

IDEA DIRECTOR'S MEETING
Department of Ag., Boise, Idaho
March 14, 2005
Minutes

Members Present: Sharon Kinzer, President, Division II; Holly Cotton, Alternate Division II; Debbie Tiede, Secretary, Division V; René Riddle, Division I; Vicki Lukehart, Historian, Division III; Karma Bragg, newly elected Director, Division VI.

Members Absent: Laurie McCall, Division IV and Ken Stinson, Treasurer, Division II.

Advisors Present: Kathie Shea, SCC. Kent Foster, IASCD and Rich Sims, NRCS were in and out in between their meetings.

Advisors Absent: Claude Bruce, IASCD liaison, Division VI and Sue Ellis, NRCS liaison

Welcome: Sharon Kinzer called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m. and reiterated that this is a “make-up” meeting since our regularly scheduled January meeting was cancelled due to bad weather. Sharon also announced that we would be joining SCC for lunch and we are all invited to stay for their meeting afterwards.

Minutes: Debbie read the July 12, 2004 minutes. René moved, seconded by Vicki to accept the minutes as read; the motion carried.

Gun Raffle: According to the Draft 2005 budget (if it is accepted), we have allowed \$1000.00 to be used for this year’s gun raffle. Debbie surveyed the group and asked them if they would like to see something a little different this year. She mentioned that it hasn’t made much difference what types of guns we have offered in the past, we have made a profit of \$1900 - \$2000 each time. After offering suggestions, it was voted on and passed to purchase one Shotgun and three or four 10/22’s, allowing more people the opportunity to win. Everyone can always use *another* 10/22. Depending on the price of the 10/22’s, will determine if we get three or four. An additional \$40.00 will be added to the profit of last year’s raffle. It seems tickets were bought, but never deposited into the raffle cage. The people that purchased the tickets said to consider the money a donation.

Treasurer’s Report: Holly presented the draft CY 2005 Budget, Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual, and a Transaction Detail by Account. Due to a negative “net income”, discussion on where to make the changes was discussed. The changes include the following: 1) Adding \$100 to the Idaho Land Judging Contest; Vicki moved, seconded by Karma to give them the same amount as the Envirothon and Forestry Contests; the motion carried.

(Sharon reported that all three Contests sent in their required requests prior to the January meeting).

2) Subtracting the full amount of \$200.00 from New Employee Training;
3) Subtracting \$90.00 from the proposed \$225.00 under Office Expense – leaving \$135.00 and; 4) Subtracting \$75.00 from the Scholarships, leaving \$300.00. After making the necessary modifications, Debbie moved, seconded by René to accept the CY 2005 Budget and all associated financial reports that accompanied it; the motion carried.

Sharon pointed out the amount of income from the gun raffle proceeds and the 10% conference registration.

***Other financial
Items of Interest:***

✚ The handling of future “Dues” Notices/Invoices was discussed. The last couple of years, the Treasurer has sent out the due notices. Debbie made a motion, seconded by Karma to have each Division Director send invoices of \$35.00 to their respective districts, which would alleviate the Treasurer from having to send them out to all 51 districts; the motion carried.

✚ Karma asked to be reminded how the reimbursement process was handled from NRCS and SCC regarding workshop funds. Sharon explained how the requests must go through the proper channels with NRCS for approval and that the SCC automatically sends us \$1800.00.

✚ Sharon reported that she had just received and will submit Division VI’s workshop expenses from 2003. Kristen Clayton, Alternate, Division VI was able to put an invoice together (to the best of her knowledge) for a total of \$501.50. Other bills presented for payment today were: NCDEA dues of \$200.00, a \$75.00 scholarship awarded to Custer SWCD; and all travel expenses associated with this meeting which totaled \$1117.90. René moved, seconded by Debbie to pay these bills; the motion carried.

New Business:

Jennifer Ambrose showed the group a new digital, high resolution IDEA logo that she has created to be used on letterhead or for advertising purposes. The Director’s liked the new logo and we will use it from this point on. Karma’s daughter has an embroidered machine, and if we would like to have t-shirts or sweat shirts made up to sell, we can contact her. Several years ago, IDEA had t-shirts made up and sold them during an annual conference and then throughout the year.

