

Meeting
Agendas
December 2017
Quarterly Boards



association of illinois
**SOIL &
WATER**
conservation districts

December 2017 Quarterly Boards

Northfield Inn & Suites
3280 Northfield Dr,
Springfield IL 62702

AGENDA

Monday, December 11, 2017

9:00am-11:30am	Executive Committee Meeting	Crystal
9:00am-11:30am	Auxiliary Committee	Jade
10:00am-11:30am	Forestry Committee	Diamond
11:30am-12:30pm	Lunch Break	Topaz
12:30pm- 1:45pm	Round One Focus Area Committees *NLRS Sub Committee *Education *Planning	Crystal Diamond Emerald
1:45pm- 3:00 pm	Round Two Focus Area Committees *Financial Management *Legislative	Crystal Diamond
3:00pm-3:15pm	Break	
3:15pm-5:00pm	Strategic Plan Implementation Session	Topaz
6:00pm-9:00pm	Christmas Party and Gift Exchange	TBA

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

8:15am- 8:30am	Foundation Meeting	Opal/Onyx
8:30am- 12:00pm	Board of Directors Meeting	Opal/Onyx

Breakfast will not be served in the conference center. If you are spending the night on Monday, please enjoy the hotel's complimentary breakfast in the continental breakfast room. Mid-morning snacks will be provided in the conference room.



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AGENDA

Executive Committee: Steve Stierwalt, Chairman

Monday; December 12, 2017

9:00am-11:30am Crystal Room

1. Call To Order (Any Introductions)
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve September 2017 Minutes
5. Partner Reports
6. Old Business
 - A. 2017 SWCD Dues Update (Christina Branham)
 - B. Grants Update
 - i. 604B (Sheryl Phillips)
 - ii. NRCS Agreements (Sheryl Phillips)
 - C. NACD North Central (Tom Beyers)
 - D. IL State Budget Update (Steve Stierwalt)
 - E. Illinois Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy Task Force update (Steve Fulling)
 - F. Strategic Plan and Implementation Update (Steve Stierwalt)
7. New Business
 - A. Structure of Board Meetings
 - B. Meetings by zoom video conferencing
 - C. North Central Region NACD Meeting
 - D. District projects and Funding
 - E. NACD-NRCS Grant
 - F. Recognition
8. Area Vice Presidents Reports:
 - A. Area 1 VP Jerry Snodgrass
 - B. Area 2 VP David McCormick
 - C. Area 3 VP Kenny Hawthorne
 - D. Area 4 VP Steve Fulling
9. Adjournment.



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AGENDA

Forestry Committee: David McCormick, Chairperson

Monday, November 11, 2017

10:00am-11:30am Diamond Room

1. Call To Order (Any Introductions)
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve September minutes
5. Partner Reports
6. Old Business
 - A. Forestry Workshop Update
 - B. EQUIP funding into Illinois through the regional conservation partnership program (RCPP)
 - C. Recruiting New Committee Members
7. New Business
 - A. Structure of Focus Area And Sub-Committee Meetings
 - i. Meetings by zoom video conferencing
 - ii. Set Future Meeting Dates for 2018
 - iii. Encourage Staff, Director, Partner Participation
 - B. Goals and Action Items
 - C. Outstanding Forestry Contribution Award
 - i. If no nominations discuss IFA recommendation
8. Adjournment



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AGENDA

NLRS Sub-Committee: Steve Fulling, Chairperson

Monday; December 12, 2017

12:30pm-1:45pm Crystal Room

1. Call To Order (Any Introductions)
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve June 2017 Minutes
5. Old Business
 - A. Future of NLRS
 - B. Fostering Partnerships for NLRS
6. New Business
 - A. Strategies for Implementing NLRS Projects and Programs
 - B. Structure of Focus Area And Sub-Committee Meetings
 - i. Meetings by zoom video conferencing
 - ii. Set Future Meeting Dates for 2018
 - iii. Encourage Staff, Director, Partner Participation
 - C. 2018 Goals and Action Items to further our Strategic Plan Implementation.
7. Adjournment



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AGENDA

Education Focus Area Committee: Jerry Snodgrass Chairperson

Monday; December 12, 2017

12:30pm-1:45pm Diamond Room

1. Call To Order (Any Introductions)
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve June 2017 Minutes
5. Partner Reports
6. Old Business
 - A. Illinois State Envirothon 2017 Update (Sondra Baker)
7. New Business
 - A. Summer Conference Awards
 - i. Teacher of the Year and George McKibben Applications (vote)
 - B. Envirothon 2018 Registration Cost
 - C. Structure of Focus Area And Sub-Committee Meetings
 - i. Meetings by zoom video conferencing
 - ii. Set Future Meeting Dates for 2018
 - iii. Encourage Staff, Director, Partner Participation
 - D. 2018 Goals and Action Items to further our Strategic Plan Implementation
8. Adjournment



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AGENDA

Planning Focus Area Committee: Van Bitner, Chairperson

Monday, June 5, 2017

12:30pm-1:45pm Emerald Room

1. Call To Order (Any Introductions)
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve June Minutes
5. Old Business
 - A. Summer Conference Meeting Update
6. New Business
 - A. Annual Meeting Wrap up Call-Select Date (week)
 - B. Structure of Focus Area And Sub-Committee Meetings
 - i. Meetings by zoom video conferencing
 - ii. Set Future Meeting Dates for 2018
 - iii. Encourage Staff, Director, Partner Participation
 - C. 2018 Goals and Action Items to further our Strategic Plan Implementation.
7. Adjournment



