

# The LICA News

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The Land Improvement Contractors of America

July/August 2014



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## Mark your Calendars!



**2015 National  
LICA Winter Convention**  
**Tampa, Florida**  
**February 9-15**

## LICA Wins in Indy!



*Members at the Indianapolis Speedway*

The 2014 National LICA Summer Meeting had more than a few highlights; from the tours to the hard work shown at the committee meetings. LICA members were ready to work and play in Indy!

At the Indianapolis Motor Speedway tour attendees were actually able to get on the track! After a tour of the facility members had chance to walk through the museum and see the history of the Speedway. One member said, "We could have spent hours just at the museum!" Everyone who went on the tour agreed it was informative and fun.

For all of the "artists" in LICA there was a Wine & Canvas event. About fifteen attendees, both male and female, created beautiful works of art and drank wine. By the end of the event everyone considered themselves professionals. A secret judge picked the top three paintings: Merlin Welch, CA; Jim Pruss, NE and Maura Dibble, NY.

The next day was all about heavy equipment and a two-stage ditch. The Caterpillar plant in Lafayette welcomed LICA to see what goes into an engine. The plant tour, led by retired employees was an in-depth look at CAT. Following the tour, Caterpillar gave members a hot lunch buffet.

Participants then traveled to Purdue ThrocMorton Farm where Indiana LICA and Purdue University had constructed a two-stage ditch. Students from the University were on hand to answer members questions. Some of their Project Goals were: determining the water quality impacts of the two-stage ditch and compare the establishment and nutrient uptake of alternative seeding mixes for bench vegetation.

At West Side Tractor LICA members participated in a Backhoe Rodeo. There were three events including: pushing a soccer ball in a net, putting three tires on a post, and building a structure on a table with blocks of wood. Stuart Anderson of Illinois emerged the winner and received a mini ipad from Schlatter's Inc. as well as gift certificates from West Side Tractor.

Thursday morning started with a very informative and engaging seminar from Mel Roberson of LegalShield. He gave many examples of why everyone should have legal representation. Following Mel, Corey Rimmer and Jim Carney of CNA presented Haz Com Training. It was an in depth, updated training and addressed the 2012 revised 1910.1200 Hazard Communication Standard. The final seminar of the morning was from Robert Taylor of Rainwave, a division of Trimble. He informed LICA members of Rainwave, a precipitation monitoring solution provides you with vital rainfall data specific to the job.

**The Land Improvement  
Contractors of America**



THE LICA NEWS is the official publication of the Land Improvement Contractors Association, dedicated to the professional conservation of soil and water. LICA was founded in 1951 and is today comprised of twenty-four chapters across the continental United States

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THE LICA NEWS welcomes letters, subject to editing for accuracy and brevity. THE LICA NEWS also welcomes articles relevant to the land improvement industry. Include your name and daytime phone number for verification purposes.

Deadlines are the twenty-first of the month preceding issue date. All unsolicited material must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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## President's Message

Fellow LICA Members,

I am still reeling from the great time we all had in Indianapolis! This year's Summer Meeting had so many high points. Every tour was well-attended and so much fun. The Pinewood Derby was quite an exciting event; members and exhibitors alike definitely enjoyed themselves.

I want to thank all the exhibitors and sponsors that helped put on this great Summer Meeting. Everyone including myself have great memories of the week.

Now it's time to get back to work!

*Bob Clark*

Bob Clark  
National LICA President

## Nebraska Construction Expo a Huge Success!



The first Nebraska LICA Construction Expo & Field Day held July 31st was a huge success. The Expo attracted almost 400 attendees from the surrounding states and as far away as New York. This exciting event was both educational and fun.

It provided contractors with the opportunity to visit with multiple associates, experience hands on testing of equipment, and see the latest innovations and products related to land improvement and soil conservation equipment.

Admission was free and the general public was invited.

Golfers headed out to the famous Brickyard crossing in the afternoon. They enjoyed beautiful weather and views while playing 18 holes.

The event that had been two years in the making had finally arrived that evening. The Boy Scout Pack 105 brought their Pinewood Derby track and organized the Derby race. Members could feel the energy in the air. The Scouts had a computer program which converted each cars speed into miles per hour and posted the times and rankings on a screen. There were many heats and in the end the ultimate winner was Adam Zimmermann of Caterpillar. During the racing the exhibitors were able to connect with LICA contractors. The exhibitors ranged from equipment dealers to insurance agents all with something for the LICA member. Associates'



*Finish Line of the Pinewood Derby*

Night ended up a big success on all fronts.

After kicking off the meeting with a bang it's no surprise the membership was ready to get to work in committee meetings. All the committees came up with suggestions for educational seminars at the Winter Convention and beyond. The Legislative Committee recommended two position papers to be brought to the Board. At the Membership Committee there was a discussion on getting new members more active in LICA on the National and State levels. The sites for future Conventions and Meetings were settled during Convention Committee. They included: 2015 Winter: Tampa, FL; and 2015 Summer: Little Rock, AR.

At the Board Meeting on Saturday committee minutes were reviewed and many motions were passed.



*Christian and Katalina with their LICA "Volunteers" Drawing their favorite Body Parts.*

It was a productive meeting where members got to hear all the committee ideas. That afternoon some members went go-karting while others enjoyed shopping and entertainment in and around the hotel.

The last night members were rolling in the aisles from the comedic, magical stylings of Christian and Katalina from "Mind Tripping". The pair amazed with magic tricks while cracking jokes the whole time. Some members were selected to get up on stage and join in the fun.

<b>Budget 2014/2015</b>	
<b>Income</b>	Budget
Contractor Dues	244,500.00
Associate Dues	11,000.00
Affil & Subs	1,000.00
Member Services	3,000.00
Interest	1,000.00
Registration	75,000.00
Summer Meeting	23,500.00
Magazine	3,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>362,000.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Rent	23,700.00
Office Supplies	4,000.00
Postage	3,000.00
Professional Services	4,000.00
Print and Publications	4,000.00
Telephone	3,000.00
Bank Charges	300.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>42,000.00</b>
National Staff	150,000.00
Taxes	5,000.00
Travel	27,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>182,500.00</b>
Legislation	15,000.00
Scholarships	2,000.00
Public Relations	20,000.00
Safety and Member Services	4,500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>41,500.00</b>
Executive Committee	20,000.00
Committees	4,000.00
Liability Insurance	2,000.00
Summer Meeting	20,000.00
Convention	50,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>96,000.00</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>362,000.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	

**Land Improvement Contractors of America**  
**Board Meeting**  
**July 19, 2014**  
**Indianapolis, IN • Indianapolis Marriott Downtown**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by President Bob Clark at 9:33 am.

**CREDENTIALS REPORT**

Brad McArdle called rolled and declared a quorum present. A complete roll call is listed below.

