



**Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts  
Board of Directors Meeting  
June 20 & 21, 2014  
Red Lion Hotel, Boise, Idaho**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Kit Tillotson called the meeting of the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts Board of Directors to order at 8:00 AM on Friday, June 20, 2014. Those present included Kit Tillotson, Billie Brown, Steve

**PRESENT**

Becker, Lynn Bagley, Art Beal, Rick Rodgers and Benjamin Kelly. Also joining the meeting was Chris Banks (IASCD), Teri Murrison and Delwyne Treftz (ISWCC), Kris Berg (NRCS), Robbie Taylor, Chris Simons, Lisa Transtom and Pegi Long (IDEA), Rich Jacobson and Karma Bragg (Envirothon Committee) and Matt Woodard, Kyle Wilson and Kevin Dugan (Dues Committee).

**IASCD EMPLOYEE**

Kit Tillotson updated the board on his correspondence with Chris Banks and his health insurance policy. The original insurance broker cannot secure a new group insurance plan until October but Banks is willing to enroll in a private policy. Banks requested that the board decide what direction they would like proceed and he will move forward accordingly. Banks also discussed the technical assistance he provides for IASCD and asked the board their thoughts on future compensation and interest in trying to provide funding for technical assistance as a replacement for the soft money arrangement the MOU currently provides (see attached). Another option is Banks could operate privately and contract with any districts wanting to utilize his services in grant writing and project management. There are a number of districts that Banks has been assisting that have expressed interest in hiring him as a shared District Manager and could offer a stable income on top of the grant funds that he acquires. Banks thanked the board for time on the agenda.

**NRCS UPDATE**

Kit Tillotson welcomed Kris Berg (NRCS) to the meeting. Berg thanked the board for the opportunity. The 2014 Farm Bill was enacted on February 7, 2014 and some programs will be available immediately, while others will require limited time to be set up within the agency. Current Farm Bill contracts remain in effect and new sign-up information will be announced on the NRCS website as it becomes available. NRCS has approximately \$700,000 to finish the previous Farm Bill projects in Idaho and will require the agency to hold on any new hires for vacant positions. Berg discussed the new Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) and Beginning in fall 2014, NRCS will post selected RCPP projects on their website. Farmers, ranchers and private forest landowners located within project areas will be able to contact their local USDA Service Center to find out how to apply for financial assistance. The project partner will also conduct outreach to landowners and producers and will be able to provide assistance with applying to NRCS programs.

**DUES  
SUB-COMMITTEE**

The board asked the representatives from the Dues Committee to report on their conclusions of the current dues structure and proposals they would like to move forward with. Matt Woodard, Kyle Wilson and Kevin

Dugan reported they had held conference calls through the spring and early summer with representatives from the six IASCD divisions and had elected Matt Woodard as chairman of the committee. Through their meetings, the committee had concluded the need for an appeals process for districts in financial emergency. The eligibility to apply for appeal would include a minimum of \$1,000 toward full dues payment, providing documentation of goals and objectives, justification of financial duress, a statement of how the district will strengthen its financial position and enrollment will only be granted for a maximum of two consecutive years. The second appeal will be contingent on the successful completion of identified action items from the first year of appeal. The approval criteria would be subject to a set of terms (action items) developed by IASCD and the individual conservation district including, but not limited to, supervisor training and mentor programs. Districts that have successfully entered into agreement on the condition of appeal would have full membership benefits and voting privileges. The timeline of request would need to coincide with IASCD's budget development process beginning in June of each year. IASCD presents their budget to member districts at fall division meetings with approval at annual conference and would need to know its anticipated income from dues by July 1 of each year. The board asked the committee about resolutions and the process of constructing their recommendations. Billie Brown moved to approve the Dues Subcommittee report. Seconded. Passed. The board thanked the committee members for their time and effort.

#### IDEA REPORT

Kit Tillotson welcomed Robbie Taylor to the meeting. Taylor thanked the board for providing time and for the continued relationship between IDEA and IASCD. IDEA is pleased to help with the district directory and is close to completing the updates from districts. The increased funding from IASCD and the 2013 Conference through the MOU has been allocated towards employee workshop trainings for each division. Taylor went through the 2013 the IDEA report on accomplishments and annual work plan for 2014 (see attached). Billie Brown moved to approve the 2015 MOU agreement between IDEA and IASCD. Seconded. Passed. Tillotson thanked Taylor for joining the meeting and the support of IDEA.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

The board reviewed the current financial report and Steve Becker answered questions (see attached). Becker reported on IASCD's positive ending balance for the fiscal year and recommendations were given for the current dues structure. Billie Brown moved to issue a \$200 rebate to the membership for FY 2015. Seconded. Passed. The current lease agreement for the IASCD copier was addressed. Art Beal moved to approve the current financial report. Seconded. Passed. Becker

#### YEAR-END

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

discussed his year-end summary and the year-end financial report. Billie Brown moved to issue a FY 2014 Year-end Financial Report and dues invoice to the membership. Seconded. Passed. The board reviewed the FY 2016 Budget and set the itemized income and expenses to be presented to member districts at fall division meetings with approval at the 2014 Annual Conference in Lewiston (see attached). Rick Rodgers moved to accept the FY 2016 Budget Report. Seconded. Passed.