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AGENDA

Financial Focus Area committee: Dan Duval, Chairperson

Monday, November 11, 2017

1:45pm-3:00pm Crystal Room

1. Call to Order (Any introductions)
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve June 2017 Minutes
5. Review/Approve Financials (Alan Howard)
6. SWCD Insurance Update (Melissa Cauble)
7. Old Business
 - A. Dues Update
 - B. NRCS Agreement Update (Sheryl Phillips)
8. New Business
 - A. Adjusting Fiscal Year
 - B. Accrual Accounting
 - C. Foundation Financial Management
 - D. Goals and Action Items for 2018
 - E. Structure of Focus Area And Sub-Committee Meetings
 - i. Meetings by zoom video conferencing
 - ii. Set Future Meeting Dates for 2018
 - iii. Encourage Staff, Director, Partner Participation
 - F. 2018 Goals and Action Items to further our Strategic Plan Implementation
9. Employee Raises/Bonuses-Closed Session, Board Members ONLY
10. Adjournment



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AGENDA

Legislative Committee: Tom Beyers, Chairperson

Monday; December 12, 2017

1:45pm-3:00pm Diamond Room

1. Call to Order
2. Roll call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve June 2017 Minutes
5. Legislative Update: (Mike Hoffmann)
6. Partner Reports
7. Old Business
 - A. FY 2017/2018 State Budget Update
 - B. House/Senate Legislation Update
 - C. Farm Family Governor's Award– Governor Sponsorship
 - D. GATA
8. New Business
 - A. 2017 Annual Meeting Resolutions
 - B. NACD and '18 Farm Bill
 - C. 2018 Legislative Day Event-Vote on Location and Day of Event Timeline
 - D. Structure of Focus Area And Sub-Committee Meetings
 - i. Meetings by zoom video conferencing
 - ii. Set Future Meeting Dates for 2018
 - iii. Encourage Staff, Director, Partner Participation
 - E. 2018 Goals and Action Items to further our Strategic Plan Implementation
9. Adjournment



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AGENDA

Strategic Plan Implementation Session:

Steve Stierwalt, Chairperson

Monday; December 12, 2017

3:15pm-5:00pm Topaz Room

1. Call To Order
2. Roll Call
3. Strategic Plan and Implementation Plan Overview (Becky Doyle)
4. Implementation Plan
 - A. Discuss and Set Priorities
 - B. Discuss and brainstorm ways to implement the Strategic Plan
5. Adjournment



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AGENDA

Foundation Meeting: Steve Stierwalt, Chairperson

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

8:15am-8:30am Opal/Onyx Room

1. Call To Order (Any introductions)
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve September minutes (none available)
5. Old Business
6. New Business
 - A. Foundation Task Force Report (Lee Bunting)
 - B. Reinvigorating the Foundation
8. Adjournment



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Board of Directors Meeting: Steve Stierwalt, Chairperson

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

8:15am-12:00pm Opal/Onyx Room

1. Call to Order (Any introductions)
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve September Minutes
5. Partner Reports: 5 minutes restriction (Written reports are attached if they were submitted)
 - A. IDOA
 - B. NRCS
 - C. IEPA
 - D. IFA
 - E. FSA
 - F. IDNR
 - G. AISWCD Auxiliary
 - H. ISWCDEA
 - I. Envirothon
 - J. SWCD Insurance
 - K. NACD North Central Region (Steve Stierwalt)
 - L. AISWCD Executive Director
 - M. Others
6. Old Business:
 - A. SWCD Dues Update (Christina Branham)
 - B. Grants Update
 - i. 604B (Sheryl Phillips)
 - ii. NRCS Agreement (Sheryl Phillips)
7. New Business
 - A. Strategic Plan and Implementation Plan
 - B. Training for Employees
 - C. Leadership Training For Directors
 - D. North Central Region NACD Meeting (Tom Beyers)
 - E. NACD Annual meeting-Auction Item (Tom Beyers)



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AGENDA

Board of Directors Meeting: Steve Stierwalt, Chairperson

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

8:15am-12:00pm Opal/Onyx Room

New Business Continued

- F. District Projects
- G. NACD/NRCS Grant
- H. Recognition
- I. Discuss Registration for NACD annual meeting in Nashville, January.
- J. Additional Items

8. Committee Reports

- A. Executive (Steve Stierwalt)
- B. Forestry (David McCormick)
- C. Illinois Rivers Coordinating Council (Steve Fulling)

9. Focus Area Committee Repots (Accept Reports as Reports are Presented)

- A. NLRS Sub Committee (Steve Fulling)
- B. Education (Jerry Snodgrass)
- C. Planning (Van Bitner)
- D. Legislative (Tom Beyers)
- E. Financials (Dan Duval)
 - i. Accept Financials
- F. Urban Community and Conservation (Jerry Snodgrass and Gerard Fabrizio)

10. Area VP Reports

- A. Area 1 (Jerry Snodgrass)
- B. Area 2 (David McCormick)
- C. Area 3 (Kenny Hawthorne)
- D. Area 4 (Steve Fulling)

11. Employee Raises/Bonuses-Closed Session, Board Members ONLY

12. Adjournment

Name: _____ Phone: _____



Room Reservations

Northfield Inn and Suites:

Please check dates you will be spending the night:

Sunday, December 10, 2017: _____

Monday, December 11, 2017: _____

No room reservation will be needed: _____

Meeting Meals

Please state the number attending Monday's meal:

Lunch on Monday, December 11, 2017: _____



Christmas Party And Gift Exchange

Monday December 11, 2017. 6:00pm Location: To Be Determined

Will you be attending the Christmas Party and Gift Exchange

Yes: _____

#Attending: _____

No: _____

This Form must be returned to Christina Branham on or before **Monday, November 20th, 2017** in order to secure your room at the Northfield Inn.

