

Missouri LICA NEWS

Volume 68, Number 1

The Missouri Land Improvement Contractors Association

October/November, 2008



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\$ 104,295.40 In Insurance Dividends

The LICA Safety Insurance Group has paid a total of \$104,295.40 in premium dividends to contractors who participated in the program during 2007 and are Missouri LICA contractor members. This represents a 12% dividend!

Here's how the program performed in 2007:

- ♦ Participating LICA State Chapters: Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin
- ♦ Total earned premium: \$5,196,851.71
- ♦ Total program losses: \$1,452,596.16
- ♦ Total program loss ratio: 27.95%
- ♦ Total earned premium for Missouri LICA: \$ 869,153.07
- ♦ Total Missouri LICA Losses: \$ 129,981.54
- ♦ Missouri LICA Loss Ratio: 14.96%

If your company participated in the LICA Safety Insurance Group in 2007 and you have not received your refund check, please contact the Missouri LICA office at 573-634-3001. If you would like to participate in the program, contact your independent insurance agent or contact the Missouri LICA office for the name of an agent who can get you a quote.

If you investigated the program earlier, but were unable to get a quote because of the type of business you practice, contact your independent agent (or the Missouri LICA office for the name of an agent) and ask them to contact Continental Western about the LICA II program. This new program is being developed for the higher risk contractors. At this time, the program does not qualify for a dividend; however, it does offer all the special LICA program coverages and will have a dividend program offered when the group gets large enough.

Editor's Note: *The numbers listed above vary from those included with the dividend letter because one of our members was accidentally included in Iowa LICA 's totals.*



January 9-10, 2009

It's official ... the 2009 Missouri LICA Winter Convention will be held January 9-10, 2008 at the Isle of Capri Hotel & Casino in Booneville, Mo!

For a little fun, we will step back in time ... to the 50s and 60s, to be exact. So, check the back of your closet for those white bucks or saddle shoes, Nehru shirts or poodle skirts and join us for some laughs! We'll dress up for the Exhibit Hall and for our Saturday evening festivities. The Ladies Auxiliary Entertainment Committee is working out the details, so watch your mail!

The Convention/Education Committee has also been hard at work setting up a series of classes to help you ... and your employees ... get ready for the spring construction season, while addressing the country's rocky fiscal future!

So, save the date and watch your mail for details!



Directory Changes

CONTRACTORS

Terry Johnston has a new mailing address. It is: Johnston Farms; RR 1 Box 14; Memphis, MO 63555.

COMPANY

April Hageman is the new contact for **Altorfer CAT**. Her contact information is: Phone: 319-365-0551, xt 108; Email: ahageman@altorfer.com.

Dean Machinery Co. has moved. Their new address is: 5701 E. 87th Street; P.O. Box 419176; Kansas City, MO 64141-6176.

Kim Woldengen is the new **Koch Pipeline Company** representative. Her contact information is: Phone: 651-438-1565; Cell: 612-670-2588.

Jason Beckner with **RoadBuilders Machinery** has a new address. It is: 465 Northeast 13 Highway; Warrensburg, MO 64093.

SUPPORTING

Tina Hovendick with the **Benton County Soil & Water District** has a new email address. It is: tina.hovendick@swcd.mo.gov.

Hollis Boyer has a new cell phone number. It is: 660-341-9755.

Dick Purcell with the **Natural Resources Conservation Service** has a new cell phone number. It is: 573-999-4282.

Mandy Heinen is a new contact for **Prinsco, Inc.** Her contact information is: Phone: 800-992-1725; Fax: 320-222-6820; Email: mandyh@prinsco.com.

Andrew Vogel of Prinsco, Inc.'s new new contact information is: 602 Elliott St., Apt. 4; Stanton, IA 51573; Fax: 712-829-2908; Email: AndyV@prinsco.com.

Member News

Welcome to LICA!

We'd like to welcome the following new members to Missouri LICA. We're looking forward to working with them in the coming year.

Contractors

Walt Harris; Jane
Great Plains Contractors, LLC
P.O. Box 157
Lancaster, MO 63548
District: 2 County: Schuyler
Phone: 660-457-2200
Fax: 660-457-3590
Work Categories: DB, TH
Equipment: BH, DZ, EX, TR
Sponsor: Benchmark Insurers

Phil Mather; Monica
Mather & Sons, Inc.
2811 E Ave.
Coin, IA 51636
Phone: 712-534-2529;
712-534-2528
Cell: 712-350-0135
Work Categories: DI, EC, EMC,
EXG, LL, LS, ODW, PD, R, SEP, SP,
SWU, TW, WM
Equipment: BH, DP, DZ, EX, GR,
SC, TR
Sponsor: Phillip Mather