#### FY 2016 BUDGET

#### ISWCC REPORT

Kit Tillotson welcomed Teri Murrison and Delwyne Treftz to the meeting. Murrison thanked the board for providing time and for the continued relationship between ISWCC and IASCD. The commission provided the FY 2015 Regular Meeting Schedule that were scheduled to coincide with IASCD meetings when possible (see attached). Murrison addressed District Support Services and reported the commission was updated on the Technical Assistance Allocation Awards, conducted a District Unmet Needs Hearing and awarded Capacity Building funding for next fiscal year

(see attached). Commission staff met with Jeff Burwell to identify possible partnerships on RCPP projects and is reaching out to other agencies and districts to assess their capability for partnering. Due to the timing and the upcoming deadline for concept proposals, the commission is limited on available technical hours that can be committed as a match, however, upon district request, they are willing to consider substituting an RCPP project already awarded for FY 2015 hours. Murrison is encouraging districts competing for RCPP funds to contact Delwyne as soon as possible. The commission is encouraging districts to request technical assistance for programs in FY 2016 which could allow them to commit technical hours in RCPP proposals next year. The commission will be meeting with both Oregon and Washington commissions later in the week to discuss a possible tri-state project under the CCA Program. It would not involve the provision of technical assistance, but it could center around an inventory and district and other agency efforts in the Columbia River watershed.

ENVIROTHON  
REPORT

Kit Tillotson welcomed Rich Jacobson and Karma Bragg to the meeting. Jacobson reported on the success of the Envirothon program and gave a summary of the 2014 Envirothon competition (see attached). 17 teams registered and attended on May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> with approximately 85 students and 20 advisers at Living Waters Ranch in Challis. There were 15 first round judges that volunteered their time to the event and five additional judges were there to complete the final round. Other volunteers from the committee assisted as timers, runners, scoring room attendants and provided general assistance throughout the event. The additional staff total was approximately 20 staff and supervisors from districts, along with staff from IASCD, NRCS, RC&D and ISWCC providing support. District support this year was high with almost 35 districts providing cash donations, in-kind donations and/or sponsoring teams. Cash donations from the districts totaled \$4,406.44 and all district staff attending the event covered the cost of the rooms, meals and registrations. Registration from teams and participants totaled \$4,251.84 and all participating district staff and supervisors stayed after the event to help load leftover supplies and clean up the facility. In-kind donations totaled \$7,247.75. A local account was set up by Bear Lake SWCD and paid for the \$2,700 of scholarships. This is the only expenditure made from that account. BLM has also expressed an interest in awarding an additional \$12,000 that can be used for both 2015 and 2016. Scholarships were paid this year to offset the loss of the national event and the top teams received cash awards.

Jacobson and Bragg answered questions from the board and discussed next year's competition. Jacobson and Bragg thanked IASCD for having them. The board discussed the Envirothon Committee Account and creating a specified joint account between the committee and association. Steve Becker moved the original amount of the \$3,800 (\$2,000 original donation and remaining \$1,800) be allocated to Envirothon. Seconded. Passed. Billie Brown moved to create a joint Envirothon Committee and IASCD account. Seconded. Passed. Lynn Bagley moved to close the current Wells Fargo account dedicated to Envirothon. Seconded. Passed.

