

Minutes

IDDA Board of Directors

March 31, 2010

Pocahontas County Board of Supervisors Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by President Harlan Hansen. Board members present were Paul Beneke, Ken Chalstrom, Myron Amdahl, Phil Condon, Ron Smith and Don McGregor. Also present was executive director John Torbert.

The minutes of the 2/24/2010 meeting were approved without changes on motion by McGregor and second by Beneke.

Member visits – John reported that he had an extremely productive month and had visited Boone, Clinton, Emmet, Palo Alto and Worth Counties.

Membership report – There were no new members to report

Financial report – John reviewed the financial reports for the litigation account and the IDDA operating account. He indicated that we have had number of unexpected expenses this year which has thrown some of the budget categories off. This will need to be adjusted before the end of the fiscal year. Revenues are also expected to exceed the budget estimate. The financial reports were accepted on motion by Amdahl and second by Chalstrom.

NFDD Monona County – John reported that there had been no recent developments in this case.

CFS update – John reported that things are going well with the CFS program. John reported that the CFS personnel will be very busy in April making landowner contacts on a new wetlands program.

Calhoun County case – John had spoken with the Calhoun County drainage attorney. The railroad has appealed the court decision and it will probably be two years or more before the situation is resolved.

Legislative report – John reported on a number of pieces of legislation in which IDDA was involved. HF 2459 established a watershed planning advisory council. IDDA was successful in amending the bill to include representation by IDDA. HF 2525 was the IDALS appropriations bill. CREP was funded at \$1.5 million and the Ag Drainage Well Water Quality Assistance Fund was funded at \$1.250 million. HF 2273 was and IDDA priority which dealt with the amount of security that must be posted when a bid is made on drainage work. That amount will now be 5% of the amount bid. Also, the threshold level before bids would be required on drainage improvements is increased from \$15,000 to \$20,000. That legislation has been signed by the Governor. IDDA was also successful in helping to kill an attempt to move \$4 million in funding that was approved for drainage pilot projects last year to another funding use. Representative Mertz has requested that the rest of the IDDA priorities be dealt with in interim committee.

John reported on his attendance at the Ag Drainage Management Coalition Meeting in St. Louis. He thought that it was a successful meeting and that attendance at these meetings continues to be valuable to IDDA.

John reported that he will be part of a group that will be presenting on the Iowa Wetland Landscape Initiative to the Soil Conservation Commission on April 1st.

The next meeting date for the board will be April 28th at the Pocahontas County Courthouse.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

John Torbert, Recording Secretary