

Minutes  
Board of Director's Meeting  
Iowa Drainage District Association  
May 28, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. by President Ralph Christiansen. Board members present included Ralph Christiansen, Harlan Hansen, Ron Smith, Ken Chalstrom, Myron Amdahl, Don McGregor and Phil Condon. Also present was John Torbert Executive Director and Julie Fridolfson – Secretary/Treasurer.

Julie presented the minutes of the April 30, 2008 meeting; they were approved on a motion by Don McGregor and seconded by Ken Chalstrom. All voted aye.

John reported on county visits; he has visited Clay County and Dickinson County during the last month.

Julie reviewed the financial reports (Administrative, Litigation and CFS Grant Fund) showing activity, both summary and detail, through the end of April 2008. It was moved by Harlan Hansen and seconded by Don McGregor to approve the financials as presented. All voted aye.

John gave an update on the CFS grant. John stated that the new employees two day training session in Fort Dodge, was held at the Starlight Best Western. Dean Lemke, Mike Bourland and Shawn Richmond from IDALS were training the new employees on what they expected from them. Charlie Kiepe, current CFS employee, went over some of the different resources the new employees could use and explained the methods that he uses to talk to the landowners and explain our program. John stated that the training went very well.

John gave an update on Monona County, New Farmers Drainage District maintenance issues. After the meeting last month in Onawa with the Trustees, Bob Brinton – Drainage Attorney, Don Refer of B & W Spraying of Algona, Iowa, Don's attorney and a representative from the Chemical Company – the IDNR has lowered the financial penalties they are proposing to the New Farmers Trustees. The Trustees of the drainage district have hired Drainage Attorney Bob Brinton of Clarion, Iowa to go ahead with the law suit against the DNR.

IDDA Web Site update – pictures of the new CFS employees were taken at the training day in Fort Dodge. These pictures need to be sent up to Melissa at Kuehl & Payer to put on the web site.

John gave an update on the Anti-degradation issue. IDDA has been trying to come up with language to try and keep the exemption that we currently have to maintain our drainage ditches. Two Rivers Drainage and Levy district have also been working with the IDDA to deal with this problem. One version was submitted to the DNR and they changed a few items and then the IDDA and Two Rivers rejected the new version. Two Rivers Drainage Attorney Scott Powers has been working to resolve this issue.

The Iowa Plan update – Dean Lemke has been contacted by National Farm Bureau and was asked to come up with language for the National Farm Plan. John and Dean are working on this at the Federal level.

The next meeting date has set for June 26, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

The meeting adjourned.  
Respectfully Submitted  
Julie A. Fridolfson  
IDDA Secretary/Treasurer