Sharon reminded us that we need to encourage our people to start thinking about the many upcoming awards.

René asked the group when the best time of year to hold a poster contest was. Poster contests are usually held in the Fall, but it is up to each district when they want to conduct them. Spring contests allow for more time, but Fall contests need to be held promptly so they can be judged at the Fall Division Meetings.

Karma surveyed her Division about “term limits”. Her division was split on the idea, but they came up with ideas on new verbiage under ARTICLE XIV - VACANCIES. Karma has agreed to re-write the paragraph and send it out so we can read and discuss it during our July meeting. While it is always a good idea to bring in “new employees”, keeping some continuity on the board is equally as important.

Elections of Officers:

The following represent election results for the Offices held by Directors of IDEA: (Sharon Kinzer will go off the board due to term limits).

Debbie Tiede, President, Division V
Karma Bragg, Vice President, Division VI
René Riddle, Secretary, Division I
Ken Stinson, Treasurer, Division II
Historian, Vicki Lukehart, Division III

Division V’s Alternate (Linda Daniels) will automatically move into the Director-At-Large position and will then find a new alternate to replace her.

Rich Sims:

Expressed that his main goal was to keep people in the field. The ’06 budget means tough times ahead with reductions coming. New employees will be called “Term Employees”. They will have the same rights as a full time position, but will be reviewed every 13 months, but will “re-up” every year. He stated that over the last two years, **all** field offices have received opportunities for additional funding through grants and agreements with IASCD and SCC, to be used for Farm Bill assistance. This is “soft money”, so don’t get used to it. He also expressed the April 30th deadline from the 2nd Farm Bill Agreement. Any unused money will be returned to the National Office. The deadline was originally set for the end of September, but was changed to the end of April. Rich also reminded us that we need to let Sue Ellis know if we will be using the \$1800.00 provided by NRCS for IDEA workshops by July 1st.

Kent Foster:

Thanked IDEA for all of our help. This year’s water theme for the IASCD conference is “Idaho’s Treasured Resource”. Division III is in charge. Kent mentioned that there are current vacancies in Lewiston, Twin Falls, Salmon and Cascade and they had to fire 3 people. Kent informed us that he had given a brief presentation on the Idaho One Plan at the Senate Ag Committee, while mentioning that he and Wayne Newbill were presented

the Idaho Governor's Award for Excellence in Agriculture for the Idaho One Plan during the Governor's Ag Summit in February. Congratulations Kent and Wayne!

Kathie Shea:

Encouraged all districts to get their 5 Year Resource Conservation Business Plan, Letters of Intent and Budget Requests to the SCC by the May 5th deadline. Kathie reported that 13 districts held elections last November resulting in 17 new supervisors and 7 supervisors who were appointed to replace supervisors who have resigned within the last 12 months for a total of 24 new supervisors. She has sent the Certificates of Election to the supervisors' homes. She has three remaining Quickbooks Training; Jerome, American Falls and Idaho Falls. Kathie may offer one more class to be held in Boise for those that were unable to attend their regularly scheduled training dates, or even a refresher course for some. She mentioned that two employees would be leaving their districts; Janet Baker, Portneuf SWCD and Jessica Davis, Madison/Clark SWCD. Kathie also announced that the New Supervisors Handbook is on the SCC Website. Kathie would like Karma to send her a bio so she can post it on IDEA's website.

Other topics Discussed:

Sharon fielded questions regarding the future of IDEA. What are we doing here? What are our goals and where do we want to be in a year from now? Karma said that obtaining a group insurance policy with a group rate is still a big issue to a lot of Administrative Assistant's. She said that Blue Cross/Blue Shield is now offering coverage to small groups. We need to continue to look into this.

Karma has agreed to prepare our Annual Report this year.

Jerry Nicolescu reminded us that the approved IASCD Resolution 04-04 which called for the development of a "Partnership Advisory Committee" and needs to have policies and procedures established. The committee will include the IASCD President, SCC Chairman, NRCS State Conservationist, IDEA President, IASCD Auxiliary President and the President of the Idaho RC&D Councils. A draft product should be available for consideration and eventual approval by all partnership members in November 2005.

Adjournment:

With no other business, René moved, seconded by Holly to adjourn at 11:45 a.m.; the motion carried.