

Executive Committee
AISCWD Quarterly Board
June 8, 2015 @ Northfield Inn – Springfield, IL

Present:

Myron Kirby, President
Tom Beyers, Vice President
Van Bitner, Secretary
Kenny Vosholler, Treasurer
Steve Stierwalt, Area 3 VP
Jerry Snodgrass, Area 1 VP
Glen Bowers, Area 4 VP
Lonnie Wilson, Past President
Barb Klinger, LUC 1 Rep
Kelly Thompson, AISWCD
Gina Bean, AISWCD
Matt Hanauer, AISWCD 604B Grant
Catherine Dunn, AISWCD CREP
Sarah Still, AISWCD CREP
Sondra Baker, ISWCDEA
Keith Livesay, ISWCDEA
Laura Gentry, IL Corn Growers Association

Absent:

David McCormick, Area 2 VP
Marie Bunting, Auxiliary President
Mike Hoffmann, Lobbyist

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by Chairman/AISWCD President Myron Kirby and Van Bitner took roll.

Approve Agenda:

First: Tom Beyers Second: Glen Bowers Carried: All

Approve March 2015 Minutes:

First: Tom Beyers Second: Glen Bowers Carried: All

Approve March and April Conference Call Minutes:

First: Kenny Vosholler Second: Jerry Snodgrass Carried: All

Partner Presentations:

Laura Gentry from IL Corn Growers Association gave a presentation and passed out flyers to the committee. This presentation was about a possible Precision Conservation Management (PCM) partnership they could have with the AISWCD. She is looking at AISWCD because of the closer relationship SWCDs have with landowners. She expressed that SWCDs were a trusted resources and had been a familiar presence since the 1930s. She is hoping this partnership would help districts with financial stresses and it would demonstrate SWCDs are vital and relevant. Individuals employed under this partnership would encourage farmers to participate in PCM and would be the technical expert. They would help farmers understand NRCS programs and assist them in enrolling in programs. The Pilot Program would consist of 11 counties formed into three regions. The hope is to be statewide within three years.

Area Vice President Reports:

Area I – Jerry Snodgrass reported that he attended Land Use Council 16 and 2's meetings. Terry Bogner has been elected to be LUC 2's Chairman.

Area II – Not Present

Area III – Steve Stierwalt reported that his local District has talked to Laura Gentry from the IL Corn Growers Association.

Area IV – Glen Bowers reported that he had attended meetings the past month and had been addressing dues payments for his area.

Old Business:

Dues:

Gina Bean gave the dues update. She reported that four Districts had not paid any of their FY2015 – 1 dues payment that was invoiced in December and that one District had paid partial dues. Twelve Districts have not paid any of their FY2015 – 2 dues invoice.

Grant Update:

604B – Matt Hanauer updated the committee by letting them all know there are ten standards they are working on. He will be applying for a new grant in August. Kelly Thompson reported that the current contract ends in July 2016 and that EPA has a new contract to extend the current grant.

CREP – Gina Bean reported that Richard Rappley had joined the team in the LaSalle County SWCD office in May. He has already been going to trainings and meeting people in his area. He will be attending the full board meeting on Tuesday. Gina, Kelly Thompson, Jan Carpenter (IEPA), Amy Waukenbach (IEPA), Mike Chandler (IDNR), and Luke Garver (IDNR) have met to make sure everyone was on the same page for the new grant that has started. The AISWCD is no longer receiving advanced payments. They are billing IEPA monthly.

Affiliate Membership: Gina Bean reported that they had no new members and there was one member due to expire this month.

NACD North Central Region – NACD would like 150 Soil Health Champions. AISWCD needs nominations by July 1st. Anyone selected from IL will be on display at the upcoming Summer Conference.

FY2015 SWCD Budget Update – Myron Kirby reported that the SWCDs did not get their full operations allocation for 2015.

Policy/Resolution Book Update – Tom Beyers reported that Rich Nichols had gone through and made comments to the past resolutions. He would like to present resolutions at Annual Meeting to be terminated. The past resolutions will be sent out to Districts thirty days before the meeting so they have time to look at them all. The Executive Committee decided to move this to the full board of directors.

Illinois Nutrient Reduction Strategy Taskforce Update – The group has had meetings and the Roadshows have started. Kelly Thompson passed a listing of dates for upcoming roadshows.

NRCS Client Gateway Update – Myron Kirby reported that AISWCD has a contract and had a lawyer take a look at the contract between AISWCD and the Districts. There was a good response from Districts but there are a few that do not wish to participate. Kelly Thompson read some deadlines that consisted of:
June 8, 2015 – Attachment C Deadline
June 15, 2015 – Signed Sub Contract
If a District does not want to participate, a surrounding District will be asked.

AISWCD Summer Intern – Kelly Thompson has gotten approval from IEPA to hire an intern using 604B funding. This intern would help around the office and assist Matt Hanauer with watershed, water quality, and urban manual matters.

A motion was made to allow AISWCD office staff to look into a summer, fall, and spring intern.

First: Glen Bowers

Second: Van Bitner

Carried: All

By-Law Resolution – A proposed resolution was read and discussed concerning the AISWCD membership dues from Districts. It has been brought to the attention to office staff that the wording in the current by-laws is not clear to everyone. It was discussed and decided that instead of being proposed as a resolution it needs to be considered a by-law amendment. Tom Beyers will work on the wording and present it at the full board meeting.

NACD Summer Board Meeting – Kenny Vosholler will be the only one from Illinois attending this summer's conference.

New Business:

2016 Quarterly Board Dates/Location – The committee discussed possible dates for 2016. Gina Bean will check with the hotel to see if June 6th and 7th and December 12th and 13th are available. March's date will be decided later in the year due to it being combined with Legislative Day. September's date will not need meeting space. It will be a September 12th Executive Committee conference or conference call.

2015 Resolutions – The Committee read and discussed all four resolution proposals.

Resolution proposed by White County and LUC 14:

A motion was made, by the Executive Committee, not to support the resolution as written.

First: Kenny Vosholler Second: Jerry Snodgrass Carried: All

This decision was due to the fact that if Districts did not pay dues, AISWCD would cease to exist and the resolution is out of order in the way it is written.

Resolutions 1 and 2 proposed by Rock Island County and LUC 2:

A motion was made, by the Executive Committee, to support both resolutions.

First: Jerry Snodgrass Second: Steve Stierwalt Carried: All

2014 AISWCD/Foundation Audit Summary – The auditors were not able to attend this meeting. They will give a report during the full Board of Directors meeting on Tuesday, June 9, 2015.

Precision Conservation Management Project Approval –There was discussion on the topic.

A motion was made to move forward with the Precision Conservation Management Project, and look at obtaining a contract.

First: Van Bitner Second: Glen Bowers Carried: All

Executive Director's Conference (Ohio/August) – Kelly Thompson will not be attending the NACD summer conference was originally budgeted for. It was requested that instead, she be able to attend the Executive's Conference in Ohio this August.

A motion was made for Kelly Thompson to attend the Executive's Conference in Ohio this August 2015.

First: Tom Beyers Second: Steve Stierwalt Carried: All

Myron Kirby asked the Executive Committee's permission to send the contract that AISWCD has with NRCS to Districts if Districts request to see it. The Committee granted approval.

Adjourned: Myron Kirby adjourned the meeting at 12:07 pm

Minutes Taken By: Gina Bean, AISWCD