

MINUTES
ILLINOIS FORESTRY ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2006
AISWCD OFFICE, SPRINGFIELD

The meeting began at 10 a. m. Present were: Ray Herman, J. B. Gates, Bob Sloan, and Dave Gillespie.

J. B. Gates reported on the status of the Finance Committee. He said he had contacted some of the members who said they are willing to serve on a committee and has gotten only one positive reply – Harry Hendrickson. He said it is his intent to get an IFA member who is not a Director from each Region to serve on the committee. Ray suggested a couple of people J. B. should contact that might be willing to serve. J. B. will contact these people by phone. We discussed the need to find financial help from grants. RC&D Coordinators are good at writing grants, and may be able to help write grant applications for IFA.

Bob reviewed the current Treasurer's Report and the balance in the IFA bank account. The current balance is approximately \$19,000.00. We then discussed line items that should be in the IFA proposed budget for 2007. J. B. and Bob will now develop a proposed budget for 2007 based upon these line items and input from IFA Directors and Committee Chairs. The proposed budget will be completed by the Finance Committee and submitted to the Executive Committee for commit and approval by January 26, 2007 so it can then be approved by the IFA Board of Directors meeting on February 27, 2007.

The committee discussed items with the IFA logo that can be given away at public events and meetings. J. B. called a friend to get the price on bumper stickers. Dave Gillespie moved, seconded by Bob Sloan, that IFA, through J. B.'s contact, purchase a minimum of 1000 bumper stickers, a maximum of 5000 bumper stickers, depending on the price. Motion carried. We will also inquire at local contacts as to the price of other such items IFA can give away.

The committee discussed the IFA participating with other like organizations in the Partners in Conservation tent at the Farm Progress Show. J. B. Gates moved, seconded by Bob Sloan, that IFA budget \$250.00 to pay for space in the tent, and the Dave Gillespie should be listed as the IFA contact person. Motion carried.

The committee then discussed the Partnership Tree. Ray asked for input as to other groups/organizations that should be added to the limbs, trunk, and roots of the tree. The Illinois Association of RC&D's (we will get the correct name of the organization) be added to the trunk. Other groups and organizations were added to Ray's master copy of the Partnership Tree. Dave will check to see if the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has foresters and forestry activities. We were all encouraged to send Dan Price the list of branch and/or root organizations we are willing to be the liaison. Ray had a letter to all current branch and root organizations in which he explained that concept of the

Partnership Tree, and then asked them to join in that concept with the other organizations on the tree. Dave will give those letters to Sarah for her to type and send to these organizations.

The revised IFA brochure was discussed. J. B. Gates moved, seconded by Bob Sloan, that IFA have 20,000 brochures printed. Motion carried.

After a discussion on dues, J. B. Gates moved, seconded by Bob Sloan, that the Sustaining Member dues be changed from \$250 to \$100. Motion carried.

J. B. Gates moved, seconded by Dave Gillespie, that Dave be authorized to purchase up to 5000 copies of IFA stationery. Motion carried.

At the Ag Legislative Roundtable held in Bloomington on January 2, 2007, Bob Sloan moved, seconded by Dave Gillespie, that IFA participate in the Ag. Legislative Day and pay the \$150.00 registration fee to participate. Motion carried.

The committee then discussed the progress IFA has made since beginning as an organization just one year ago. We agreed IFA has made great progress overall, has experienced the growing pains associated with the start-up of any new organization, but still has a lot to accomplish. We discussed the need for leadership training. We also agreed we need learn how to communicate better as an Executive Committee.

Due to the lateness of the day, further discussion of this topic was postponed until a future meeting. The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

David A. Gillespie
Secretary