Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts

Meeting Minutes

Date: July 20, 2026
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.
Location: Google Meet

Attendance
Present: Tori O'Neal, Wendy Green, Devin Fielding, Jeff Connolly, Richard Kunau, Mary Huff and Patxi Larrocea-Phillips.

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. Mountain Time.

Approval of June 22, 2026 Minutes
The board reviewed the June 22, 2026 meeting minutes.
Motion: Jeff moved to approve the June 22, 2026 minutes and authorize their posting on the IASCD website. Tori seconded. Motion carried.

Legislative Social
The board discussed the Legislative Social scheduled for January 14, 2027, at the Basque Center and the availability of the full facility for $1,100.
Motion: Jeff moved to approve reserving the full Basque Center space for $1,100. Richard seconded. Motion carried.

Policy Survey
The board discussed sending the policy survey to Districts and gave administrative direction to proceed with the survey process.

Annual Conference Planning
The board received a conference planning update and discussed food, attendee swag bags, hotel accommodations, and audiovisual services.
Motion: Devin moved to approve a conference food budget of up to $20,000, with direction to remain as frugal as reasonably possible. Jeff seconded. Motion carried.

Motion: Devin moved to approve up to $1,000 for conference swag and attendee goody bags. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Jeanette was authorized to proceed and encouraged to seek additional donations from districts and other sources.

The board directed staff to secure hotel rooms and a negotiated rate so lodging information can be distributed to districts. The board also agreed to proceed with Brad Elsberg of Elsberg Studios for conference audiovisual services. Patxi will provide the necessary information to Mary.

IASCD–IDEA Agreement

The board reviewed and revised the draft Agreement which Mary will discuss with Sarah. Based on discussion and input from Jeff regarding the time required for several proposed activities, the board streamlined the draft and directed Mary to discuss the revisions and remaining questions with Sarah. The board would like the Agreement to retain IDEA's commitment to conduct six divisional trainings and provide a workshop at the IASCD annual conference for district employees and supervisors. These activities are intended to strengthen and empower districts, employees, and supervisors.

Mary will also ask IDEA how it would like to participate in conference assistance; discuss progress updates and an annual performance report to districts and IASCD at the June summer meeting; clarify assistance with district speech and poster contests; and ask what is meant by the provision to provide an updated employee resource skill directory annually and whether IDEA currently maintains it.

ISCC/IDWR Merger MOU

The board discussed outreach and communications regarding the ISCC/IDWR merger MOU. Information will be shared through an email blast and the IASCD e-newsletter, with links enabling districts to review the proposal and provide input.

Communications will explain that IASCD participated in the drafting process and that concerns previously received from districts were addressed professionally. At its August 17 meeting, the board will consider districts submitted comments, develop an Association position statement, and determine association comments to submit on the MOU.

Governmental and Legislative Services Contract

The board reviewed the contract for governmental and legislative services. Consistent with its prior authorization to contract for these services, the board administratively approved moving the contract forward. Tori will sign the contract on July 20, 2026.

Next Meeting

The board scheduled its next meeting for Monday, August 17, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. Mountain Time.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m. Mountain Time.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Huff, Executive Director