



North Central Region Summer Board Meeting

July 8, 2020

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm Central/7:30 pm – 9:00 pm Eastern (approx.)

Zoom Meeting

ATTENDANCE

Dennis Carney, IA
Steve Stierwalt, IL
Tom Beyers, IL
Roger Wenning, IN
Gerald Miller, MI
Kurt Beckstrom, MN
Steve Sunderland, MN

Ryan Britt, MO
Ron Willis, MO
Kris Swartz, OH
Monte Osterman, WI
Alex Schmidt, Executive Board
Beth Mason, NACD Region Representative, Recorder

Others in attendance: 12

A quorum was present with all 8 states represented.

MINUTES

Welcome and Introductions

NACD Executive Board Report with Q & A.....Alex Schmidt, Executive Board Member

Schmidt gave a brief report on the Executive Board activities and opened it up for questions.

Officer Comments

All of the NACD officers joined the meeting and each were given a chance to give some comments and ask questions. This included (in order of comments): Tim Palmer (President), Kim LaFleur (2nd Vice President), Michael Crowder (President-Elect), and Ian Cunningham (Secretary-Treasurer).

Round Table Discussion Each state in attendance along with NACD

Focus will be on diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI)

Questions to consider for discussion:

- Has your association updated it's statutes on SWCD board appointment process?
- Does your association provide any election or appointment guidance to your district members?
- Are there any organization or NGOs that you work with on citizen board involvement? Any ideas on who could?
- Is there anything NACD could provide?

Alex Schmidt and Tim Palmer led a round table discussion on the topic, calling on each state's representative if they had some information to share or questions to ask.

Kim LaFleur shared the activities and discussion of the NACD District Operations/Member Services Committee on DEI.

NRCS also participated in the round table.

Partner Reports

No written reports were submitted.

NRCS Updates:

- Terrell Erickson, East Regional Conservationist
- Angela Biggs, Wisconsin State Conservationist

NCDEA Updates:

- Melissa Higbee, Vice President
 - In Melissa’s update she included an update on the National Conservation Planning Partnership (NCP) and suggested the board visit the new website at either ncpp.info or nationalconservationplanningpartnership.com and sign up for their updates.
- Chessa Frahm, North Central Representative

Committee Updates – a regional perspective

- Communications Committee – Steve Stierwalt, IL
- District Operations/Member Services Committee – Kurt Beckstrom, MN; Monte Osterman, WI
- Legislative Committee – Alex Schmidt, Vice Chair; Tim Palmer, President
- Natural Resources Policy Committee – Roger Wenning, IN passed.
- Stewardship and Education Committee – Gerald Miller, MI

Resource Policy Group and Special Committee/Task Force updates

Due to a shortage of time, this agenda item was skipped.

S.T.A.R. update **Steve Stierwalt, IL**
No written report was submitted.

Approval of Minutes **Kris Swartz, Region Chair**
Indiana – Motion to accept the minutes
Second – but must change the date to 2020
Motion passed unanimously with the change.

North Central Region Account Update **Beth Mason, Region Representative**
Beth Mason supplied a written report in advance and for the sake of time, opened the floor for any questions on the report.

Region Winter Board Meeting Discussion

Because the meeting is in January 2021 and is smaller in scale, the board felt that a decision on whether to hold the meeting or not can be postponed until around September, when we will see how states are managing at the beginning of the school year. Monte Osterman (WI) suggested that we leave the decision up to the host state (Ohio) if they feel they can still host the meeting. Beth Mason will check back in on this in early fall.

There was a brief discussion on state association meetings being held as virtual meetings.

Other Business/Items for Discussion

Gerald Miller (MI) suggested it is not too early to consider resolutions. He suggested the region consider putting together a resolution to encourage NRCS to conduct updated soil surveys in the Mississippi and Missouri River floodplains affected by the 2008, 2011, and 2019 floods.

Monte Osterman (WI) shared a quick update on the Bylaws Committee and their next area of focus which would include virtual meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- NACD Awards Nominations open July 1 – August 31.
- NACD Executive Board Member Election to be held at the NACD Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA. Look for the announcement to come later this summer.

- NACD Region Chair and Region Vice Chair Elections to be held at the January North Central Region Board Meeting.
 - Conservation Planning Boot Camp has been cancelled for 2020
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UPCOMING MEETINGS:

NACD Summer Board Meeting: July 20, 2020, via Zoom. Information to be emailed to the board.

North Central Region Winter Board Meeting: January 6 - 7, 2021, Columbus, OH (location TBD). (Suggestions for guest speaker(s) are welcome).

NACD 75th Annual Meeting: February 6 – 10, 2021, New Orleans, La. Visit <http://www.nacdnet.org/news-and-events/annual-meeting/> for updates as they are available.