<b>Arkansas</b> Pres. Jim Speer	<b>New Jersey</b> Pres. Shelly Hewson
<b>California</b> Absent	<b>New York</b> Pres. David Rule (proxy)
<b>Carolinas</b> Pres. Brian Cody (proxy)	<b>North Dakota</b> absent
<b>Connecticut</b> absent	<b>Ohio</b> Pres. Jeff Billenstein (proxy)
<b>Illinois</b> Pres. David Haag	<b>Pennsylvania</b> Pres. Dan Micsky (proxy)
<b>Indiana</b> Pres. Mike Koehne	<b>South Dakota</b> Pres. Larry Gossard
<b>Iowa</b> Pres. Jay Detterman (proxy)	<b>Virginia</b> absent
<b>Kansas</b> Pres. Steve Dick (proxy)	<b>Wisconsin</b> Pres. Rusty Curtis (proxy)
<b>Michigan</b> absent	
<b>Minnesota</b> Pres. Karlen Nelson	
<b>Missouri</b> Pres. Chris Brauer	
<b>Montana</b> absent	
<b>Nebraska</b> Pres. Norma Lashley	

**Executive Committee**

Chairman absent  
President Bob Clark  
Vice Pres. Steve Anderson  
Region 1 David Rule  
Region 2 Absent  
Region 3 Mike Cook  
Region 4 Nordis Estrem  
Region 6 Brad McArdle  
Region 7 Vacant  
Region 8 Merlin Welch

**Past Presidents**

Bruce Barnhart  
Steve Gerten  
Dirk Riniker

**Associates**

Kent Rodelius

**Ladies**

Veronica Seevers

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Nordis Estrem to approve an open agenda, seconded by Dirk Riniker. Motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Motion by Steve Robertson, seconded by David Rule to approve the previous minutes of March 3, 2014 as printed in the LICA News. Motion passed.

**REPORTS**

**Chairman of the Board- Steve Miller**

Steve was unable to attend due to surgery.

**President- Bob Clark**

Since CONEXPO in March I was asked to write an article and LICA for the Drainage Contractor. In May I accompanied John Peterson, Steve Anderson, and Bruce Barnhart to Washington D.C. We met with NACD and representatives from each of our states. I also signed two position papers for LICA on the long-eared bat and the proposed EPA and USACE rule to expand the Clean Water Act. I also attended both Illinois Golf Outings.

**Treasurer- Mike Cook**

Before you are the financial statements for LICA for the nine months ending June 30, 2014. We have a healthy bank balance of \$332,751. The actual income to budget is higher than expected. Contractor dues are \$6,000 over budget with another 3 months to go. Expenses are higher than expected for printing and member services. Printing is due to the membership cards and printing promotional material. Membership Services are higher due to printing for developing states.

The 2014/2015 budget was approved to present to the board. The budget is the same as this year with a few changes. Contractor dues were increased by \$4,500. Expenses were increased for printing for an additional \$2,000 and Staff travel was increased by \$2,500 for membership drives. Dirk Riniker made a motion to pass the 2014/2015 budget as presented, second David Haag. Motion passed.

**Executive Committee- Brad McArdle**

The Executive Committee met on Tuesday night. All Region Vice Presidents gave their reports. States are having field days, golf outings and working on membership. John Peterson, the legislative liaison updated the group on the long eared bat and expanding the clean water act. It is very important for LICA to have input on these issues. Jerry reviewed benefits and planned membership drives. The financial statements were reviewed. The budget for 2014/2015 was discussed. The October meeting will be in Washington DC, where we will host agencies and other like minded groups who we can partner with to move forward our agenda.

**Chief Executive Officer- Gerald Biuso**

Since CONEXPO in March it has been hectic on all fronts, for the most part in positive ways. Although I do have two concerns:

- 1) There is a definite relaxed attitude towards membership recruiting.
- 2) A failure for most members not to explore the many benefits.

I have dedicated myself to deliver a wide variety of benefits but we will begin to lose them if our members do not step up and at least explore the potential benefits. We have lost a very good Dental Program (2 members used it) and Beyond Perks discount program (37 members used it) because of poor participation.

## Board Meeting (from page 4)

### REPORTS (Continued)

#### Chief Executive Officer- Gerald Biuso (Continued)

##### The LICA Contractor

The National Magazine "The LICA Contractor" continues to be one of our most valuable assets. It continues to grow in readership and most importantly in advertising revenues. The Spring and Summer 2014 issues were forty-four pages. The CONEXPO (Spring 2014) issue is always the largest with a drop-off the next issue (Summer 2014). Our advertisers are very loyal and have committed to four times a year. The focus of the publication is to highlight the achievements off LICA Members and to inform the members on industry news and member benefits.

##### The LICA Directory

The National 2014-15 Directory was completed and mailed. It continues to grow with our membership and we added another eight pages.

##### CONEXPO

CONEXPO 2014 was very successful for LICA. We recruited 27 new contractor members and 5 associates. Our educational track seminars where well attended and received good ratings (out of a scale of 1-5 with 5 being excellent). The complete ratings are attached. Below is our earthmoving track:

Session	Overall Score	Room Count
Automated Grade Control GPS	2.70	112
Beating Price Objection in Construction Industry	4.69	156
Pay Dirt: Mass Excavating	4.22	287
High Performance Maintenance & Lubrication for Construction Equip.	4.51	115
Concrete and Asphalt Recycling for the Small to Medium Size Demo. & Site Work Contractors	4.52	115
On the Surface:Conventional Earth Moving vs.. Tractor Pulled Scraper	2.78	103
Pay Dirt: Mass Excavating Alternatives for Mass Profit	4.39	183
Intelligent Machines Lead to Bigger Profits	4.23	86
Position Your Company for Success with GPS Technology for Earthmoving Equipment	4.26	103

##### Membership Cards Issued

In recent years LICA has been rapidly growing in membership mainly due to our many exclusive benefits. We have more benefits than any other association in the country. To protect the integrity of our benefits and to ensure only LICA members have access to them we are now issuing an Official Membership Card with a personal member number. Current members will receive their cards in June. The new card gives members access to LICA Benefits. Beginning July 1, 2014 when a member signs-up for one of our benefits they will be asked for their personal member number. What do you do when you receive your Official Membership Card?

### REPORTS (Continued)

#### Chief Executive Officer- Gerald Biuso (Continued)

Your card will be mailed to you as part of a postcard. It is made of a very heavy durable plastic. Simply separate it from the postcard. It will be wallet size and easy to carry with you at all times. Keep the remaining portion in the event you lose your card, it will also have your personal member number. This number if your proof you are a LICA member. How to use your Official Membership Card: The member number is on the front of the card and is only good for one calendar year. Each year you will be issued a completely new card and member number, providing LICA receives your dues.

##### Legislative Issues

Northern Long-Eared Bat. An Iowa member brought his concern about the possible Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) listing of the Northern Long-Eared Bat (NLEB) as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to my attention when we recently met in Las Vegas. Apparently the bat's populations are being affected by something called White Nose Syndrome (WNS), a fungal disease discovered in 2006 which is not caused by humans. Unfortunately, as of now, there is no known cure for WNS. I contacted John Peterson, and we immediately became involved with people opposed to this proposed listing. Washington DC Visit. Sent a delegation of LICA Officers: President Bob Clark, Vice President Steve Anderson and Bruce Barnhart Legislative Chairman to Washington DC to meet with leadership of the organizations in preparation for our luncheon next falls. John Peterson organized the fly in. This the first time in over two years we have visited Washington. Transportation Bill. I appointed legislative Chairman to attend the rally with John Peterson in Washington D.C. in conjunction with AEM.

##### Benefits

We successfully launched five new benefits

- The Case Discount Program
- Equipment Financing
- Legal Shield Business Protection
- Legal Shield Personal Protection
- Legal Shield Identity Theft Protection

##### New Benefit Rubble Master

They will launch a new discount program for LICA Members. As well as one years dues paid after the purchase of any new equipment and a discount rental program.