Christina.branham@aiswcd.org

Christina Branham: AISWCD
4285 North Walnut Street Rd
Springfield IL 62707

Draft

Meeting Minutes

Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes: September Quarterly Board
September 6, 2017 at 8:30 am

Present:	Absent:	Guests:
Jerry Snodgrass David McCormick Kenny Hawthorne Steve Fulling Steve Stierwalt Tom Beyers Van Bitner Dan Duval Spring Duffey Terina Coffey Kelly Thompson Christina Branham Sheryl Phillips Alan Howard	Jeff O'Connor Lee Bunting Dale Schumaker	Myron Kirby Steve Chard Becky Doyle Mike Hoffman

President Steve Stierwalt called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Secretary Van Bitner took roll call.

Approve Agenda: Committee was asked by Steve Stierwalt if there was a call to change anything on the agenda, request declined..

Approve June 2017 Minutes: 1st Tom Beyers 2nd Myron Kirby Motion Carried

Old Business:

SWCD Dues Update: No Update.

Financial Update: Alan Howard reported that he has been building the QuickBooks software, has sent out the May-June 2017 CRP. Will be meeting with Dan Duval to see what and how to improve.

Grant Updates: 604B grant: Kelly Thompson reported that the steering committee will be taking over the administrative portion of the grant agreement for the IUM process. Any questions or concerns can be referred to Rick McKanless, Megan Andrews, or Ashley Curran.

NRCS Agreement: Sheryl Phillips reported that as of this time the NRCS Contribution Agreement story is continued with delays. With Government restructuring, downsizing , and hiring freezes the NRCS national grants and agreements team in Washington Dc have a backlog of contracts awaiting approval; ours amongst them. Our agreement will not be awarded this month, the best guess we have is "in the First Quarter of Fiscal Year 2017-2018" meaning October, November, or December. This delay is out of our hands and out of the hands of Ivan and others at NRCS.

What does this mean to districts? Even though we are unfunded, I strongly urge districts to continue being good partners as they are able, and assist the NRCS with Administrative Assistance tasks during these "gap months". Your district staff are the skilled workforce for these EQIP and CSP tasks and the NRCS rely upon us. If possible we should wait to complete new CRP jobs until our Agreement is signed.

Current Contribution Agreement:

For administrative assistance, we are done. Districts were paid. For this one year administrative assistance agreement, districts have been paid \$717,125.00 for their work from 7/1/16 - 6/30/2017. To compare, our new agreement amount is \$1.4 million for a 12- month period.

For CRP technical work, I have 29 districts who still have almost \$166,000.00 allocated funds outstanding. Some as little as \$750.00 with \$21,000.00 being the highest. These funds must be spent by the end of this month, otherwise they will be reallocated to other Districts. We must spend all funds to zero by the end of our contract (September 30th 2017)

Richland	Wabash	St. Clair	Clay
Kendall	Stark	Hamilton	Menard
Perry	Grundy	White	Cass
Randolph	Gallatin	Marion	Crawford
Woodford	Bond	Livingston	Knox
Jackson	Piatt	Winnebago	Edwards
Massac	Vermillion	Clinton	Morgan
Sangamon			

Thus far, Districts have received over \$1.6 million for their CRP work from August 2016 – August 2017.

Strategic Plan: Becky Doyle reported Values, Goals and Recommendations. She suggested to set priorities for the foundation including employee training. Define who will be responsible for priority goals/recommendations/actions. As well as Define/agree to time frames for priorities.

Values:

Statewide, watershed-based, locally driven soil conservation and water quality protection.
 Best possible service to their ultimate clients – the citizens and the resources of Illinois
 Consistent quality of program delivery throughout Illinois
 Relevance through use of cutting edge technologies and communication methods.

Goals:

Fully utilize and capitalize on unique asset: local knowledge, presence and influence
 Enhance relevance and reputation for achieving Illinois' conservation goals
 Increase funding for conservation programs and effective implementation
 Improve partnerships for efficient program delivery, funding opportunities and best results.
 Provide valuable services for partners and stakeholders to help achieve conservation goals.

Recommendations:

Strengthen Districts by ensuring best use of limited funds and staff
 Challenge Districts to rise to state and watershed challenges through District-specific plans and funding requests
 Reignite interest and engagement of district directors
 Provide continuing education and/or training for district employees
 Provide districts with access they need to technologies that will provide valued services and relevant messages to their targeted delivery partners, audiences and stakeholders.
 Sharpen focus on and prioritize water quality protection.
 Build statewide expertise in conservation sciences, technologies and program delivery
 Provide local implementation of the Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy to meet state's reduction goals; lead efforts where needed.

