVV.**

**Planning** – Lonnie Wilson gave the report. The theme of "*Together Toward Tomorrow*" was decided for this year's Annual Meeting. Lonnie went over the dates, format, which is basically the same as last year, and changes as far as rooms. Lonnie also talked about the possibility of a sponsorship by Cargill, and noted they would possibly like to help with Envirothon at the local level. Information will be forthcoming to districts if this is in fact a possibility.

**Urban Community & Conservation** – Gerard Fabrizio gave the report. The committee did not have a quorum. No action. A discussion followed as to why there was not a quorum at some of the committee meetings. LUC 11 and 15 need delegates.

**Executive Director Report** – Rich Nichols gave his Executive Director Report, which will be attached to original copy of these minutes, and become a permanent record.

**Area VP Reports:**

**Area I** – No report.

**Area II** – Darrell Roegge reported districts in his area were wondering how much longer we could exist, doing business as usual.

**Area III** – No report.

**Area IV** – Kenny Vosholler also expressed concern over funding situation and the stability of districts.

**Approve Minutes** – The minutes were included in the Quarterly Board Packet, pages 8-12.

**Motion: A motion was made by Don Beisiegel, seconded by Van Bitner to approve the December 2010 Quarterly Board Meeting minutes; MCVV.**

**Old Business**

**Dues/Funding Issues/Delinquent Dues Update** – President Todd told the board he had appointed a task force to review the delinquent dues policy. The task force consists of Terry Davis, Chairman, and the four Area Vice-Presidents. Please contact a task force member with any input.

**AISWCD Sponsorship** – Sherry Finn brought the board's attention to the sponsorship brochures and told board members they were available to fill out to become a sponsor and also to take some with them.

**2010 Farm Family Tractor Update** – President Todd told board members the tractor situation had been taken care of. His local dealer had used several of his local dealer credits, and the dealer also delivered the tractor. The cost to AISWCD was approximately \$1600.00, considerably less than had been budgeted.

**FY2011 Annual Meeting Update** – Dates for the Annual Meeting/Summer Conference are July 25-27. Registration deadline will be June 30. No registrations will be accepted after July 5<sup>th</sup>. Registration will be \$40.00 with no late fee. No refunds will be made after July 8. July 3<sup>rd</sup> is the hotel registration deadline. Each registered room guest will receive one complimentary parking pass for their car.

**Legislative Day Update** – Sherry Finn reported red oak tree saplings had been given to all legislators on behalf of AISWCD. Lee asked about a possible lobby day. Rich Nichols suggested combining that day with one of the two caucus breakfasts, but said the breakfasts would probably be the first part of April, if the board wants to pursue this.

**Motion: A motion was made by Lee Bunting, seconded by Tom Beyers to have a legislative day in conjunction with one of the caucus breakfasts; MCVV.**

**FY2011-2012 Envirothon Co-coordinators Update** – Sherry Finn reported a twenty month contract had been signed with Grundy County SWCD staff. A monthly fee will be paid to Grundy County. The staff's travel will be a separate item. A Conference Call is scheduled tomorrow (3-16-11) at 9:00 a.m.

Everything in conjunction with the Envirothon will be kept at the AISWCD office, except the folders needed for the event.

**FY 2011, 2012 EPA 319 CREP Grant Projects Update** – Rich Nichols reported the 2012 CREP Coordinators grant is a no go, the reason being, there should be enough money in the 2011 grant to cover 2012. The AISWCD will reapply for 2013. Rich believes the other grants submitted to IEPA will be approved.

### **New Business**

**FY 2012 Quarterly Board Meeting Format/Expenses** – The following Quarterly Board Meeting dates were reviewed:

- 3/6/2012 & 3/13/2012 – March Quarterly Board meeting Tuesday, March 13, 2012, and will be a one day meeting. Executive Meeting Teleconference Call will be held on 3/6/2012 at 8:00 am.
- 6/11/2012 & 6/12/2012 – Monday, Executive Meeting in am; Monday, FAC Meetings in pm; Tuesday, Foundation & Board Meetings in am.
- Annual Meeting for 2012 has not been scheduled at this time.
- September 2012 Quarterly Board Meeting – Only if needed, no date scheduled at this time.
- 12/10/2012 – 12/11/2012 – Monday, Executive Meeting in am; Monday, FAC Meetings in pm; Monday evening, Christmas Party; Tuesday, Foundation & Board Meeting in am.

**Motion: A motion was made by Darrell Roegge, seconded by David McCormick, to approve the dates set for the 2012 QB meetings; MCVV.**

**Confirmed dates for Quarterly Board for 2011 (remaining)** – The following Quarterly Board Meeting dates were reviewed:

- 6/13/2011 & 6/14/2011 – Monday, Executive Meeting in the am; Monday, FAC Meetings in pm; Tuesday, Foundation & Board Meetings in am.
- September 2011 – Only if needed
- Monday, 12/12/2011 & 12/13/2011 – Monday, Executive Meeting in am; Monday, FAC Meetings in pm; Monday evening, Christmas Party; Tuesday, Foundation & Board Meeting in am.

**FY2011 Resolutions** – 2011 resolutions must be received by Vice President Aaron Ferguson no later than June 1, 2011.

**NACD North Central Region Scholarship** – President Todd told board members the NACD North Central Region was offering one scholarship to each state in the region in the amount of \$400.00, for a director who has never attended a National Meeting to either attend the Spring Legislative session in Washington D.C., or the 2012 National Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada. President Todd recommended Lonnie Wilson, AISWCD Secretary.

**Motion: A motion was made by Jim King, seconded by Lee Bunting, to nominate Lonnie Wilson to go to the 2012 Legislative Conference, and for AISWCD to pay no more than \$800.00 towards the trip; MCVV.**

**Legislative Newsletter – LUC Contributions** – Rich Nichols, Executive Director, explained to the board the Legislative Newsletter date list Sherry Finn had sent out in the March Quarterly Board packet. Each LUC is responsible for a write-up and pictures if applicable for a certain month in the newsletter, which will be titled "Under the Spotlight." The list covers dates from May 2011 – April 2013. Rich explained they did not want educational write-ups if at all possible, they would prefer projects, getting conservation on the land. Rich would like a caption to go along with the pictures, not more than 100 words.

**2011 Budget Update/Written Reports** – The AISWCD 2011 budget changes were accepted, along with written reports,

**Motion: A motion was made by David McCormick, seconded by Lee Bunting, to accept the budget, written reports, included in the packet; MCVV.**

**Adjournment:**

**Motion: A motion was made by Darrell Roegge and seconded by Don Beisiegel to adjourn the meeting; MCVV.** Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

**Minutes taken and submitted by:**

*Cindy Moon and Sherry Finn*