##### State Chapters

Arkansas LICA: After a slow beginning Arkansas LICA is starting to gain some momentum they now have 22 members. I did spend four days recruiting. The national staff produced and mailed their first newsletter. I will assist in membership drive is planned for September.

Maryland LICA: At the Pennsylvania LICA Convention was the first meeting of the newly formed Maryland state chapter; two members that I had recruited at CONEXPO attended and became Maryland board members. In a one-day visit to Maryland I recruited 4 new members and began to help them structure the state chapter.

Missouri LICA: A membership drive is planned for October.

Nebraska LICA: Spent four days in Nebraska recruiting the southeast and in the west. Successfully recruited nine new members. I will attend their field day in late July.

New Jersey LICA: Start membership drive in mid June.

New York LICA: I attended the annual Hard Hat Show in Syracuse. It was very successful. We did get feed back from younger members looking for new and different activities.

## Board Meeting (from page 5)

### REPORTS (Continued)

#### Chief Executive Officer- Gerald Biuso (Continued)

North Dakota LICA: The chapter is coming together and requested I assist in a membership drive in the Fargo Area. Neil Barnes Former member of Illinois LICA who has since moved to ND has become a member and proactive. I will assist with membership drive late July.

Pennsylvania LICA: I can see Pennsylvania becoming the fastest growing state chapter. With the state demographics, the many national benefits, and two insurance programs it makes Pennsylvania unique. I have made four visits into PA successfully recruiting both contractors and associates. I attended the PALICA convention and reviewed the national benefits with the attendees.

Texas LICA: We have received a great deal of interest from Texas and recruited two members at large from that state. John Weatherhead introduced me to a gentleman with many connections in Texas and would launch the state chapter. I met him at CONEXPO in March and I will visit him in the fall.

Wisconsin LICA: I will assist in a membership drive in September. Conventions & Summer Meetings

Will ask the convention committee to change the 2015 locations the Winter Convention to Tampa or warm weather location) and the summer meeting 2015 to Arkansas. Arkansas in the winter is not weather friendly. Case will submit a proposal for a summer meeting in Tomahawk, WI.

Conference for Associations CEO's

In late June I attended a conference in New York City for CEOs of Associations. Seventy-two associations were represented. I was somewhat apprehensive to learn what we may be doing wrong but to my surprise we are better off than most. They could not believe we recruited 800 members in the last two years. Two very interesting issues were emphasized. The CEO should be visible and not just for brief speeches. It helps in recruiting volunteers. The second is social media (Twitter, etc) is not viable media for associations.

Diggerland USA

Diggerland – The Ultimate Adventure Park Experience!

Diggerland USA is the most unique attraction where children and adults have the chance to ride and drive REAL full size JCB construction machinery, under the guidance of our trained staff - no driving license required. There is only one site in the USA West Berlin, NJ. I visited with them and they are a well known excavating company who took on this project and will take it to other states. They will become a LICA member and we will do promotion together to help promote our industry in a positive way. I will write a feature article for the Fall LICA Contractor Magazine.

### MOTIONS

Motion by David Haag to accept Tampa, FL as the 2015 Winter Convention site, second Mike Cook. Passed.

Motion by David Haag to accept Little Rock, AR as the 2015 Summer Meeting site, second Jim Speer. Passed.

Motion by Nordis Estrem to accept Houston, TX as the 2016 Winter Convention site, second Mike Koehne. Passed.

Motion by Nordis Estrem to accept Missouri as the 2016 Summer Meeting site, second Chris Brauer. Passed.

Motion by Nordis Estrem to accept Colorado Springs, CO as the 2017 Summer Meeting site, second Norma Lashley. Passed.

### MOTIONS (Continued)

Motion by Bruce Barnhart to accept the LICA Position Paper opposing the proposed listing of the Northern Long-Eared (NLEB) Bat as an endangered species, seconded by Larry Gossard. Passed.

Motion by Bruce Barnhart to accept the LICA Position Paper on the proposed EPA & USACE rule to expand the Clean Water Act (CWA), seconded by Mike Cook. Passed.

Motion by Mike Koehne to table the Certification Committee until it's further needed, seconded Karlen Nelson. Passed.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### Associates Advisory Committee – Thursday, July 17, 2014

The meeting was held prior to the associate display night in Indianapolis at the National Summer board meeting. The meeting was called to order by chair Kent Rodelius – the minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Those in attendance were: Katie Pullen, Norm Rozendaal, Coretha Rozendaal, Kevin Rapp, Terry Knutsen, Xenya Mucha.

An open agenda motion was made by Norm Rozendaal and seconded by Xenya- motion carried.

The summer meeting in Indianapolis was and the associates are pleased with the site and the arrangements at the hotel. The meeting rooms and display venue are excellent. As usual the meetings are well planned and executed. Thank you to those who planned and hosted the summer meeting. The associate night was well attended and the pine wood derby was a lot fun. Several local associates also joined in and displayed – we would like to encourage you to keep inviting regional members to participate in the meetings and display events.

Thank you to the National LICA for the improved communication with the associate members. We sincerely appreciate the efforts and it makes planning much easier. Please keep it up and send out notices of meetings and opportunities to support and help in any way we can. The list of attendees is helpful and important to us. If we can receive that as soon as possible following the meeting it would be very helpful.

The associates are encouraged by the growth of the membership and status of LICA as an organization. It is great to continue to be on the upswing when so many groups are struggling with membership and viability. Thanks for the efforts – the associates will continue to help with recruiting and promoting LICA in any way we can. Let keep things going and growing.

Of course we are anticipating the winter meeting in Tampa. The associates really value a location that getting to is manageable. This allows more of our members to attend and participate. Please feel free to contact us with information on this meeting as soon as it is available. Also contact us with any topics for seminars. As usual we will be supportive in any possible way.

The current officers re-elected were rolled over for another 2 year term- through 2016. Kent Rodelius – chair and Charlie Schafer –

## Board Meeting (from page 6)

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Associates Committee (Continued)

vice chair.

It was brought up that the associates feel strongly that upcoming meetings there should be at least one seminar on "water quality" issues. This is an ongoing concern to all of us in LICA no matter what our area of interest is. This is a strong recommendation for the associates.

It has been great as usual to get together as a group. Thank you for your continued support of the National Associates. We need and appreciate your business. The strong relationships and friendships these meeting provide are lasting and rewarding.

As always feel free to contact with any questions you may have or for help with upcoming events. You can count on us to continue to support the LICA on both state and national levels. Thanks again for the business you provide us with as a group.

#### Awards Committee

Did not meet

#### Budget Committee- Friday, July 18, 2014

The meeting was called to order at by Chairman Mike Cook.

Those in attendance were: Nordis Estrem, MN; Mike Cook, MI; David Rule, NY; Bob Clark, IN; Steve Anderson, IL; Merlin Welch, CA; Louis McFarland, OH; Audra Zimmerman, OH; Andy, Zimmerman, OH; Bob Clark, IN; Donna Clark, IN; Dirk Riniker, KS; Brad McArdle and Mike Koehne, IN.

Motion for and Open Agenda Nordis Estrem, seconded Merlin Welch. Passed.

Motion for an approval of previous minutes by David Rule, second Merlin Welch. Passed.

