

**ILLINOIS FORESTRY ASSOCIATION (IFA)  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
CHAMPAIGN – NRCS STATE OFFICE  
August 29, 2006**

The meeting began at 10:00 a.m. Present were:

J. B. Gates	Joe Newcomb	Dan Price	Lee Rife
Rollie Spaniol	Mike Keefer	Kurt Bobsin	Bob Sloan
Roy Bailey	Ray Herman	Mary Duff	Debbie Jones
Dave Gillespie			

Absent were: Stephanie Brown and Susan Romano

Ray Herman announced he had received a phone call that said the Region 1 Directors were going to be late, but we would proceed with an e-mail he had received from Stephanie Brown.

Stephanie's e-mail said she favored reimbursement for mileage for Board members to attend Board meetings, if the Board agrees. She said she would be co-chair for the IFA annual meeting in 2007, if the Board agrees, to be held at Rend Lake in Region 4. She would also lead a 3-4 hour course in Board training with the course in Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI). She would charge only the cost of the course materials, approximately \$32.00 per participant.

Ray welcomed everyone and thanked all for coming. Ray asked each Board member to identify themselves and tell why they want to be a part of the IFA. Ray stated he had asked Kurt Bobsin, Kathy McTighe, and Jay Hayek to attend Board meetings and act as the IFA Technical Advisors.

Roy Bailey was presented his IFA clock as a Charter Member of the IFA.

Ray encouraged each of us to work with each other and together as a Board of Directors. Only then would the IFA be successful.

The Board reviewed the IFA By-Laws. After a discussion of Article 3, Section 3 (regards dues set by the Board), J. B. Gates moved that any questions regarding this Section be sent to the Membership Committee. The motion was seconded by Bob Sloan. The motion passed. After further discussion it was the consensus of the Board that the prorated dues for new members joining in the months of November and December be \$12.50 for the remainder of the year.

Ray Herman suggested Paige Buck be given an honorary membership in the IFA for all the work she has done to help get the organization started. Joe Newcomb moved that Paige be given an honorary membership in IFA, and an IFA clock. J. B. Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ray asked that Board members be thinking of others we might want to give honorary membership in the IFA. We can bring those names for consideration to the next Board meeting.

After discussion it was decided that Board should meeting quarterly.

After a discussion regarding the next annual meeting, Lee Rife moved that the Board accept Stephanie Brown's offer for Region 4 to host the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mike Keefer. The motion passed. Stephanie, Joe Newcomb, and Dan Price will work together to plan the meeting, and may call on others for assistance.

The Board discussed locations of future Board meetings. A consensus was reached that each Region would host a quarterly meeting of the Board. The Ballard Nature Center, if available, was selected for the next Board meeting, which will be hosted by Region 4 on Wednesday, November 29, 2006. If that site is not available, the meeting will be held in Springfield on that date at the AISWCD's office.

Regarding Article VII, Section 1, J. B. Gates will be added as one of those authorized with the Treasurer to sign IFA checks.

J. B. Gates will act as Parliamentarian for the IFA.

Ray Herman will select a committee to review and suggest needed changes and/or additions to the IFA By-Laws.

Ray then reviewed the IFA Plan of Work and pointed out objectives within that document that need to be worked on and/or completed. Mary Duff suggested an organization chart be developed that showed the officers, Board of Directors and various committees of the IFA. Ray said there was such a chart, and it should go into the New Member Packet. He went through the chart and named the committee chairs, and discussed the function of each of the committees. Ray suggested that each Board member be a part of at least one committee as an ex-officio member.

The Board then discussed the Regional boundaries of the IFA. It was agreed that the current boundaries were not "set in stone" and could be changed by the Board if needed in the future.

Ray Herman reviewed the draft of the Duties and Functions of IFA Committees he had prepared. J. B. Gates suggested that action on the draft be tabled until the next Board meeting to allow the members to study the document and make comments. Such comments should be sent to the Secretary two weeks prior to the meeting. He also suggested that committee reports be sent to the Secretary 20 days before the Board meetings so copies could be sent to the Board members.

The Board reviewed the draft of the duties of the Directors.

The Minutes of the last two meetings were approved on a motion by J. B. Gates, seconded by Mary Duff.

Bob Sloan presented the Treasurer's report. On a motion by J. B. Gates, seconded by Debbie Jones, the Treasurer's report was accepted by the Board.

Membership Committee – Applications for membership has slowed, but will begin to move again with the addition of two lists of possible applicants for District Foresters, the list of Illinois Tree Farmers, and the possibility of working with IDNR to send out IFDA Certification Letters containing IFA information and the application form.

Jay Hayek reported that the website is about 80% completed, and with the money from the grant we will receive will pay for the site for three (3) years.

Kurt Bobsin and Jay Hayek are working on a revision of the IFA banner and brochure. Kurt reported that progress has been made on brochure. He also questioned the number of plaques that will be needed for future IFA clocks. A decision as to that number will be made at the next Board meeting.

Regional Reports – Region 2 will have a meeting tomorrow at the Mason Tree Nursery. Region 3, no report. Region 4, Joe Newcomb wrote a letter to State Representatives regarding the forest land tax issue. He received a response from Rep. Jones who said he is trying to get the Governor to appoint his members to the Task Force that will discuss the issue. Region 1, working on sending material to members.

Kurt Bobsin discussed the "IFA Forestry Issues" he put together to summarize the current status of the three (3) issue papers IFA is currently developing.

Ray Herman suggested that since we had agreed to adjourn at 3 p.m., the Executive Committee would meet and act on the remaining agenda items. The Board agreed.

There was a discussion of names the IFA should recommend to the Governor as members of the Task Force on the forest land tax issue. Mike Keefer moved that Ray Herman and Bob Sloan be recommend to the Governor to serve on the Task Force. The motion was seconded by Debbie Jones. The motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Gillespie  
Secretary