Ensure districts have the tools and resources they need to deploy programs that achieve state's goals for soil and water conservation and watershed protection.

Identify emerging needs and create programs and practices to meet those needs.

Invigorate and use the Districts Foundation

Prove and illustrate the return on investment that district programs provide Illinois general revenue investment, to gain greater support and increase funding.

Work with partners to identify options for funding NLRs implementation

Aggressively pursue other funding options to diversify funding sources.

Work with system partners to achieve mutually - supportive partnerships: clarify roles, eliminate duplication, improve conservation program cooperation

Lead an annual Conservation Implementation RoundTable to network, monitor programs, build effective working relationships, and propose both long term and short term water quality goals.

Form coalitions to develop watershed-based and other multi-district projects and to write grant proposals.

Prioritize development of products and services that achieve water protection and soil health goals

Work with partners to fully understand what they need and what would add value to their work.

Provide consistent policies and program delivery for those partners who work in multiple districts

Partner Planning Forum Update:

Steve Chard reported that there will be guidance this week with the LUC's to meet and decide how to divide the money as well as what resources are needed to encourage SWCD resource plans and make them successful. He mentioned employee and director training as well as leadership training for district directors. The FY17 funding, check balance and encourage districts to submit projects.

FY18 Funding for Districts:

Mike Hoffmann reported that legislatures and lobbyist are not sure what the current chain of command is. Prospecting to determine who the governor is working with. Steve Stierwalt asked what the time frame was that we were looking at, how long will it take Mike Hoffmann to put this together? He replied with it can take a long time. He doesn't want to approach until we have a plan as to how we allocate that money. The end goal is mid-October.

Farm Progress Show:

Steve Stierwalt reported that during the funding discussion of conservation compliance he didn't feel supported to make a remark. The question was asked "what do we need?" Jerry Snodgrass mentioned not many other states favor the farm bill. Steve wanted to confirm with the executive board as to whether or not we support the farm bill. All in agreement, yes to support the farm bill, no one opposed to conservation compliance.

New Business:

FY18 SWCD/IDOA Grant Agreements

Steve Chard reported the FY18 grant agreement was sent out last week. It should be signed by 9/15/2017. The faster it's signed the faster it can be released!

CPP funds, cost shared, operations to the districts.

Executive Director Position:

Discussion of the release of the job description was brought up. It was proposed and agreed upon that not only is this position available internally but will be posted online as well to seek outside resources. The option of having someone who doesn't necessarily work in the Springfield office full time, rather from another location was also mentioned. At this time the option is being kept open.

2018 Summer Conference Location:

3 bids were discussed between locations varying from East Peoria to two Springfield locations. It was agreed upon to maintain the Springfield location and the decision was then between the Northfield Inn where conference has been held for many years now, or the Wyndham hotel in downtown Springfield. After a brief discussion, it came down to the fact of the matter that for the year of 2017 we had reached max capacity for meals as well as hotel room stay. The Wyndham hotel can accommodate for all of the appropriate needs as well as matching prices with room stay that was at the Northfield Inn.

Motion to hold the 2018 Annual Summer Conference at the Springfield Wyndham hotel

1st Van Bitner

2nd Tom Beyers

Motion carried

Online Meetings via Zoom.us calls

Moving ahead with technology is a great advantage to communicate with each other for meetings. This option can operate from any smart phone, tablet, computer or laptop that has a camera access. There are features that allow the host to share documents with whoever is involved in the meeting/conference chat. It was agreed upon to create a general email and password so that it wasn't something that had to be generalized only for Executive board meetings, but could be used by other members of the association as well!

Exit Audit:

Waiting for the auditor's office to contact Christina Branham or Alan Howard to continue this process as Kelly Thompson has already started this process.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:00 PM

1st Steve Stierwalt

2nd Dan Duval

Motion Carried

Minutes By: Christina Branham, AISWCD Administrative Coordinator

AISWCD Executive Committee

June 5, 2017

4:49 p.m.

in Springfield, IL

Present: Steve Stierwalt Tom Beyers Van Bitner Dan Duval Myron Kirby Jerry Snodgrass Kenny Hawthorne Kelly Thompson Sheryl Phillips Spring Duffey Terina Coffey Terry Davis	Absent: David McCormick Steve Fulling Matt Hanauer Marie Bunting
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Steve Stierwalt called the meeting to order at 4:49 p.m.

Van Bitner took a roll call. There was a quorum.

Motion to approve the agenda

1st: Tom Beyers

2nd: Dan Duval

Approved

Motion to approve the minutes

1st: Tom Beyers

2nd: Jerry Snodgrass

Approved

Dues Update:

There was a discussion about district dues that haven't been paid. At this time, there are 13 district dues payments that have not been paid. It was brought to question, in the future, whether or not there should be a late fee assessed.

Motion: A reminder shall be sent to counties that haven't paid and allow them to make a payment up to July 14, 2017.

Discussion: Staff and Directors can register up to the deadline however if not paid they risk not being able to vote.

1st: Van Bitner

2nd: Dan Duval

Approved

Grants Update:

Sheryl to write her update.

Motion: Sheryl and Taskforce to distribute surplus of funds from existing contract.

