

**ILLINOIS FORESTRY ASSOCIATION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES  
DECEMBER 15, 2006  
CONFERENCE CALL**

The meeting began at 8 a.m. Present were Ray Herman, J. B. Gates, Bob Sloan, Dave Gillespie, and Susan Romano.

After discussion, the topics selected for IFA discussion at the Illinois Farm Bureau Ag Roundtable will be:

State issues – Forest land property tax – Ray; 4% Timber Harvest Tax misuse – Ray; Need for Additional Professional and Technical Staff – Bob; Emerald Ash Borer – Dave; Lack of St. Forest Land Assistance – Susan.

Federal issues – Emerald Ash Borer – Dave; Standardized Program for Carbon Sequestration – Dave; Conservation Security Program, lack of forest assistance – Dave; Lack of Federal Forestry Assistance – Susan; Farm Bill, Forestry section – Susan.

Ray will fill out and send in the registration form for the roundtable for the IFA. We should get together prior to the meeting to discuss out presentations.

Susan said she has asked Mary Duff and Rollie Spaniol to work with her on the Legislative Committee.

J. B. Gates moved that we purchase five (5) copies of the book “Lobbying Illinois” at \$20.00 per copy. Dave Gillespie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

We discussed the upcoming Chicago Farmers Fair. Dave Gillespie moved, seconded by J. B. Gates, that the IFA participate in the Fair and pay the required registration fee of \$250.00, and get a room at the local motel for the night before the Fair. Motion carried. Dave will reserve a room. We will have about 45 minutes to discuss forestry in Illinois, 15 minutes on the IFA; 15 minutes on forestry in Illinois; and 15 minutes for questions. Dave and either Kurt Bobsin or Jay Hayek will represent the IFA.

Dave Gillespie will draft a letter for renewal of IFA membership for 2007. He will try to get these letters in the mail by the end of December.

We discussed the revision of the IFA brochure. Dave said he had spoken to Dick Little about possible printing firms and received some suggestions from Dick. All that is required is a camera-ready copy of the brochure so Dave can get bids from printing firms that will be reviewed by the Executive Committee. Ray will inquire as to the status of the draft of the brochure.

J. B. and Bob discussed the financial status of the IFA. Bob said that the IFA has just over \$16,000.00 in our account. J.B. said he and Bob will plan a Financial Committee meeting before the end of the year. We need to build a list of companies we can contact

regarding the financial needs and how they could help the IFA. We also need a list of potential sources of grants. RC&D Coordinators are a good source of grant information.

Ray announced that he had met with Tom Green at Western Illinois University, and that Tom had agreed to chair the Urban Committee.

Ray reminded us to send the names of the firms and organizations we will liaison with to Dan Price.

Dave will write a letter of support for the RC&D's budgets.

Dave plans to attend the meeting of the Woodland Tax Task Force on January 19, 2007. He will work with Kurt Bobsin to get the addresses of the Task Force members and send them IFA's position statements.

We should monitor the progress of the EQIP initiative to help forest landowners complete their forest management plans. We should also working with IDNR forestry division to develop workshop topics to help forest landowners get their forest management plans completed.

Dave will follow-up with the staff person in IDNR regarding the IFA's participation in the Wildlife Initiative.

The meeting adjourned at 10 a.m.

Respectively submitted,

David A. Gillespie, Secretary