Eileen Levy went over the 2014/2015 Budget. Remained with the same budget for the most part. Proposed increasing Printing/Publications by \$2,000, travel by \$2,500, and increase Contractor Dues by \$4,500.

Motion by Nordis Estrem to approve the 2014/2015 Budget, David Rule. Passed

Motion to adjourn by David Rule, second by Brad McArdle. Passed.

#### By-Laws Committee- Friday, July 18, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Steve Gerten at 10:00 am

Those in attendance were: Steve Gerten, OH; Chris Wagner, NJ; Stuart Anderson, IL; Wayne Litwiller, IL; and Bill Doubet, IL.

Motion for an open agenda by Stuart Anderson, seconded. Passed.

Motion for an approval of the previous minutes by Bill Doubet, second by Wayne Litwiller. Passed.

There was no business to discuss.

Motion to adjourn by Stuart Anderson, seconded. Passed.

#### Certification Committee – Friday, July 18, 2014

Called to order by Dean Neiswinger at 10:00 am

Those in attendance were: Louis McFarland, OH; Karlen Nelson, MN; Jim Speer, AR; Audra Zimmerman, OH; and Andy Zimmerman, OH.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Certification Committee (Continued)

Motion for an open agenda by Louis McFarland, second Jim Speer. Passed.

Motion for an approval for the previous minutes by Louis McFarland, second Karlen Nelson.

Discussion on the need for the Certification Committee.

Motion by Andy Zimmerman to move to table Certification Committee until further need, second Louis McFarland. Passed.

Motion to adjourn by Karlen Nelson, second Andy Zimmerman.

#### Conservation, Excavating and Earthmoving Committee

##### July 18, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

Those in attendance were: David Pacheco, DC; Clem Karlin, KS; Merlin Welch, CA; John Rothberg, NJ; Rick Vlach, NE; Jeff Billenstein, OH; Paul Hettenbach, KS; Tom Beyers, IL; Chris Smidler, IN; Steve Anderson, IL; Mike Koehne, IN; Bob Clark, IN; David Rule, NY; Don Loken, MN; Lee Bunting, IL; David Haag, IL; Kevin Hohman, IN; Bob Clark, IN; Brad McArdle, NE; Paul Demuth, OH; Larry Gossard, SD; Worthin Grattan, IA; Richard Cottrell, PA; Norman Rozendaal, IA; and Jon Seevers, IL.

Motion by Worthin Grattan, second by Larry Gossard for an open agenda. Passed.

Motion by Clem Karlin for approval of previous minutes, seconded. Passed.

No issues of Old business.

Need speaker for next meeting names of person for seminar on how to figure conservation, new techniques.

-1st Topcon training, site work preparation.

-Farmer Bill NRCS standards new- John Peterson

-Water way matting/blankets and cost sharing vs. good seeding practice and good growth. When is the best time to do waterway construction summer or fall? If too dry when does grass grow best? Blankets or straw matting? What is best for the money.

Southern Illinois, use of double net mat. 16' wide with pin seeds underneath= 80 cents/ foot.

Discussed use of straw blanket vs. nothing but is labor intensive.

Paul discussed use of no till drill to crimp in blower in straw over top of seed. 2.62 for rehab watershed program, more money than in prior years. NRCS flood control will pay for rehab from watershed program. 5 year period to reconstruct old facility. More money than in prior years. States have subcommittee lists of projects; now NRCS is to sorting and prioritizing based on population.

Motion to adjourn by Bruce Barnhart, second by Clem Karlin. Adjourned.

#### Convention Committee- Friday, July 18, 2014

Called to order by Chairman Steve Anderson at 11:17 am.

Those in attendance were: Donna Clark, IN; Bob Clark, IN; Pat Wagner, NJ; Merlin Welch CA; Xenya Mucha, IL; Paul Hettenbach, Chris Wagner, NJ; Sue Vlach, NE; Linda Pruss, Ne; Linda Rule, NY; Nancy Micsky, PA; Maretta Grattan, IA; Maura Dibble, NY; Rick Vlach, NE; Patti McArdle, NE; Stuart Anderson, IL; Diane Curtis, WI; Marylin Robertson, NC; Evelyn Cottrell, PA; John

## Board Meeting (from page 7)

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Convention Committee (Continued)

Weatherhead, FL; Jim Speer, AR; Paul Demuth, Shelly Hewson, NJ; Andy Zimmerman, OH; Audra Zimmerman, OH; Nancy Micsky, PA; Mike Koehne, IN; Chris Smidler, IN; Jeff Billenstein, OH; Bob Clark Jr., IN, Mike Cook, MI; David Rule, NY; Steve Anderson, IL

Motion for an Open Agenda by Stuart Anderson, Veronica Seevers. Passed.

Motion for an approval of previous minutes Nordis Estrem, second David Rule. Passed.

Steve Anderson clarified the voting rules for the Convention Committee. A representative for each region are the only voting members. Input from all attendees is welcome.

The motions that were made in Convention Committee from March were not brought to the Board and are still open.

Discussion on the Winter 2015 meeting. John Weatherhead presented Tampa, FL, he explained that there were no equipment sites to visit but there is a Budweiser plant and cigar factory in the area. Shelly Hewson brought up the fact that the hotel in Tampa is not within walking distance to a town. Nancy Micsky brought up a concern that at this late in the year we might not be able to find another location. Pat Wagner asked about the parking situation, John was unsure at this time. Chris Smidler suggested San Antonio, TX.

Motion by Mike Cook to go to Tampa, FL, in Winter 2015 second Nordis Estrem. Passed.

#### Summer Meeting 2015

Jim Speer gave information on Little Rock, AR. Steve Anderson explained the possible tours for Little Rock, including a Caterpillar plant, Bayou Meto Basin Project, Golf, and dinner cruise.

Motion by Nordis Estrem to go to Little Rock, David Rule. Passed.

#### 2016 Winter

Chris Smidler suggested San Antonio, TX. Houston, TX was also brought up.

Merlin Welch made the motion to go to Houston, TX, second Mike Cook. Passed.

#### 2016 Summer

Discussion on Missouri for the 2016 Summer Meeting.

Motion by Nordis Estrem to go to Missouri, Norma Lashley. Passed.

Nordis Estrem presented Colorado Springs for Summer 2017. There are direct flights from several major airports. Elegant Hotel has a rate of \$129/night. She also investigated two Hilton properties. There are zoos, museums, railroads, two theatres, etc.

Norma Lashley made a motion to go to Colorado Springs in Summer 2017, second by David Rule. Passed.

Motion by Mike Cook to adjourn, Nordis Estrem seconded. Passed.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Devotions Committee– Friday, July 18, 2014

Called to order by Chairman, Evelyn Cottrell at 9:00 am. Those in attendance were: Evelyn Cottrell, PA; Maretta Grattan, IA; Coretha Rozendaal, IA; Judy Beyers, IL; Linda Rule, NY; and Norma Lashley, NE.

Motion for an open agenda by Judy Beyers, second Coretha Rozendaal. Passed.

Motion for an approval of the previous minutes by Linda Rule, second Norma Lashley. Passed.

Maretta Grattan found a speaker for the two days for Devotions this year.

Motion was made by Coretha Rozendaal, second by Judy Beyers to give the speaker \$100 for the two days.

