

MLICA Board of Directors Meeting

March 25, 2017

Bobcat of St. Louis - Columbia
Columbia Missouri

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman of the Board Chris Brauer at 10:24 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

(Names in parentheses served as proxy for absent Board Member)

Dist.#1: Jeff Lance - present	Jim Bledsoe - present
Dist.#2: Mont Gilbert - present	Jake Gingerich - present
Dist.#3: Buddy Hostetter - absent	Vacant
Dist.#4: Bob Parks - present	Gerald Bauer - present
Dist.#5: Ron Morrow - present	Greg Muenks - absent
Dist.#6: Vacant	

Executive Committee: Chairman Chris Brauer - present
President Mont Gilbert - present
Vice President Tom Lawlor - present
Secretary/Treasurer Rob Liles - absent

Staff: Debbie Dickens; Executive Director - present

Ladies Committee: Mona Bledsoe - present
Associates Committee: Vacant

Guests: Elwin Yoder, Ken Balkenbusch, Sally Bauer

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Mont Gilbert and seconded by Jeff Lance to approve the minutes of the October 29, 2016 Board Meeting as written. The motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Mont Gilbert updated the Board on the increase in our membership since the last Board meeting, as well as the renewal of the 1/10th cent Soil, Water and State Parks Sales Tax and Missouri LICA's role in that accomplishment. He thanked everyone involved.

He also reported that he attended the UFG Annual Insurance Recap meeting in Cedar Rapids, IA. He reviewed the health of the program, as well as the program's new educational funds the program will provide to each participating chapter. Missouri LICA received over \$13,000 for 2016. These educational funds will be provided annually to participating chapters for the remainder of the current five-year contract with UFG.

Mont was not able to attend the National LICA meeting in conjunction with ConExpo, so he asked Tom Lawlor to give a report. Tom reported that he had attended several committee meetings, along with his wife, Amy. The Legislative Committee reviewed the latest developments relating to the WOTUS, the fact that the Des Moines law suit was dropped; and legislative progress on locating farm taps. Tom also updated the Board on the new Residential Septic Service Plan benefit which will be launched in Missouri in early May. National LICA will be establishing a governing council for this program which will include two contractor members and the Executive Director from each participating chapter.

Tom also informed the Board that Missouri LICA was the recipient of the 2016 LICA-Kemp Legislative Award in recognition for its efforts related to the renewal of the 1/10th cent Soil, Water, and State Parks Sales Tax. In addition to a certificate, the state chapter received a \$1,000 award. Brad McArdle from Nebraska LICA moved up to the office of National LICA President and Mike Cook, Michigan LICA, was elected as National LICA Vice President.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT:

Rob Liles was absent so the Executive Director reviewed the fiscal 2016-17 financial statements and membership report. A motion was made by Mont Gilbert and seconded by Tom Lawlor to approve the Secretary/Treasurer's report. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget/By-Laws - No report.

Convention/Education - The Board reviewed the 2017 Winter Convention, including the location, food, prices, facilities, and finances. The committee is reviewing bids from several hotels for the 2018 Winter Convention but does not have a recommendation at this time, other than not to return to the Columbia Hilton Garden Inn. A motion was made by Bob Parks and seconded by Mont Gilbert to allow the Convention Committee Co-Chairs to select the site for the 2018 Winter Convention and for the Executive Director to contact the Columbia Hilton Garden Inn about the Board's decision not to return there for 2018. The motion carried. The Board confirmed that MLICA will host an auction every other year during the Convention. Since no auction was held in 2017, the 2018 Convention will include an auction for the MLICA Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Five Competent Person training sessions have been established for fiscal 2017 and 2018. The dates and locations were included in the spring issue of the **LICA News**. Thanks to the educational funds received from the UFG program, it is hoped that Missouri LICA members and their employees will be able to attend these sessions at no cost.

Damage Prevention Summit - After reviewing the 2016 Damage Prevention Summit, a motion was made by Mont Gilbert and seconded by Bob Parks to participate in the 2017 Damage Prevention Summit as a Platinum sponsor, if the fee for doing so is no higher than \$2,000. The motion carried.

Field Day - Co-Chair Jim Bledsoe reviewed plans for the August 8 Field Day to be held at the Greenley Research Center in Novelty, MO. Board members contributed to a list of possible media outlets to promote the event. The equipment needs and insurance requirements were reviewed. The committee will continue to stay in touch with Dana Harder, Superintendent of Greenley Research Center and Dr. Kelly Nelson, as details begin to get settled. The Board, by consensus, agreed that MLICA should provide t-shirts for volunteers and that those interested in working on the project should attend a pre-site meeting at noon on Tuesday, July 18. The Executive Director will confirm this date with Dana.

Government Relations - Co-Chair Jeff Lance reported that Governor Greitens had named Carol Comer as the new director for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. She is from out-of-state, so we don't know yet if this appointment will have any impact on the Soil and Water program. In addition, the Governor appointed Chris Chinn as the new director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture. Chris is a fifth-generation farmer from Clarence, MO in northeast, Missouri. Again, the appointment is too new to know if it will impact MLICA.

Jeff also reported that Missouri's fiscal 2016 may set a record for the most dollars invested in soil and water conservation projects. Marty Comstock has been named the new State Engineer for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, replacing Dick Purcell who retired last year. Marty has worked with MLICA on a number of projects over the years and is involved in our 2017 Field Day.

Ladies Auxiliary - Mona updated the Board on plans for ladies events during the 2017 Field Day. Nothing has been set yet, but she is planning to have a crafts tent and will be working with the Field Day committee as the date gets closer.

Legislation - Chair Gerald Bauer reported that the "Right to Work" legislation had passed both houses and was signed by the Governor. The only legislation the committee saw that was of interest to MLICA in particular was SJR 3, a proposal to raise the fuel tax for highway maintenance. The bill has been assigned to a committee, but hasn't moved forward since the end of February.

Membership - Committee Co-Chairs Mont Gilbert and Chris Brauer reported that they had met during the 2017 Winter Convention and distributed a list of non-renewed members to each District President. The District Presidents in attendance reported that they did not find any one reason for non-renewal. Some members had gone out of business, others never returned calls to the District President.

The committee reported that it would be establishing two new awards; one for a District and one for an Associate. The committee will report the rules/scoring for each award to the Executive Director.

A motion was made by Bob Parks and seconded by Mont Gilbert to accept the committee reports. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. **2017 Winter Convention** - See Committee Reports.
- B. **2016 Damage Prevention Summit** - See Committee Reports.
- C. **Pilot Program for Septic Warranty Program** - The Executive Director reported that the program has had a name change. It is now called the "Residential Septic Service Plan." Since LICA did not manufacture the septic systems, we are not legally able to call it a "Warranty Program." Missouri LICA will be one of three chapters to initially launch the program. It is expected that the program will launch in Missouri during the first part of May. Participants will receive brochures, applications and a list of instructions when the program is launched.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **United Fire Group Educational Funds** - See President's Report.
- B. **Competent Person Training** - See Committee Reports.
- C. **2017 Golf Fun-Raiser** - The Executive Director reported that 2017 Golf Outing & "Fun-Raiser" has been set for September 15, 2017 at the Cameron Veterans' Memorial Golf Club in Cameron, MO.
- D. **2017 Damage Prevention Summit** - See Committee Reports.
- E. **2018 Winter Convention** - See Committee Reports

A motion was made by Mont Gilbert and seconded by Tom Lawlor to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Dickens

Executive Director