

IDEA DIRECTORS MEETING
LA QUINTA INN & SUITES, BOISE, IDAHO
JUNE 8th, 2016
MINUTES (Draft)

Directors in Attendance:

Robbie Taylor, President, Division VI, Joyce Smith Secretary Division VI, Kerry Christiansen Division V, Chris Simmons, Vice President Division IV, and Vicki Lukehart, Director Division III, Kathy Bolin, Division II, Rene Riddle, Division I, Cassie Smith Division I Alternate. (Cassie Smith will be the new Division I Director with Rene Riddle acting as alternate.) Curtis Elke NRCS present.

President Robbie Taylor called the meeting to order at 9:00 am with the above directors in attendance. Welcome and introductions were made. Partners will provide their reports upon arrival.

Minutes:

Minutes of the February 11th, 2016 meeting reviewed.

Motion was made by Rene Riddle to approve minutes of the last Director's meeting held on February 11, 2016 by Teleconference, 2nd by Kerry Christiansen. 100% approved, motion carried with no corrections.

Financial Reports:

Chris Simons gave a review of the current financial report, as well as a report on current dues paid to date. Kootenai-Shoshone SWCD will be paying their dues; there are 2 Districts that have not paid dues as of 6/8/2016, Nez Pierce SWCD and Bruneau River SCD.

Motion made by Joyce Smith and 2nd by Kathy Bolin to accept and approve financial report. 100% approved, motion carried.

(Director's travel Reimbursements completed and paid with Check # 1997-2004.)

Partners Reports:

Curtis Elke, NRCS State Conservationist

Curtis reported that currently the NRCS in Idaho is looking at a pilot program to contract with four Districts that will provide payments to the districts starting on October 1, 2017 for work such as but not limited to writing conservation plans, CRP checks and land owner follow ups. An agreement is in the development stage at this time. It will be up to the DC's on what kind of work they want done. Goal is to get back to the way things used to be. Training will be offered, in tool kit, soil health, nutrient management, structures for water, working with land owners in each Division, as well as training in wetlands and the food security act. Training would be held in Boise for Basic tillage, Basic Agronomy and forest inventory. These training opportunities will be offered to district employees and supervisors.

The 2016 Forest Contest had over 350 in attendance; NRCS provided \$750.00 and plans to up the amount to \$2500.00 for the 2017. NRCS plans to give \$6000.00 to the 2018 Envirothon.

Curtis wants to have districts to do conservation planning at levels 1, 2 and 3. He hopes to conduct a NRCS Boot Camp in Idaho at some point, it is a 3 week training course, and cost is \$6,000 to \$8,000 per person. NRCS will pay for districts to attend.

2014 Farm Bill training with Introduction to plant materials will be held June 22nd. Some of the training is in soil health assessments and new supervisors. Those interested will need to sign up with their DC. Curtis will send out a list of training opportunities to share with districts.

SAVE THE DATE August 23rd & 24th, the 9th Annual Ag Event will be held in the Treasure Valley. The NRCS Chief will be attending.

The NRCS newsletter will contain information on Districts. Booklets for new NRCS employees will be available, would like District Supervisors to allow new NRCS employees to shadow them on day to day farming.

There is a NACD Urban Conservation Grant available for underserved areas. \$50,000 cap, the amount depends on projects. CSP will be getting a new face lift with cap of \$40,000 per person, CRP acres are down. Curtis also talked about the possibility of the Saint Anthony & Rexburg offices combining.

Delwyne Trefz, ISWCC:

Delwyne reviewed changes on the financial report to the commission, a Profit & Loss reports and balance sheets are no longer required to be part of the report. Things that need to be included are letter of intent signed, copy of check received and copy of deposit slip to bank with deposit date by or before June 30, 2016. The financial report is due in August. Also mentioned the new Supervisor Hand Book completed by the Commission.

New Business:

The Memorandum of Agreement between IDEA and the IASCD was reviewed. No changes were recommended.

The 2017 Annual Work Plan was reviewed. One change was recommended to update Director's names in Division 1.

No Bylaw changes were recommended.

Motion made to accept and approve Annual work plan, By-Laws and Budget was made by Vicki Lukehart and 2nd by Joyce Smith. 100% approved, motion carried.

Old Business:

Employee Scholarship's: The Directors discussed increasing the training scholarships from two \$100.00 scholarships for approved employees to apply for per calendar year, to four \$100.00 Scholarships per calendar year.

Division Workshop funding: The Directors discussed increasing funding for Division workshops from \$400 per Division to \$500 per Division.

Motion to adopt changes in Policy & Procedures

Division Workshops: Contingent on funding, change from \$400.00 to \$500.00 per Division.

Scholarships: Change from two \$100.00 scholarships to four \$100.00 Scholarships per calendar year.

A Motion was made by Joyce Smith and 2nd by Keri Christiansen to increase Division Workshop funding from \$400 to \$500 per Division, increase the number of Scholarships from two to four and adopt these changes in the Policy & Procedures Manual. 100% approved, motion carried.

Budget:

Directors discussed changing the wording “Registration Income” in the budget to “IASCD Contribution” and Increase IDEA Reserves from \$2,000 to \$2,800.

Motion to change reserve funds from \$2,000 to \$2,800 was made by Keri Christiansen and 2nd by Joyce Smith. 100% approved and motion carried to amend budget.

Lunch menu for IDEA Luncheon at Conference:

The IDEA Luncheon Choices of (1.) Cheddar Chive Chicken, or (2.) Cobb Salad were agreed upon.

IDEA Raffle:

Suggestions for prizes for this year’s conference were to have another Cabala’s Card, and a tablet. No other suggestions were made at this time.

IDEA Conference Workshop:

ISWCC will do Training on their Reference Manual for District Reports that covers financial and match reports, performance reports and 5 year and annual work plan reports.

Contributions and Donations:

Robbie pointed out that last year, IDEA received \$1,500 in contributions for its annual raffle and only spent a total of \$909.29 for all related raffle expenses which included the purchase of the raffle prizes. The net profit of the contributions minus related costs was \$590.71. The directors were encouraged to ask District employees to help to find contributors.

Other Business:

2016 Division Elections: Election for officers at fall division meetings for Division 2, 4, & 6.

Motion was made by Vicki Lukehart and 2nd by Cathy Bolin to adjourn the meeting. 100% approved, motion carried, meeting adjourned.

(Submitted by Joyce Smith, IDEA Secretary)