1st: Van Bitner

2nd: Jerry Snodgrass

Approved

New NRCS Grant Funds:

It was discussed that proposals for funds could be used for the foundation or to give a bonus only to the districts with agreements. Propose to use extra funds to support the foundation and appoint a task force to review the options.

Discussion took place regarding Sheryl Phillips' contract.

Motion: Allow the President and Executive Director to negotiate Sheryl's next contract.

1st: Jerry Snodgrass

2nd: Tom Beyers

Approved

Kelly gave an update on the 604b grant from IEPA.

NACD- Farm Bill:

Tom Beyers discussed the communications committee. He confirmed the e-resource newsletter, Summer Conference in Iowa and the Leadership Conference in June.

State Budget Update:

No current report

NRLS Taskforce:

There was no NRLS Taskforce meeting held on Monday. The emphasis has been placed on the strategic planning session.

Strategic Plan:

Becky will be providing a two-page outline of key points that were discussed during the session on Monday afternoon.

Building Update:

On May 23, 2017 a commercial real estate broker looked at the AISWCD building. When placed on the market, the agent anticipates the building will take up to 8 months to sell. We would list it at \$189,000. The office space that was looked at, to relocate, was at the Emerson Building at the State Fairgrounds (previous location).

Schuyler County SWCD Lawsuit:

IDNR source said that the Attorney General is getting closer to representing the District.

Envirothon:

Jerry Snodgrass mentioned that a Director from his county attended the Envirothon. He noted that no Leadership was in attendance from AISWCD. Steve Stierwalt apologized for not attending.

Resolutions

Three resolutions were reviewed. No action taken at this time.

Quarterly Board Dates:

Will be discussed at the August/September Board meeting.

Annual Meeting Bids:

We will get bids from Peoria and Springfield hotels.

Funding Districts:

The Governor's proposed budget currently has Districts in for 5 million as well as the Senate's grand bargain budget.

Motion: To adjourn the Executive Committee Meeting at 6:18 PM

1st: Dan Duval

2nd: Tom Beyers

Approved

Minutes transcribed by: Christina Branham, AISWCD Administrative Coordinator.

**Planning Focus Committee
June Quarterly Board
June 8, 2015
Northfield Inn & Suites – Springfield, Illinois**

Members Present:

Van Bitner, Chairperson
Tom Beyers
Terry Davis
Dale Shumaker
Dan Duval
Kenny Hawthorne
Kody Aldrich
Myron Kirby
Steve Stierwalt, AISWCD President
Judy Beyers, Auxiliary Member
Colleen Bogner, Auxiliary Member
Cindy Moon, Employee (Minutes)
Kelly Thompson, AISWCD

Others Present

Spring Duffy, ISWCDEA Co-Chair
Terina Coffey, ISWCDEA Co-Chair
Sue Davis, Employee

Absent:

Marie Bunting, Auxiliary Member
Steve Fulling
David McCormick

Van Bitner called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with a motion by Dale Shumaker, seconded by Terry Davis. MCVV.

Meeting Minutes from March 2017 Quarterly Board

A motion was made by Judy Beyers, seconded by Dale Shumaker, to approve the minutes of the March Quarterly Board Meeting. MCVV.

OLD BUSINESS

Annual Meeting Update

Kelly Thompson went over information for Annual Meeting Update. AISWCD is hoping to get the Lieutenant Governor for Opening Ceremonies or possibly a motivational speaker. Terina Coffey, who volunteered to do registration for the AISWCD, reported she had four registrations (3 directors, 1 guest) so far. There are two Farm Family entries. Dick Breckenridge will receive the Friend of Conservation Award, and Representative Norine Hammond is going to receive the Legislator of the Year Award. Judy Beyers reported Jason Bliech with Pheasants Forever would be the speaker for Tuesday Luncheon. Kelly passed out agendas for the Summer Conference, and also reviewed the Sunday Tour. The following have been secured for exhibits so far: Delta Institute, Enroth, Illinois Stewardship

Alliance, and American Farmland Trust. Cost for exhibitors is \$250.00, and includes registration and 2 lunches. The auction was also discussed. There will be a silent auction again this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Meeting Date/Location 2018 - Van Bitner reported the Association had received bids from Springfield Hilton and also from Peoria. This will be revisited in August.

An email will be sent out with available dates for Annual Meeting Task Force wrap up call after Summer Conference.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am with a motion by Terry Davis.

Minutes taken and transcribed by:

Cindy Moon

AISWCD Financial Management Focus Area Committee Agenda June 5, 2017

Directors Present:

Dan Duval, Chairperson
Van Bitner
Lee Bunting
Steve Steirwalt, AISWCD President
Jerry Snodgrass
Don Beisiegel

Advisors Present:

Sheryl Phillips, AISWCD
Cindy Moon, DE
Others:
Terina Coffey, ISWCDEA Co-Chair

The Financial Management Focus Area Committee met on Monday, June 5, 2017. Chairperson Dan Duval called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.

The agenda was reviewed. A motion was made by Van Bitner, second by Steve Steirwalt to approve the agenda as written. MCVV.

Minutes of the March 2017 Financial Management FAC meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Van Bitner, second by Lee Bunting to approve the March 2017 minutes, second by Lee Bunting. MCVV.