Carl Simmons; Nicole
S&S Trenching, Inc.
22741 St. Rte. DD
Lewistown, MO 63452
District: 2 County: Lewis
Phone: 573-497-2706
Cell: 660-341-5766
Work Categories: DB, DI, EMC, PD,
SWU
Equipment: BH, DP, DZ, EX, SC, TR
Sponsor: Williams & Associates

Craig Stubinger
Craig Stubinger Backhoe Service LLC
5129 Stringtown Rd.
Lohman, MO 65053
District: 5 County: Cole
Phone: 573-782-8239
Cell: 573-690-9826
Work Categories: EXG, SP
Sponsor: Winter-Dent & Company

Contractors

Randy Widel
Weeco, Inc.
17355 Hwy 41
Booneville, MO 65233
District: 3 County: Cooper
Phone: 660-882-6211
Fax: 660-888-1339
Cell: 660-888-1339
Sponsor: Benchmark Insurers

Company Associates

RWF Bron
MLICA Contact: Jason Bleach
873 Devonshire Ave.
Woodstock, Ontario
Canada N4S 8Z4
Phone: 800-263-1060
Fax: 519-421-0028
Cell: 519-521-1185
Email: jasonb@rwfbron.com

Tri-State Construction Equip. Co.
MLICA Contact: Jim Smith
P.O. Box 225; 106 Industrial Drive
Ashland, MO 65010
District: 2 County: Boone
Phone: 573-657-2154
Fax: 573-657-1012
Email: smitty@meoi.com



Have you signed up a new member this year?

More Member News

Happy Birthday!

We'd like to wish the following members a very, very Happy Birthday!

October

- 02 Jeff Lance
Craig Spencer
- 03 Jerome Boedeker
Phillip Woods
- 05 Chick Acker
- 06 Melvin Beckemeyer
- 19 Jerry Heath
- 20 Gayle Matthews
- 22 Roger Levings
- 23 Dennis Brinton
- 24 Doug Schnitker
- 27 Bill Bader
Gene Rotert

November

- 02 Larry LaFollette
- 05 Olin Struchtemeyer
Bennie Young
- 06 John Bestgen
- 11 Angela Johnston
- 13 Barbara Alexander
- 15 Arlene Hill
- 17 Gene Bell
- 18 Gladys Wyatt
- 20 Greg Alderson
- 25 Clint Levings
- 26 Ryan Dobson
Andrew Vogel
- 28 Helen Kleinsorge
- 30 Diana Kelly

December

- 01 Bob Cretzmeyer
Jane Harris
- 06 Butch Cooper
- 08 Loretta McClanahan
- 09 Dana Rackers
- 10 Larry Slayden
- 12 Caryl Lance
- 18 Steve Milne
- 19 Norman Boone
Carl Simmons
- 20 Terry Guinn
- 21 Eric Levings
- 22 Paul Jacquin
- 23 Rod Schottel
- 24 Chantel Brewster
- 27 Roger Limback
- 28 Mike Hern
- 29 Randy Acker
Ralph Bailey
- 31 Sarrah Dobson
Vera Tague

2009 Winter Convention

January 9-10, 2009
Isle of Capri Hotel & Casino
Booneville, MO

Watch your mail for details! To take advantage of the discounted room rate of \$69 (plus tax), make your hotel reservations by **December 21, 2008**. Call 800-941-4753 and tell them you're with LICA.

Drainage Workshop

February 18-20, 2009
Ramada Inn
St. Joseph, MO

Watch your mail for details! To take advantage of the discounted room rate of \$75 per night (plus tax), call 800-748-0036 by **January 28, 2009** and tell them you're with LICA.



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Columbia, MO - Howard Jones
(800)-295-5519 Office

Moscow Mills, MO - Mike Butler
(636) 366-9400 Office
(636) 226-8408 Cell

Mexico, MO - Joe Offutt
(800) 231-3746

State Cost-Share Program Update



Below is a description of two issues relating to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Soil and Water Program (SWP). The first, relating to the 2009 fiscal year, has already taken place and the second will be addressed by the SWP Commission in the near future.

As always, the SWP Commission needs to hear your thoughts on how the possible change will impact you and your business. So, if you have an opinion ... voice it! Call the Missouri LICA office (573-634-3001), a SWP Commissioner, or SWP Director Bill Foster and let us know your thoughts!

The first change relates to the District cost-share allocations for 2009. As you can tell by the "webbed feet" we've all developed this past year, it was simply too wet in many Districts to get the practices on the ground. In order to address this statewide problem, the SWP Commission has made some changes to its District cost-share allocations for fiscal 2009. In fiscal 2009 (which began July 1, 2008), the Districts will receive the higher of the funds they used in fiscal '05, '06, '07 or '08.

