Communications Focus Area Committee
December Quarterly Boards
Northfield Inn - Springfield, IL
December 7, 2015 @ 1:00 pm

Present:
Dan Doedtman
Dan Duval
Matt Hanauer
Amy Ishmael
Steve Stierwalt
Kenny Vosholler

Absent:
Jason Anderson
Tom Anderson
Glen Bowers
Ken Kesler

SWCD Employees Present:
Thad Eshleman
Jami Kelly
Terina Coffey
Renee Weitekamp
Tara Hopkins
Abbie Sperry

Meeting called to order at 1:10 pm by Chairman, Steve Stierwalt.

A motion was made by Steve Stierwalt to move forward on dedicated funding
Approved: All

- No old business was discussed during the meeting.
- The Education Focus Area Committee joined the group at 1:40pm.

New Business

Budget- With funding issues continuing we have to have an effective budget. Every potential partner has expressed that SWCDs need to be willing to evolve.
With that being said a few ideas were discussed. A proposal of a dedicated funding plan that will concentrate on conservation, not fundraising, was discussed. The Chairman also discussed the idea of a Super Districts Pan. This plan will also include an accountability component. In this plan, districts will reorganize into a group of districts working together. The funding can then be distributed as the Super Districts see fit.

Long term Goal -Establish a funding source for districts, however, survival will depend on a short-term plan.
Plans may include:

- A stable dedicated funding source ending general fund treadmill.
- Proposal of a super districts plan along with detailed discussion of the accountability component of the plan. The accountability component will allow each district or unit of local government to decide what they are willing to do.

Meeting adjourned at 3:07pm
Minutes taken and transcribed by: Marquitta Thomas, AISWCD Communications Intern