Financials

The financials were reviewed. Dan Duval went through the proposed budget. A motion to approve financials and proposed budget was made by Lee Bunting, second by Van Bitner. MCVV.

Insurance Update

No Report.

OLD BUSINESS

Dues – There was a discussion on the districts who still owe dues (14), on whether to give them an extension. The board made no recommendation on this; it will be decided at Tuesday Board Meeting.

AISWCD Troxell Insurance Policies – There was no report, but a report will be given at Tuesday Board Meeting.

NRCS Agreement Update – Sheryl Phillips gave an update on the current NRCS Contribution Agreement. There may be a few dollars left in the current agreement. Currently there is 1.4 million that has not been spent, but there are districts that have not sent in vouchers for more than one month. Sheryl has sent out reminders to these districts.

Building Update and Estimate – Van Bitner reported he and Kelly Thompson had met with a commercial realtor and the AISWCD office building was priced out at \$169,000. If it is put on the market, the asking price will likely start at \$189,000. They have also met with Steve Chard, and the office AISWCD was previously housed in at the Emerson Building on the State Fair Grounds is available. The AISWCD name is still on the door. Van reported the rent would be free on the building. AISWCD would still have to pay for Internet service and phone service. This will be discussed at the Tuesday Board Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

2016 AISWCD/Foundation Audit Summary Review and Approval – The Audit is not complete, but the Auditors will be at the Tuesday Board Meeting.

New NRCS Contribution Agreement – Sheryl updated the committee on this. The agreement has been approved at the state level and is now in Washington ready to be approved. The new agreement will be for five years, with the option to modify each year. There is a line item in the agreement for AISWCD to receive 9.8% administrative funds. July 1, or August 1, will be the start date.

Lee Bunting made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

Minutes taken and recorded by:

Cindy Moon

Legislative Focus Area Committee Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2017 – 11:00 A.M.
Northfield Inn, Springfield, IL

Members/Advisors Present:

Tom Beyers, Chairman
Terry Bogner, Director
Sue Davis, Employee-minutes
Terry Davis, Director
Dale Shumaker, Director
Kelly Thompson, AISWCD Exec. Director
Myron Kirby, Director
Steve Stierwalt, AISWCD President
Sondra Baker, Envirothon Coordinator
Kody Aldrich, Director
Kenny Hawthorne, Director

Members/Advisors Absent:

Jason Anderson, Director
Glen Bowers, Director
Steve Chard, IDOA
Dave Dornbusch, NRCS
Steve Fulling, Director
Mike Hoffmann, AISWCD Lobbyist
Ken Kesler, Past Director
Joe Rothermel, Director

Chairman Tom Beyers called the meeting to order and Sue Davis did the Roll Call.

A motion was made to approve the Agenda.

1st by Terry Bogner 2nd by Dale Shumaker, Motion Carried

A motion was made to approve the March 2017 Meeting Minutes.

1st by Dale Shumaker 2nd by Terry Bogner, Motion Carried

Legislative Update-Mike Hoffman was absent but there was a written report submitted, the report was dated June 2, 2017. This report was discussed by Tom Beyers. It stated there was no budget for Fiscal Year 2017 approved by May 31st. Mike stated we were fortunate that SWCD's were paid our \$5 million appropriation for this year, as other groups got nothing. The Senate did pass a budget that contained \$5 million for SWCD's (the same allocation as last year) but this was opposed by the Governor and the House did not pass it. Session will go into overtime again this year. Mike submitted a list of bill that we're watching:

- **HB1800 Highway CD –Snow Break –Grower Fee:** AISWCD supported this bill that authorizes a county that contracts with a person growing row crops on land adjacent to county highways to buy standing strips of the crops to remain in place to act as snow breaks along the highway and pay the grower an additional sum of money equal to at least 10% of the contract price as an inconvenience fee, this bill passed both houses and was sent to the Governor for his approval.
- **HB2756 County Stormwater Management:** This would make a place for SWCD's on county storm-water planning councils, requiring a voting seat for a SWCD representative, this bill was not passed by the Senate
- **HB3695 \$FY18 Agriculture OCE**

Kelly and Mike attended the Appropriations Committee Meeting. There is \$5 million for us in the Governor's Budget but in the Senate's "Grand Budget" we went from \$14 million to \$1.5 million, but this did not pass.

Partner Reports –There were none given.

OLD BUSINESS

FY2017/2018 Budget Update-This was discussed in Legislative Update.

House/Senate Bill Update-This was discussed in Legislative Update.

Farm Family Governor's Award-There has been 2 Farm Family Applicants sent in for judging. Kelly discussed the presentation of the Farm Family Award at the State Fair and she will contact Ag to make sure we are still on the Agenda this year due to staff changing at IDOA.

GATA-This was done last year and we've heard nothing new about it this year.

NEW BUSINESS

2017 Annual Meeting Resolutions – The resolutions were discussed by the Committee with approval:

- AISWCD Resolution 2017-1: AISWCD Foundation
- AISWCD Resolution 2017-2: AISWCD NLRS
- AISWCD Resolution 2017-3: District Director Training

NACD and '18 Farm Bill-Tom Beyers reported on the new Director Sonny Perdue for the US Dept. of Agriculture and the proposed reorganization. He said the proposed budget reduction will affect us if the 21% reduction stands. He discussed CRP contracts that cannot get enrolled back in. Tom said that NACD is developing a relationship with the new administration to begin work on the new Farm Bill. Tom and Judy Beyers will attend the NACD Meeting in Iowa in late July and Tom has been asked to be the Sub-Chair for the Communications Committee. He was happy to say that many Districts in Illinois pay their dues to NACD.