FALL DIVISION  
MEETING DATES

The board set fall division meeting dates for October and are as follows:

Division I	Kootenai-Shoshone SWCD	October 10 (morning)
Division II	Latah SWCD	October 9 (morning)
Division III	Weiser River SCD	October 14 (4 PM)
Division IV	Snake River SWCD	October 28 (3 PM)
Division V	North Bingham SCD	October 22 (evening)
Division VI	Custer SWCD	October 23 (morning)

2014 CONFERENCE	Steve Becker updated the board on the 2014 Annual Conference held in Lewiston. Becker reported on conference sponsors and trade show vendors. Saturday before conference, the membership will have the opportunity to arrive early and attend a Hells Canyon Jet Boat Tour with River Quest Excursions. Sunday morning the board will have their directors meeting followed by a golf scramble at the Bryden Canyon golf course which is open to anyone who wishes to participate. Sunday evening will include a no host social followed by the traditional evening meal. Monday, opening ceremonies, general session, soil health panel discussion and the education luncheon will be held. A tour of a conservation project, Lindsey Creek Vineyards and Harvest Ridge Organics will be provided for the afternoon. That evening there will be a Presidents reception. Tuesday the auxiliary breakfast and concurrent sessions will take place and the IASCD business meeting and awards banquet will be held at their appointed times. The board will have their directors meeting and ISWCC will conduct their listening session on Wednesday morning.
EXECUTIVE DIR. TOUR	Kit Tillotson requested an update from Benjamin Kelly on his tour districts throughout the state. Kelly provided the board with a report from specific districts and expense report for his travel and lodging (see attached). It was reported that he was able to visit 48 of the 50 districts to meet with district supervisors and staff. Districts talked to Kelly about their conservation efforts, suggestions for the association and challenges in their areas of the state.
NACD PACIFIC REGION CONF.	Kit Tillotson reviewed NACD Pacific Region Conference being held in Portland September 15-18. The event will include representatives from the Pacific Region and Kit Tillotson will be representing IASCD in his position as vice president.
NATURAL RESOURCES CAMP	The board discussed the request for support on the Idaho Natural Resources Camp. Past support of the event was reviewed and the need for IASCD to support the other current programs at the same funding level was proposed. <u>Rick Rodgers moved to support the Idaho Natural Resources Camp in the amount of \$50 per district with a limit of \$500 total. Seconded. Passed. Billie Brown moved that IASCD support each of the continuing state programs with a limit of \$500 for FY 2015. Seconded. Passed.</u>
DUES & REOLUTIONS	The board reviewed the September 30 deadline for dues and resolutions.
EXECUTIVE SESSION	<u>Billie Brown moved the IASCD enter executive session. Seconded. Passed.</u> The board entered executive session at 4:25 PM. Benjamin Kelly left the meeting at this time. <u>Billie Brown moved the IASCD exit executive session. Seconded. Passed.</u> The board exited executive session at 4:40 PM. Kelly joined the meeting at this time. The board conveyed their impressions of Kelly's work with IASCD and the directors. <u>Steve Becker moved to enter into a contract with Kelly Associates for FY 2015 in the amount of \$37,500. Seconded. Passed. Steve Becker moved to provide a 10% incentive plan for the Executive Director for new sponsorships and supporting partnerships. Seconded. Passed.</u>
DIVISION IV BOARD REPRESENTATIVE	<u>Billie Brown moved to reimburse Chris Banks in the amount of \$66.04 for each month it was withheld with no insurance. Seconded. Passed.</u>  Rick Rodgers informed the board that he will be starting new employment at the end of summer and will be unable to complete his term as

representative for Division IV on the IASCD Board of Directors. Rodgers had corresponded with directors previously concerning his term and suggested Glen Gier as his replacement. Rodgers reported on Gier's past involvement with conservation districts and recommended his name go forward. Steve Becker moved to approve Glen Gier for the IASCD Board of Directors contingent on his confirmation at the Fall Division IV meeting. Seconded. Passed.

RECESS

Art Beal moved the board recess until the time of 8:00 AM on Saturday June 2. Seconded. Passed.

President Kit Tillotson called the meeting of the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts Board of Directors to order at 8:05 AM on Saturday, June 21, 2014.

TMDL ACCOUNT

The board reviewed the TMDL account and discussed Chris Banks involvement in the process.

AWARDS

The board went over the current IASCD awards for the 2014 Conference and set the deadline for October 20. The board discussed a Supervisor of the Year award to be presented at conference. It is incumbent on directors to submit names of those deserving for the division they represent. Rick Rodgers moved a Supervisor of the Year award be created and given to a nominee from each division. Seconded. Passed. For the selection of the award, each division will send their nominees names to the outlined division director:

Division I to Division V  
Division II to Division IV  
Division III to Division VI  
Division IV to Division II  
Division V to Division I  
Division VI to Division III

POLICY MANUAL

Kit Tillotson requested the board review the IASCD Policy Manual prior to the meeting for possible changes. The board worked on the current policy manual and made agreed upon changes and updates.

The next IASCD Board Meeting was set for Monday, July 7 at 8:00 PM and will be held by conference call.

ADJOURNMENT

Billie Brown moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded. Passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted

Benjamin Kelly, Executive Director