It was suggested to notify the National Office of Devotion's Chairman if you ask a speaker to come and speak or if you have something that you would like to do for Devotions ahead of time. So enough time can be arranged for the meeting.

#### Education and Technology Committee- Friday, July 18, 2014

Motion by Judy Beyers to adjourn, second Linda Rule. Adjourn.

Called to order by Chairman, Merlin Welch, CA at 8:50 am

Those in attendance were: Merlin Welch, CA; Joanie Micsky, PA; Nancy Micsky, PA, Shelly Hewson, NJ, John Rothberg, NJ; Xenya Mucha, IA; Audra Zimmerman, OH; Maura Dibble, NY; Don Loken, MN; and Paul Demuth, OH.

Merlin Welch, CA, read the minutes from the Las Vegas in March 2014.

Merlin Welch talked about the Educational Seminars for Con-Expo.

Future topics for discussion and/or seminars:

Changes in Compliance in the Safety Data sheets

Electronic Technology responsibility in the workplace – how does the employer deal

With managing the technological data that they share on the employee's personal devices.

The evolving emission regulations

Upcoming OSHA rules and requirements

Training of the new Zywave LICA Portal.

Human Resources - ADP and Unemployment regulations

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 am

#### Executive Directors' Meeting- Thursday, July 17, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Patti McArdle, at 1:04 pm. Those in attendance were: Patti McArdle, NE; Penny Hughs, KS; Nancy Schlatter, IN; Marilyn Robertson, NC; Janet Burtle-Doubet, IL; Maura Dibble, NY; Nordis Estrem, MN; Joanie Micsky, PA; Diane Curtis, WI; Mark Wilson, OH; Mike Cook, MI; Audra Zimmerman, OH; John Peterson, LICA Government Relations; Eileen Levy, LICA; Allison Hack, LICA; Jerry Biuso, LICA CEO.

Eileen Levy talked to the Executive Directors about Associates. If the state sends their list of Associates to national, she will see that they will receive the LICA Contractor magazine. The states can

“Board Meeting” > 9

## Board Meeting (from page 8)

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Executive Directors Meeting (Continued)

also send in the list of Secondary members, ie: father/son, brothers, or employee, to be included in the directory, if desired. Cell phones will be listed in the national directory, if the member wants it listed. She addressed all issues with the membership cards, and the numbers. She asked the Executive Directors to remember to put the sponsor's name on the new member application when sending it in.

John Peterson discussed some of the current legislative issues; the Highway Trust Fund, the Long Eared Bat, the Endangered Species and the Clean Water Act.

All Executive Directors gave a report on what has been happening in their state.

Jerry Biuso, CEO, talked about benefits and membership. He then introduced Katie Pullen, marketing manager for CASE. She talked about their company involvement with LICA.

An eight page draft of the Executive Director Guideline was reviewed. Directors were asked to study it and bring any revisions to the winter 2015 meeting where the guide will be finalized.

A list of topics for future meetings was rated by the directors. These topics will be used at a possible meeting at the national office or during our regular convention meeting time frame.

Bruce Mosier, of Prins Insurance, gave a presentation on Zywave and the LICA Portal. This benefit is to be launched in September. The next meeting will be held at the winter convention.

Penny Hughs, KS, made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:15, seconded by Nordis Estrem, MN, motion carried.

#### Insurance and Safety Committee- Friday, July 18, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 am.

Those in attendance were: Karlen Nelson, MN; Louis McFarland, OH; Bruce Mosier, IA; Jim Pruss, NE; Jim Jansen, IA; John Rothberg, NY; Don Loken, MN.

Motion for an open agenda by Louis McFarland, seconded by Don Loken. Passed.

Motion for an approval of previous minutes by Louis McFarland, seconded by Jim Pruss.

Need information on heavy duty ropes or towing. New Benefit from Prins Insurance Zywave, online service for information on safety matters; everything from cell phone policies through Laws, comp. questions. Bruce Mosier discussed this new benefit, starting sometime September 2014.

Keep Updates on 10 hour OSHA and competent person training , consider a course on this subject.

The subject came up of lack of membership coming to summer meetings because of busy schedules. Consider roundtable meeting to discuss Do's and Don'ts of snow removal.

Motion to adjourn by Jim Pruss, second by John Rothberg. Adjourned

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Ladies Committee- Friday, July 18, 2014

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

Those in attendance were: Marsha Haag, IL; Nancy Micsky, PA; Coretha Rozendaal, IA; Maretta Grattan, IA; Patti McArdle, NE; Norma Lashley, NE; Linda Pruss, NE; Miranda Benedict, MO; Sue Vlach, NE; Janice Litwiller, IL; Joanie Micsky, PA; Shelly Hewson, NJ; Linda Rule, NY; Marilyn Robertson, NC; Evelyn Cottrell, PA; Marie Bunting, IL; Judy Beyers, IL;

Motion for an open agenda by Evelyn Cottrell, second by Coretha Rozendaal. Passed.

Motion for an approval of previous minutes by Linda Rule, second by Nancy Micsky. Passed.

Treasurers Report was given by Veronica Seevers and Judy Beyers. \$4,296.00 Silent Auction raised approx.. \$806.00. \$1,000 given to the scholarship fund. Discussion on how to spend money on ladies programs. If we accrue more, to give extra to scholarship.

Emails sent out for reminders about Silent Auction. Suggested to send to the Executive Directors. Extra sets of dishcloths for sale and box of popcorn.

Winter Convention in Tampa, FL- Feb 2015. Summer Meeting location tentative.

Ladies would like a tour or bring in a program for Tampa. Marsha Haag will work with the Convention and Visitors Bureau. Program such as make & take, cooking demo or flower arranging was suggested. Jewelry raffle and 50/50 raffle will be fundraiser for Tampa. Motion by Sue Vlach, seconded by Coretha Rozendaal. Passed. We will send pictures and tickets to states before their winter conventions. Evelyn Cottrell made a motion to spend up to \$1,000 on the Ladies Program and up to \$500.00 on children's program, second Norma Lashley. Motion passed.

Motion by Linda Rule to adjourn, seconded by Patti McArdle. Passed.

#### Legislative Committee- July 18, 2014

Meeting was called to order on July 18, 2014, at 8:45 a.m.

Those in attendance were: Bruce Barnhart, IA; Stuart Anderson, IL; Paul Hettenbach, KS; Bill Doubet, IL; Wayne Litwiller, IL; Marilyn Robertson, NC; David Rule, NY; Louis McFarland, OH; Lee Bunting, IL; Jim Speer, AR; Tom Beyers, IL; John Weatherhead, FL; Chris Wagner, NJ; Karlen Nelson, MN; Nordis Estrem, MN; Larry Gossard, SD; Chris Brauer, MO; Richard Cottrell, PA; Patti McArdle, NE; Steve Anderson, IL.

Minutes of the February meeting were read and were approved in a motion by Tom Beyers and Louis McFarland.

Old Business:

Bruce Barnhart report on legislative trips to Washington, D.C. made this spring including spirited joint meetings on the transportation bill.

The Long-Eared Bat

The committee reviewed a position paper in opposition to placing the long-eared bat on the endangered species list due to an outbreak of fatal white-nose disease that is currently plaguing the bat

## Board Meeting (from page 9)

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Legislative Committee (Continued)

population. This could potentially affect 38 states, and it is maintained by opposition groups that it could cripple all land improvement and development work for as much as six months of each year. There appears to be wide opposition to this measure, and on July 17 it was announced the comment period will be extended for six months.