2018 Legislative Day Event-Location and Date of the Event- It was decided to table this until the December Quarterly Board meeting. Tom did comment that he thought this year's event was a good one.

A motion was made by Terry Bogner and seconded by Kenny Hawthorne to adjourn, motion carried.

Minutes submitted by: Sue M. Davis
AC, Christian County SWCD

AISWCD Board Meeting

June 6, 2017 @ 8:30 am –June Quarterly Board

Springfield, IL

<u>Present:</u>	<u>Absent:</u>
Steve Stierwalt	David McCormick
Tom Beyers	Steve Fulling
Van Bitner	Chuck Schafer
Dan Duval	Joe Rothermel
Myron Kirby	Bruce Yingling
Jerry Snodgrass	Jason Anderson
Kenny Hawthorne	Daniel Doedtman
Vern Latwesen	Glen Bowers
Terry Bogner	Tom Anderson
Lee Bunting	Gerard Fabrizio
Terry Davis	
Randy Molitoris	
Kody Aldrich	
Don Beisiegel	
Glen Bowers	
Dale Shumaker	
Judy Beyers	
Sondra Baker	
Spring Duffey	
Terina Coffey	
Kelly Thompson	
Christina Branham	
Kailia Long	
Sheryl Phillips	

8:30 AM Call to order:

Roll Call was taken by Van Bitner

Approve Agenda: Put in motion Tom Beyers 1st, Dan Duval 2nd

Approve March 2017 Minutes

Partner Reports:

1. Ivan: (NRCS) Report, Overview of consolidation of federal agencies. There has been a cut in conservation funding nationally. The FY18 Farm Bill discussions have begun. There is a new position for Angela Biggs, they have not filled her vacant position currently.
 2. Warren: (IDOA) Training money report forwarded to all of the districts. Office space is available for the AISWCD and will accommodate in any way that they can. We are waiting to get a full report from Steve Chard. Dale Shumaker asked about GATA training and about getting more training in other areas. Spring then mentioned the employee's will hold a session during summer conference for this.
 3. Amy: (IEPA) NLRS success report draft is in the making a joining announcement with IDOA during FPS press release.
- 319 NPS is worse than NRCS, \$0 in president's budget. GATA discussion was continued, it is a pre-requirement this year that you MUST pre-register before you can apply. GATA training is available on the webpage if needed under the GOMB website. Full approval for FY17 and a bonus. Watershed groups are to form and reduce pollutants. See a role for districts with wastewater treatment. Municipalities, chloride is a priority issue in urban areas. In result of road salt used during the winter season. She brought along two Government Environmental Corp interns who were very interested in partaking in this meeting and learning more about what this association has to offer and provide for their future careers.

2016 AISWCD /Foundation Audit Summary:

Matt: (Auditor) After reviewing the packet of info he mentioned that the risk assessment needs to be completed. Kelly Thompson confirmed that GATA will have risk assessment from districts sent to the auditor.

AISWCD Auxiliary:

Judy Beyers: Judy mentioned that they are currently working on the raffle, new books, and quilts. They will be making cookies for Pheasants Forever. Judy will be attending the NACD meeting in July.

Insurance Report:

John Green: There was discussion about the insurance report about the D&O liability report. He also gave an overview of the lawsuit in Schuyler SWCD CREP agreement. In 2016 a claim was placed for a general liability policy through Cincinnati Insurance under the AISWCD master policy. There was no bodily injury or physical or advertising injury therefore the claim was denied. If sued for monetary rights, insurance would not have covered either since districts were enforcing the claim. The insurance for director/employee insurance covers wrongful act therefore the claim was denied and withdrawn. Tom discussed that districts should have protections in place, compliance issues, and training for directors to look out for unnecessary risks. Lee then asked if D&O covers if someone gets sick from cooking food, that would be bodily injury coverage. The D&O policy/coverage applies for a "wrongful" act and would not cover directors in this case. E&O is for engineers, and D&O is only if you do a "wrongful act". John also suggested that the D&O policy limit should be increased. At this time it's listed at 1 million, and he suggested at least 5 million.

ISWCDEA Report:

Spring Duffey and Terina Coffey: Discussion started about summer conference. The winner's choice for fun packages or cash. There are only 100 tickets and they are \$20 each. They are also working on staff training (ICREP issues, GATA, NRCS, Strategic Plan process and Law Staff involvement, Watershed planning.) They're currently searching for other items needed. Personally thanked Ivan for Nutrient Management Training for allowing employees to sign up for Planning Process. The Employee Scholarship application is due June 30th, 2017. Registrations for summer conference, Terina will be collecting. Director advice, encourage employees to attend due to training offered as well as director training.

Envirothon:

Very Successful event! There were several ties, very competitive this year! Districts emphasize need for overall presentation skills. When it came to scoring, it was highly weighted in comparison to retained knowledge of subjects. They are very thankful for such great support from several donors, however looking for more donations as well as sponsorships in the future.