In addition, all Districts will have at least \$30,000 to obligate to new contracts, regardless of the amount of obligated cost-share funds that were unclaimed in FY2008. Once a District has obligated 80% of its 2009 allocation, the District may

apply for their additional funds - based on money obligated in FY2008 but not claimed due to weather. This will allow the Districts to fund more practices in 2009 - good news for our members!

The second change has not been addressed by the SWP Commission as yet, but the SWP staff will be presenting it to the Commission in the near future. Here's the plan:

Background Information: Historically, at the end of a fiscal year, if there were unclaimed SWP funds, the SWP Commission put those funds into a reserve. These unclaimed funds have totaled roughly \$6 million over the years. In addition, the SWP Commission set aside funding (approximately \$28 million) for the completion of the Special Area Land Treatment (SALT) projects (seven year contracts), if the 1/10th cent Soil, Water and State Parks Sales Tax wasn't renewed.

There are two problems with this reserve. 1) The current SALT contracts do not include any phrasing which indicates that if the legislature does not appropriate any funds for the SALT project, it will not be funded. This is a problem because

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State Cost-Share Update

(from page 4)

the SWP Commission can not, legally, obligate a future legislature to an appropriation or contract. 2) The Soil, Water, and State Parks sales tax was passed in 2006 and will be in place until 2016 when the issue of its renewal will automatically be placed back on the ballot. The reserve funds need to be spent putting conservation practices on the ground, not hedging a future "possibility."

Currently, the reserve fund is approximately \$34 million. It is estimated that \$28 million of those funds would be needed to complete currently contracted SALT projects. And, all future SALT contracts will include language which ties the completion of the project to the appropriation by the legislature. If the legislature does not appropriate the funds, any new SALT projects approved by the SWP Commission, with this new language included in the contract, will no longer receive funding.

The remaining \$6 million (approximately) of the reserve fund would be used as a revolving fund, allowing for a smoother transition from one fiscal year to the next. Every summer, our contractor members have to wait 30-45 days, as the State closes out its current fiscal year and releases funds to the Districts for the next fiscal year.

Since the inception of the 1/10th Soil, Water and State Parks Sales Tax and at each renewal, Missouri LICA has raised our concerns about this down-time, which takes place each year during our peak construction season. As we've tried to explain, weather doesn't wait for fiscal year renewals and it doesn't make much sense to make the projects wait, either. In order to solve this problem, the SWP Commission is having staff look into the possibility of making some administrative changes to allow Districts to use the revolving fund to borrow against their next year's allocation. This would mean that the construction season won't be interrupted by the end of the fiscal year, a seamless transition from one fiscal period to the next. Again ... good news for our members!

At our Winter Convention (January 9-10, 2009 at the Ilse of Capri Hotel & Casino in Booneville), Bill Foster, SWP Director, will be present to answer any questions you may have about the changes listed above, the change to average state cost-share prices, and any other concerns you'd like to address. Instead of listening to rumors at your local coffee shop or District Office, why not make plans to attend and get the correct, timely information straight "from the horse's mouth?"



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MLICA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

October 3, 2008

MU Bradford Farm Research Center ♦ Columbia, Missouri

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Milburn Davis at 5:25 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

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

- Dist.#1: Jim Bledsoe - present
Rod Schottel - absent
- Dist.#2: Nelson Wilson - present
Mel Kleinsorge - absent
- Dist.#3: John Houston - present
Olin Struchtemeyer - absent
- Dist.#4: Dean Yoder - (Ozzie Wallace)
Larry LaFollette - present
- Dist.#5: Ken Balkenbusch - present
Larry Koenigsfeld - absent
- Dist.#6: Vacant

Executive Committee:

Chairman Milburn Davis - present
President Larry LaFollette - present
Vice President Jim Bledsoe - present
Secretary/Treasurer Ozzie Wallace - present

Staff: Debbie Dickens; Executive Director - present

Ladies Committee: Pat Houston - present

Associates Committee: Vacant

Guests: Mona Bledsoe, Lisa Davis, Carol Balkenbusch

MINUTES:

A motion was made by Ken Balkenbusch and seconded by Jim Bledsoe to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2008 Board Meeting as written. The motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Larry LaFollette reported that at the 2008 Winter Convention, he recruited several members to serve as committee chairs. The committees have been working throughout the year with a good amount of success, so he will continue the process at the 2009 Winter Convention.

