

Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy Taskforce Meeting Minutes

*Northfield Inn: Springfield, IL
Monday, March 9, 2015*

Present:

Myron Kirby
Tom Beyers
Lee Bunting
Steve Fulling
Steve Stierwalt
Terry Davis
Don Beisegel
Steve Chard, IDOA
Kelly Thompson
Gina Bean

Absent:

Kara Downin, ISWCDEA

The meeting started at 5:33 pm.

Kelly Thompson let the taskforce know that she has a meeting on March 23, 2015 with the IL Corn Growers. She has talked to the IL Soybean Association already and they are interested in working with the Districts. Kelly has proposed that Districts do sampling to see where nitrogen and phosphorus levels are.

Terry Davis suggested that there were steps the taskforce needed to take:

1. Terry Davis made the motion to elect Tom Beyers as the Chairman of the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy Taskforce.

1st: Lee Bunting 2nd: Don Beisegel Carried: All

2. Educational and technical assistance to implement program.
3. Collaborate with partners on amounts along with aggressiveness and timing of reductions.
4. Ask for/line up sufficient funding for Districts to adequately fund offices.
5. Application of reduction plans to the landscape

Tom Beyers suggested that they need to get inactive districts active and talk to them about what the taskforce wants to do. The group also discussed the fact that there may be a possibility of a nutrient strategy coordinator position in the future.

Myron Kirby suggested approaching partners one on one concerning the NLRs. These partners would include: American Farmland Trust, Farm Bureau, Fertilizers, Corn Growers, Soy Bean Association, IEPA, IDOA, TNC, Sierra Club.

John Scholl was suggested as an outside consultant and to possibly be asked to join the taskforce. Steve Chard informed the task force that there are currently 50 Districts participating in the cover crop plots.

Two to four members of the taskforce will go see partners in the meetings. When those partners are asked to join a large group meeting, the whole taskforce will attend.

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm.

Minutes by: Gina Bean, AISWCD Administrative Coordinator