SWCD Dues Update:

At the time of this meeting 13 districts had not paid their dues. There was discussion about the possibilities of late fee's being added for districts that had not paid on time. However it was decided to leave the variance as is. There is a deadline for dues to be paid, and we need to stick to it. Kelly said that she would be sending out a list of non-compliant districts to the board members. There was no need for a motion because executive board dealt with accepting late payment until June 15th.

604 B Grant: Kelly Thompson: Grant ends on June 30th. Matt's position ends on July 1st. Rick McKinless 604B grant process is competitive. Sheryl, Rick and Kelly would like to work on this grant, speak to the IUM committee about using the extra money for mini grants. They will discuss with Summer Conference group.

NRCS Agreement:

The NRCS is once again partnering with the AISWCD and Districts to provide both Administrative Assistance and CRP technical support. The Task Force approved at the last Board meeting is now in place and doing an excellent job to help identify and address issues and concerns we are facing with the NRCS Contribution Agreement. NRCS Leadership is very and have appointed 2 NRCS staff to the Task Force. Sheryl & Task Force are working on Assistance pay schedule, updating invoices/reports, updating task/duties list.

Our current Administrative Assistance grant runs from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, thus we have only 1 month left on this Agreement. From July through April, Districts have invoiced just under \$600,000.

86 Districts are participating in the CRP Agreement which runs from August 18 to September 30, 2017, so 4 more months left on the CRP Agreement. From July through April, Districts have been submitted invoices for just over \$1.4 million dollars. About \$375,000 is still outstanding.

Changes are being made to our New Contribution Agreement: a) 5-year agreement with annual funding; b) a line item is being allowed for AISWCD overhead, c) different grant amounts – CRP is lower (\$2 million down to \$1.125 million) but Assistance has increased (\$1 million up to \$1.4 million)

A joint NRCS-AISWCD-SWCD training will be held in early July to make sure all staff are on the same page and roll out changes to new agreement. Also, Sheryl & Task Force members will include NRCS Contribution Agreement training at Summer Conference.

IL State Budge Update:

Steve Stierwalt: At this time there is still no budget to speak on. Provided alert about PFV funding reduction in transfer from \$14 million down to \$1.5 million. There is already enough money in fund to cover our needs.

NLRS Taskforce:

Summer Conference will cater to NLRS training.

Funding SWCD's:

Government budget and senate grand bargain budget, SWCD's are in at \$5 million.

Strategic Plan Update:

Dale: Smaller AISWCD Board takes 3 months to respond. It was suggested to have a monthly meeting, as well as a smaller board to meet. Board advocate adding it as a priority to reduce the size. Critical to further work, respond more quickly.

Myron: Have these structure in Executive Board still represent from districts but more flexibility.

Randy: Invite all to attend so interested people can be present as well.

Tom: Using technology such as conference calls are difficult to discuss and take action. The possibility of skype, call to order or other programs were discussed. Get minutes, and agenda prior to meetings then it can be utilized for the actual meeting, take the opportunity to train people on use of iPads and etc.

FOTG use in an app, is it possible to make it available to farmers and contractors?

Motion placed: Terry 1st, Randy 2nd.

Officially give the subcommittee/taskforce the authority to complete the policy changes to take action at summer conference.

Have 2-3 options to choose from, reduce the draft to a 1-2 page document and focus on options A,B and C.

DISCUSSION- Lee: Questioned as to whether or not allow/authorize the taskforce to look at bylaw changes/policy changes.

Passed: Authorize taskforce authority to refine a plan with options of action to the membership body at summer conference.

Executive-Resolutions:

1: Foundation- review current structure and purpose to revitalize and intent. Tom moved to support, Terry 2nd. Passed.

2: NLRS: Tom 1st, Kody 2nd Passed.

3: Director Training: Tom 1st, Lee 2nd

Discussion- Friendly Amend to Wayne Co. Motion to have board support their resolution and make friendly change to resolution to add employees. Tom 1st, Lee 2nd – Passed.

4: D&O Liability to increase from \$1 mil to \$5mil. In agreeance to look into the cost of doing so. Terri 1st, Kody 2nd.

Education:

Teacher of the year. This year there are 2 winning candidates. It was asked if we can find sponsorship, can we have 2 farm family awards to present?

Planning:

Van: Education for the training conference. Would like to get the Lt. Governor for opening ceremony.

Financials:

Total annual budget 2016-2017 comparison. It was decided to provide a draft of the audit to present at summer conference.

Dan 1st, Tom 2nd- Financial Statements approved

Randy 1st, Myron 2nd-Audit Draft approved.

Office Space:

Was originally suggested that the new location could be free rental however after further investigation it's been confirmed that it may not be free. The cost of selling the AISWCD office home is 6%, when purchased in December of 2006 it was for \$157,000. Would need to move the pavers, as well as the flag pole. Need to find out more information about the office space on fairgrounds. Issues with the roof at the current location were discussed.

Urban Community:

Jerry discussed that Tessa drove 2 ½ hours only to discover that because of low attendance the meeting had been canceled. They haven't had a full meeting for months. There are only 2 Board members and 1 NRCS partner. It was discussed to change chair or discontinue the committee.

Response: Re Evaluate committee structure in strategic planning, look at structure of committees, have urban committee meet outside the QB meeting. Look for a new way of doing things, smaller board rather than 26.

Administrative Council, local council meetings and utilize area VP's.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at: 1:00 pm