Representing Missouri LICA, Larry attended the National LICA Summer Meeting in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He sat in on several committee meetings. Larry reported that Jerry Biuso, National Executive Vice President, has been working on a mini-med program as a membership benefit. In addition, the Chadwick Group gave a presentation on a retirement benefit now available to LICA members.

The next National LICA meeting will be in Nashville, TN in February, 2009. One of the pre-tours will be a tour of Komatsu's proving grounds. The Convention/Education Committee has selected Des Moines, IA as the site for the 2009 Summer Meeting and is looking into Phoenix, Tucson, or Peoria as the site for the 2010 Winter Convention.

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ozzie Wallace presented the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports. A motion was made by Larry LaFollette and seconded by Ken Balkenbusch to approve the Secretary/Treasurer's report. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The Executive Director reported the following:

- The Missouri Soil and Water Program has not yet provided details on the amount of funds being held by the Soil and Water Districts at the end of fiscal 2008. At the end of fiscal '07, these reserve funds ranged from approximately \$1,500 to \$240,000, depending on the District. After much discussion, Larry LaFollette made a motion, seconded by Ozzie Wallace, to table the discussion until the Winter Convention's Membership Meeting.
- National LICA has now sent all contractor members their personalized Safety Manual. The Executive Director asked the Board members to find out if

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Minutes *(from page 6)*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT *(Continued)*

anyone in their District had not received the Safety Manual and, if so, to please let the MLICA office know.

- The 2007 LICA Safety Program Dividend has been sent to participating members. In 2007, the program remained safe which resulted in a 12% dividend to participating members. Missouri LICA distributed over \$104,295 to participating members. Members were reminded to be safe during the end of the 2008 construction season.
- District Board members were reminded that Missouri LICA By-Laws requires each District to meet in October to elect new officers and then report those election results to the MLICA office within 45 days.
- NLICA 2009 Winter Convention - Nashville, TN - Feb 11-15 - Embassy Suites; NLICA 2009 Summer Meeting - Des Moines, IA - July 15-18 - Holiday Inn Airport

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Associates

Vacant. No report was given.

Budget/By-Laws

Ozzie Wallace asked Board Members to review the draft for the 2008-09 budget. No action was taken.

COMMITTEE REPORTS *(Continued)*

Convention/Education

Ken Balkenbusch, Chair, reported that 2009 Winter Convention will be held January 9-10, 2009 at the Isle of Capri Hotel and Casino in Booneville, MO. Possible classes were discussed. The Committee will check with the Missouri Department of Health to see if the Trench Safety Classes would qualify for Septic Installer CEUs. All members are encouraged to attend and to send their employees to the safety courses.

The 2009 Drainage Workshop will take place at the Ramada Inn in St. Joseph, MO on February 18-20, 2009.

It was decided, by consensus, that the 2009 MLICA Summer Meeting will take place August 8, 2009. The Committee will look for a site.

Field Day

Jim Bledsoe, Chair, reported that the 2008 Field Day had to be postponed - twice - due to weather; however, we still had approximately 100 landowners attend the August event. Larry Mueller from the University of Missouri stated that MU would be willing to host another Drainage Field Day in March, 2009 to coincide with the March Board Meeting - if MU does not get the project completed prior to this date. Larry also thanked all the members for their help. The Board meeting was set for the evening of March 27, 2008, the field day March 28.

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Minutes *(from page 7)*

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

Governmental Relations

Charlie Boyer, Chair, was absent, so the Executive Director reported on proposed changes to the State Cost-Share Program. One change relating to the 2009 District allocations has already taken place and another, relating to the down-time experienced by contractors at the end of the state's fiscal year, will be proposed to the Soil and Water Commission at a future date. Details of these changes will be outlined in the next edition of the MLICA News. The Executive Director also asked for volunteers to attend both the Department of Natural Resource's Soil and Water Commission meetings and the Natural Resources Conservation Service's State Technical Meetings ... and then to report back to the MLICA office on the meetings' activities.

Ladies Auxiliary

Pat Houston reported that the Ladies Auxiliary has established a budget for entertainment at the 2009 Winter Convention. The theme for the 2009 Winter Convention will be the 50's and 60's.

Legislation

Gerald Bauer, Chair, was absent. No report was given.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

A motion was made by Ken Balkenbusch and seconded by Ozzie Wallace to accept the Committee Reports as presented. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. 2008 Drainage Field Day

See Field Day Committee report.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 2009 Drainage Workshop

See Convention/Education Committee report.

B. 2009 State Officers

See Executive Director's report.

C. 2009 Summer Meeting Dates

See Convention/Education Committee report.

D. 2009 Spring Board Meeting Date

See Field Day Committee report.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Dickens, Executive Director



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