Motion was made by Louis McFarland and seconded by Bill Doubet to endorse the position paper and recommend its approval by the Executive Committee.

#### The Clean Water Act (CWA)

In a very controversial act, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) had proposed changes to the CWA, particularly to the definition of Waters of the United States (WOTUS). Such changes would effectively put all waters under EPA control. Members of the committee reviewed a draft position paper that would oppose this proposal. Nordis Estrem made a motion seconded by Tom Beyers that the committee endorse the position paper and recommend its approval by the Executive Committee. Pending this action, the position paper will be submitted to the EPA by the close of its official comment period on July 21.

Members of the committee and members of LICA in general were encouraged to submit their personal expressions of disapproval of this proposal to their legislators and others. Karlin Nelson of Minnesota warned that the EPA is counting on-line signatures to letters such as the Farm Bureau's as a single opposition statement, regardless of the number of signatures.

#### EPA Garnishment Initiative

On July 17, the EPA announced that it is withdrawing its proposal to invoke the Debt Collection Improvement Act which they contended would enable them to garnish wages for the collection of fines without going through the courts. The proposal itself set off an immediate flurry of protest. It is important to note that this proposal was made and withdrawn all within a two-week period.

#### Other Old Business

Members of the committee reported on on-going state initiatives of which the Legislative Committee has been keeping apprised: Bruce Barnhart cited an example of the effectiveness of just one person in revising an Iowa law to allow contractors to move equipment just like farmers moving tractors down the road.

Illinois continues to struggle with prevailing wage issues but saw some small relief in a measure that enables landowners to do their own work without prevailing wage. Although this would seem to be contradictory to what contractors might like to see happen, it does indicate a foot-in-the-door to prevailing wage negotiation.

Minnesota continues to wrestle with farm taps. The prevailing use of locating contractors has seemed to make the situation even more difficult.

#### New Business

##### Federal Fuel Tax Increase

In an effort to gain a feel for members' opinions with regard to increasing the federal fuel tax, Bruce Barnhart polled contractors in

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Legislative Committee (Continued)

the room. The following discussion resulted in the committee making a motion that LICA develop a position paper in support of raising the federal fuel tax and that those funds be dedicated to transportation infrastructure. The motion was made by Bruce Barnhart and seconded by Bill Doubet.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 in a motion made by Nordis Estrem and seconded by Bill Doubet.

Approved Position Papers:

#### **LICA Position Paper on the proposed EPA & USACE rule to expand the Clean Water Act (CWA).**

On April 21st, 2014, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) released a proposed rule to significantly expand the Clean Water Act (CWA). The public has until July 21st, 2014 to comment on this proposal. LICA will respond.

The CWA defines the Waters of the United States (WOTUS), and the Supreme Court has reviewed this definition on multiple occasions. Although U.S. v Riverside Bayview (1985) gives the EPA broad authority to categorize bodies of water as WOTUS, in its two most recent cases, SWANCC v. Army Corps of Engineers (2001), and Rapanos v. United States (2006), the definition was narrowed. The narrower reading includes a test for determining whether "other waters" are WOTUS. The Court concluded that Congress intended that the CWA's jurisdiction be limited to navigable waters and non-navigable waters that have a "significant nexus" to navigable waters, including wetlands adjacent to navigable waters. This is the "significant nexus test" brought about by a concurring opinion in Rapanos by Justice Kennedy.

The proposed rule also includes what is not a WOTUS, including prior converted cropland, ditches that are excavated wholly in "uplands," drain only in uplands, and have less than perennial flow; ditches that do not contribute flow to a navigable water; artificially irrigated areas, and other areas where producers may be concerned.

On March 25th, 2014, EPA and the USACE jointly released the proposed rule defining the scope of streams and wetlands the agencies claim jurisdiction over for protection under the CWA. Earlier EPA had released a report titled Connectivity of Streams and Wetlands to Downstream Waters: A Review and Syntheses of the Scientific Evidence, which was to serve as the scientific support for the upcoming release of the new rule. That report was a predictor of the broad and expansive rule released on April 21st. In promotional materials released by the EPA, they claim the proposed rule;

- Reduces confusion about CWA protection.
- Clarifies the types of waters covered under the CWA.
- Saves businesses time and money.
- Provides more benefits to the public than it costs.
- Helps states to protect their waters.
- Increases CWA program predictability and consistence by increasing clarity as to the scope of WOTUS.

## Board Meeting (from page 10)

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Legislative LICA Position Paper (Continued)

- Minimizes the number of case-specific determinations on whether something is a WOTUS.
- Brings certainty and predictability, including to agriculture.
- Was encouraged by the Supreme Court and the agricultural community.
- Does not add to or expand the scope of waters historically protected under the CWA.

LICA's initial review of the proposed rule leads us to conclude that many of the EPA and USACE's claims are oversimplified or exaggerated. Accepting their definition of what is a tributary, would vastly expand their regulatory power. EPA declares that all tributary waters "...have a 'significant nexus' to a traditional navigable water, interstate water, or territorial sea, such that they are 'Waters of the United States' without the need for a separate, case-specific significant nexus analysis." They also say that a 'tributary' may be "... ephemeral, intermittent, or perennial, but the tributary must drain, or be part of a network of tributaries that drain into waters which are currently used, used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate commerce in the future."

Using the term "ephemeral" gives EPA tremendous regulatory power because ephemeral is defined by most people as transitory, transient, fleeting, short lived, momentarily brief, and as Webster says, "lasting one day only." LICA believes EPA and the USACE have concluded that all tributaries are to be considered WOTUS. Not a lot escapes this definition. There is not much left that EPA cannot claim jurisdiction over when it comes to water coming off your property. Many believe the CWA is not about water at all, but is a land-use control act.

LICA also believes that many of the conservation practices now "exempted" from the rule were never subject to CWA jurisdiction in the first place, and practices that should certainly be exempted are not mentioned in the listing provided. EPA and NRCS say the practices "not mentioned" are exempted on other lists or rules. We would like them to be listed here.

This rule will have a substantial adverse impact on farmers, earth-moving contractors, counties, conservation districts, and watershed districts that serve as public drainage authorities, townships and counties serving as road authorities, and all property owners. It will be particularly significant in that all wetlands in the prairie pothole region of the US (MN, IA, ND, SD, and MT) will now be subject to this new rule, a position never taken before by the agency.

LICA believes this CWA proposed rule is inconsistent with other Supreme Court rulings establishing limits to federal jurisdiction over isolated wetlands and ephemeral streams. We do not believe this is what Congress intended when enacting the CWA, or what Congress or the Supreme Court told EPA and the USACE to do in clarifying its jurisdictional reach. This proposal significantly expands federal jurisdiction that will trigger additional expensive and time-consuming permitting and regulatory requirements. It also discourages the use of low-impact or "green" development practices such as rain gardens, swales, and even sediment ponds, as the language about whether developers would have to get a permit before installing these systems is unclear. The proposed rule also exacerbates the current regulatory confusion by adding new, un

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Legislative LICA Position Paper (Continued)

defined terms that will give regulators automatic federal jurisdiction over properties that contain isolated wetlands, ephemeral streams, or any land features covered under the expansive definition of 'tributary.' It also fails to appropriately recognize the states' authority to regulate what have historically been deemed "state waters."

