



National Association of
Conservation Districts

North Central Region Board Meeting

Via Zoom

February 4, 2021

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Attendance:

Dennis Carney, IA

Dale Shumaker, IL

Roger Wenning, IN

Bob Hettmansperger, IN

Gerald Miller, MI

Elaine Brown, MI

Kurt Beckstrom, MN, Region Vice Chair

Ryan Britt, MO

Ron Willis, MO

Kris Swartz, OH, Region Chair

Monte Osterman, WI

Alex Schmidt, Executive Board

Beth Mason, North Central Region

Representative, Recorder

Others in attendance: (will receive tally via recording)

Minutes

10:00 am

Roll Call and Welcome

Kris Swartz opened the meeting and turned it over to Beth Mason for Roll Call.

Beth Mason took roll call of region board members and alternates. Audience members were asked to type their name and affiliation in the chat box.

Approval of Minutes

Minnesota: Motion to accept the minutes from 1/6/21

Second

Motion passed unanimously

Region Account Update

Mason shared her screen to show the most updated account information. The region dues invoices went out on 1/12/21 and to date six of the eight states have paid their dues.

Region MOA

The board ratified the MOA without dissent.

January 2022 North Central Region Meeting Discussion

Swartz gave an update on the January 2022 meeting plans to be held in Ohio. Mason will get together with the Ohio staff with options, possible dates and present to the board at the summer board meeting. The meeting will be scheduled around the No-Till Conference (January 4 – 7) and the IASWCD meeting (January 23 – 25) – usually sometime within the first week of January.

Executive Board Report with Q&A

Alex Schmidt gave his report and fielded questions.

Audience Introductions

Per request, the audience was asked to introduce themselves.

Officer Comments – Ian Cunningham, Secretary-Treasurer

Region Hot-Topic(s) Discussion:

Aquifer Draw Down – Kris Swartz (lead)

Healthy Soils Legislation – Jerry Miller (lead)

STAR Update – Steve Stierwalt (lead)

State comparisons – Dennis Carney requested a survey for the region's states to complete to help board members better understand the differences between states and how they function. Beth Mason will work with Swartz, Carney and other board members to pull together a north central region survey and a one-pager of the results to share with the board.

Officer Comments – Michael Crowder, President-Elect

Officer Comments – Kim La Fleur, Second Vice President

List of Upcoming Meetings:

- 2021 NACD Virtual Fly-In – the week of March 22, 2021
- [2021 NACD Summer Board Meeting](#), Chicago, IL - July 24 – 27, 2021
- 2022 NACD North Central Region Winter Board Meeting, Ohio (location and dates TBD)

State Round Table Updates/Discussion:

Wisconsin – Monte Osterman

Osterman gives an update on Wisconsin, then asks the board to review the region funds to see if there is enough to donate to the Friends of NACD grant program. Mason shares the account information on her screen and reviews projected spending for the next year.

Motion (WI): The North Central Region will donate \$1,000 from the region funds to support the Friends of NACD grant program

Second

Motion passed unanimously

Iowa – Dennis Carney

Carney gives an update on Iowa and leads a discussion on how far into 2021 states are cancelling their in-person meetings due to COVID-19 concerns.

Indiana – Roger Wenning

Wenning gives an update on Indiana and their new staff member dedicated to urban conservation.

NRCS Partner Update – Salvador Salinas, Central Region Conservationist

Salinas joins the meeting and gives an NRCS update both nationally and regionally. He will follow up with Mason and provide her with materials to distribute to the region board.

Officer Comments – Tim Palmer, President

Meeting is adjourned at 12:00 pm EST