

Minutes

IDDA Board of Directors

March 6, 2013

9:30 a.m.

Pocahontas County Courthouse

The board meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Vice President Paul Beneke. Members present were Ron Smith, Ken Chalstrom and Keith Dencklau. Also present was executive director John Torbert.

The minutes of the 1/30/2013 meeting were approved as presented on motion by Smith and second by Chalstrom.

County visits - John reported that he had visited Webster County.

Finance reports - John reviewed the IDDA financials through the end of January. Expenses are at \$93,832.84 or 57.6% of budget. Income is at \$125,846.94 or 87.36% of budget. The balance in the litigation fund as of 1/31/2013 is \$74,528.32. On motion by Dencklau and second by Smith, the financial reports were accepted.

CFS update - John provided the board with an update on the CFS program

FEMA/DNR issue - John reported that Secretary Northey has expressed an interest in becoming involved in the issue. There will be a conference call on 3/8 to discuss his possible involvement. On motion by Dencklau and second by Chalstrom, the board authorized the retainage of an attorney if John and Harlan felt it was advisable to do so after the conference call.

State Nutrient Reduction Strategy - John reviewed the current status of the strategy. The public comment period has closed. Secretary Northey will decide what changes, if any, need to be made in the strategy as a result of the public comments. IDDA has gone on record in terms of a voluntary approach.

Update on annual conference - John reported that we are contracted with the Starlite Village in Fort Dodge for the 2013 conference. It will be held on December 6th.

Legal update - John reported to the board on the Hardin County railroad case. He indicated that it will take legislative action to resolve this issue successfully. With respect to the New Farmers case, it will be heard in district court in Monona County on Friday, April 12th.

Legislative report - John briefed on the "western Iowa" bill that has been offered by Representative Windschitl. John reported that he had a bill draft reviewed by Scott Power, a drainage attorney and that numerous questions and policy issues had been raised by Mr. Power about the proposed bill. John was of the opinion that the necessary time did not exist to "fix" the bill this session. He recommended that the IDDA board take an "undecided" position on the bill. On motion by Smith and second by Dencklau,

the board concurred in that recommendation. John also reported that it was his recommendation that we needed more time to work on the railroad issue before we take a bill to the legislature. It was his recommendation that we hold off on any proposed legislation until 2014. The board concurred in that recommendation. He noted that it will be very difficult to get anything through the legislature in that we will be facing the unlimited resources of the railroads. John reported that he will make budget recommendations for the next budget year in terms of what we need to do to move this bill forward.

Next meeting date - The board set the next meeting for Wednesday, April 24th.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Torbert, CAE
Executive Director