For the reasons provided in this paper, LICA is opposed to the EPA and USACE Proposed Interpretive Rule Regarding the Applicability of the CWA. There would be no point in offering a clarifying rule unless the intent was to clarify an expanded regulatory role.

#### **LICA Position Paper opposing the proposed listing of the Northern Long-Eared (NLEB) Bat as an endangered species.**

In a Federal Register Notice (78 Fed. Reg. 61046) published by the Department of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), they propose listing the Northern Long-Eared Bat (NLEB) as an endangered species. While LICA supports the protection of truly endangered flora and fauna, we are convinced the Northern Long-Eared Bat (NLEB) does not deserve that classification.

The NLEB 's range is 38 States and DC. They are AL, AR, CT, DE, FL, GA, IL, IA, IN, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NH, NJ, NY, NC, ND, OH, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, VA, VT, WV, WI, WY and DC. The sole threat to these bat's populations is a fungal disease discovered in 2006 called White Nose Syndrome (WNS), which is not caused by humans. Unfortunately there is not yet a cure for WNS.

While LICA is concerned by the spread of WNS and the impacts on the NLEB, we believe that all measures should be appropriately tailored, based on sound scientific data, and inclusive of input from all the appropriate state agencies in the states involved. Based on comments submitted on the proposed listing, there is significant scientific disagreement over the bat's population levels and trends, and the spread and effect of WNS on the species. Although the FWS solicited comments on the proposed listing, it did not afford those state agencies an opportunity to assist in the drafting of the Interim Conference and Planning Guidance (ICPG) as Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act requires. The ICPG is overly restrictive and too broad to be used as consultation guidance, particularly if applied to non-federal lands, where most LICA Contractors work.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) is not well structured to address non-human threats such as WNS, so the FWS will likely focus on all conceivable human-induced impacts to try and slow the population decline, even though the FWS recognizes that human activities have never had an appreciable effect on the species to date. Despite that the FWS acknowledges the NLEB is not in jeopardy of extinction on account of any human-induced impacts, it is difficult to imagine any sector of the economy in the NLEB's range that would escape restrictions designed to protect the species. An endangered listing would affect virtually every segment of the economy in the states affected, as it would severely restrict activities associated with home building, commercial development, agriculture, energy development, and manufacturing. These are the activities that many LICA Contractors work in.

## Board Meeting (from page 11)

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Legislative LICA Position Paper (Continued)

The impacts to the economy are avoidable however, if the FWS complies with its statutory mandate to evaluate the best available scientific information, and consider the information the affected stakeholders have provided in comments.

LICA believes legitimate questions exist as to whether the FWS is using the best science available in evaluating the impacts of WNS on the NLEB. As a number of commenters on the proposed listing have demonstrated, the available information does not support listing the species as endangered. There is significant scientific disagreement over the bat's population levels and trends, and the spread and effect of the WNS on the species. LICA believes that a good-faith review of the stakeholder comments will lead the FWS to agree that its proposed listing is incorrect.

LICA opposes the proposed listing of the Northern Long-Eared Bat as endangered.

#### Long Term Planning/Past Presidents- July 18, 2014

Meeting was called to order by Steve Gerten.

Those in attendance were: Steve Gerten, OH; Dean Neiswinger, IN; Dirk Riniker, KS; and Bruce Barnhart, IA.

Motion for an open agenda by Dean Neiswinger, second by Bruce Barnhart. Passed.

Tabled Certification Committee until needed.

Membership is at 2,150. There is a possibility for Florida to come back as a LICA chapter. Arkansas has a strong possibility to grow membership. Talked about succession of management.

Motion to adjourn by Dirk Riniker, second by Bruce Barnhart. Passed.

#### Membership Committee- July 18, 2014

Chairman Bruce Barnhart, IA, called the meeting to order at 2:45 pm. Those in attendance were: Bruce Barnhart, IA; Bob Clark, IN; Nancy Micsky, PA; David Rule, NY; Diane Curtis, WI; Larry Gossard, SD; Shelly Hewson, NJ; John Rothberg, NJ; Richard Cottrell, PA; Evelyn Cottrell, PA; Don Loken, MN; Louis McFarland, OH; Wayne Litwiller, IL; Janet Doubet, IL; David Haag, IL; Mike Cook, MI; Rick Vlach, NE; Patti McArdle, NE; Brad McArdle, NE; Chris Brauer, MO; Tom Beyers, IL; Paul Demuth, OH; Jon Seevers, IL; Jim Speer, AR; Audra Zimmerman, OH; Andy Zimmerman, OH; Chris Brauer, MO; John Weatherhead, FL; John Rothberg, NJ; Richard Cottrell, PA; Stuart Anderson, IL; Larry Gossard, SD; Maura Dibble, NY.

Andy Zimmerman, OH, asked about condensing the convention into fewer days for some of the contractors. The Membership committee would like the staff to look into the business portion into 2 days.

Bruce Barnhart, IA reviews the minutes from the March 2, 2014, Tom Beyers, IL made the motion to accept the minutes as read. Stuart Anderson, IL, seconded. Carried.

Bruce Barnhart, IA, reported that there are 2160 members currently. He talked trying to get the members to be more active in the organization. Discussion followed. Key points to be considered:

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Membership Committee (Continued)

- The Membership committee would like Jerry to look into targeting the advertising and marketing to indicate that being a member of LICA it enhances your credibility.
- People that belong to an Association are less of an insurance risk.
- Talked about sending LICA articles to other publications.
- Put "Why hire a LICA Contractor" into the LICA website in a format for the states, or ED's to make copies.
- Marketing Problem – "LICA is the best kept secret" – we need PR, stickers, for every new member.
- Make the customer aware that contractor is a LICA member
- Every Associate member should have some brochures on the counter to help promote LICA.
- Invite other associations to try to recruit them, possibility as a sub association.
- Membership should start on the state level.
- An article might be a benefit to get the word out. Also talking about the organization with each other and others outside. Testimonials from members would help. Andy Zimmerman and Bruce Barnhart would be willing to give testimonials.

Diane Curtis, WI made the motion to have National look into promotional material, such as decals, stickers, about supporting LICA. Seconded by Andy Zimmerman. Passed.

Don Loken, MN talked about the new Zywave.

The membership cards have been issued, they will be good for one year. You will get a new one, when you pay your dues.

New Benefits - Legal shield, Equipment Funding, OCS, Case new Benefit.

Remember to thank the dealers that support LICA.

Some of the members talked about their experiences with the benefits.

Nordis Estrem, MN he motion to adjourn at 3:21 pm, seconded by Andy Zimmerman, OH Carried.

#### On-Site Waste Committee – July 18, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 am.

Those in attendance were: Clem Karlin, KS; Lee Bunting, IL; Tom Beyers, IL; David Haag, IL; Brad McArdle, NE; Steve Robertson, NC; Lawrence Micsky, PA; Larry Gossard, SD; Worthin Grattan, IA; Richard Cottrell, PA; Norm Rozendaal, IA; Jon Seevers, IL; Wayne Litwiller, IL; Wray Ramsey, Canada.

Motion by Norm Rozendaal for an open agenda, second by Clem Karlin. Passed.

Motion by Clem Karlin, second by Lee bunting for the approval of the previous minutes. Passed.

The committee was pleased by the representatives of Norweco at the Associates' Night, more Associates need to be encouraged to attend. The committee would like to tour on-site waste systems at future convention locations. No other business was discussed. Motion to adjourn by Clem Karlin, second by Lee Bunting. Meeting adjourned.

## Board Meeting (from page 12)

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Policy Committee- July 18, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 1:45 pm.

Those in attendance were: Steve Anderson, IL; Karlen Nelson, MN; Norm Rozendaal, IA; Worthin Grattan, IA; Lee Bunting, IL; and Donna Clark, IN.

Motion for an open agenda by Norm Rozendaal, second Karlen Nelson. Passed.

Motion for approval of previous minutes by Norm Rozendaal, seconded Steve Anderson. Passed.

Minutes of March 3, 2014 Delegates and Board Meetings were examined for additions to the policy manual. Minutes of the March 1, 2014 Executive Meeting were examined for additions to the policy manual. Changes were noted and filed.

Motion to adjourn by Lee Bunting, seconded by Donna Clark. Passed.

#### Water Table Management – July 18, 2014

Those in attendance were: Mike Cook, MN; Bob Clark, IN; Worthin Grattan, IA; Norm Rozendaal, IA; David Pacheco, DC; Jeffry Billenstein, OH; Andy Zimmerman, OH; Kent Rodelius, MN; John Downey, OH; Dean Neiswinger, IN; Mike Koehne, IN; Steve Robertson, NC; Terry Knutsen, IA; Lawrence Micsky, PA; Jon SeEVERS, IL; Steve Gerten, OH; David Haag, IL; Kevin Hohman, IN; Bob Clark Jr, IN; Donna Clark, IN; Brad McArdle, NE; Dirk Riniker, KS; Rick Vlach, NE; Nate Cook, MI; Chris Smidler, IN; Jim Pruss, NE.

Norm Rozendaal, IA moved for an open agenda which was seconded by Ken Rodelius, MN and carried.

Bob Clark read the minutes of the last meeting from the Las Vegas winter conference. Mike Koehne moved to accept the minutes as read, which was seconded by Steve Gerten and carried.

David Pacheco, the National Construction Engineer with NRCS was given the floor to present information on the NRCS budget for this year. The FY14 budget for EQIP is \$1.35 billion, which is the same as the last few years. The Watershed Rehabilitation program started about 15 years ago as a pilot program for repairing and rehabilitation the on flood control dams built by NRCS. These dams have been built over the last 50 years and there are about 15,000 of these dams across the county. They were built with 50 year life span as most of the areas were undeveloped at that time. However, since then, several of these locations have been developed, making them high-hazard structures, which was not typically the way they were constructed. The NRCS is required to maintain and service these structures so they have \$262 million to spend on rehabilitating these structures, which is way up from prior years. Planning, designs and construction will be carried out over the course of the next 5 years.

He also reported on the EPA Proposed rule. There are 2 documents, one from ACE & EPA, to clarify definition of "water of the US", which is open for public comment through October 1st. The second document is the interpretive rule, which states the Agricultural exemption to 404 permitting. It is intended to clarify the permitting process and add activities that are exempt. EPA & USDA put together a list of 56 NRCS practices that are exempt from permitting. The list is published on the EPA website for anyone's re

### COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

#### Water Table Mgmt. Committee (Continued)

view.

Mike Cook says in Michigan, there is a difference between what the state allows and what EPA says so there is currently a discussion on this to determine what is right. Kent said that he attended a meeting where the ACE is targeting wetlands with the clarification ruling and this is not good news. After a lengthy discussion, it was recommended that everyone read the ruling on the EPA website and make their comments known while there is still time. Suggested topics for convention:

Perhaps EPA should be invited to discuss this topic;

Drainage workshop the day prior to convention;

Ask John Peterson to do an article on clarifying the EPA ruling;

Bob Clark mentioned a CIG grant for IN, OH, KY, where there is an agreement with the Electric Power Research Institute, to work on trading credits for the nitrates that are created through power plants. The grant is to see how credit trading on DWM can benefit both the landowner and the power plants.

Kent Rodelius reported ADMC just met and discussed bio-reactors, saturated buffers and other nutrient reduction practices. There is no TSP training schedule right now however; sub-irrigation is a new practice being done quite a bit. Kent thanked LICA for their support.

It was also mentioned that CAP 130 funding is going through.

Andy Zimmermann moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Mike Koehne and carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 am.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by David Haag, seconded by Norm Rozendaal to accept the committee minutes. Motion passed.

### OLD BUSINESS

Bob Clark reported on the LICA Strategic Plan and how we are virtually on track.

### NEW BUSINESS

There was discussion on different educational seminar topics. There was also an inquiry of doing another LICA Raffle.

### ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Nordis Estrem, seconded by Mike Koehne. Meeting adjourned.



# 2014 National LICA Summer Meeting



*Patti McArdle, NE; Chris Smidler, IN; & Bob Clark, IN at the Indianapolis Speedway*



*LICA Members at Purdue Throckmorton Farm*



*Wine & Canvas Event*

*Mike Koehne, IN; Merlin Welch, CA; Norma Lashley, NE; David Rule, NY; Jim Pruss, NE; Linda Pruss, NE; Sue Vlach, NE; Sally Smidler, IN; Amy Gerten, OH; Maura Dibble, NY; Nordis Estrem, MN; Allison Hack, IL; Nanci Schlatter, IN*



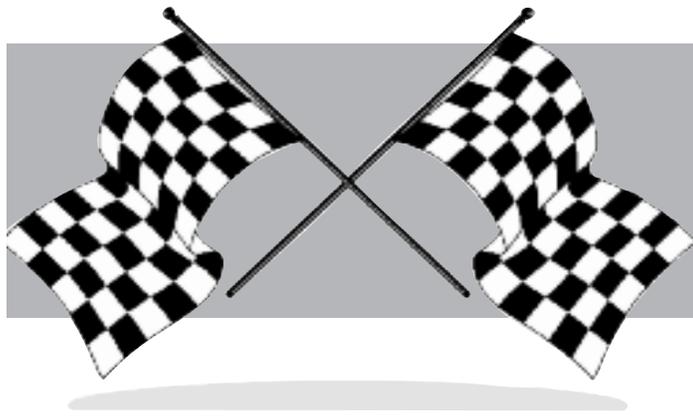
*Members participating at the Backhoe Rodeo at West Side Tractor*



*Nordis Estrem, MN onstage with Christian & Katalina's "Mind Tripping"*



*National LICA Board Meeting*



# 2014 National LICA Pinewood Derby Race



*National LICA Pinewood Derby Winner  
& Associate Race Winner  
Adam Zimmermann, Caterpillar*



*Region Race Winner  
Karlen Nelson, Region 4*



*State Chapter Race Winner  
& Executive Director Race Winner  
Chris Wagner, New Jersey LICA*



*National LICA Staff Race Winner  
Allison & Oliver Hack*



*Best in Show  
Maura Dibble, New York LICA*



*LICA Pinewood Derby Cars*



*LICA Pinewood Derby Finish Line*

**Land Improvement Contractors of America**

3080 Ogden Ave. Suite 300

Lisle, IL 60532

## 2014 National LICA Summer Meeting Sponsors



JOHN DEERE

