

# MLICA General Membership Meeting

Bennett Spring State Park - Lebanon, MO  
August 8, 2009

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Larry LaFollette at 2:10pm.

## WELCOME/INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

President Larry LaFollette welcomed Bruce Barnhart, National LICA President and all the Missouri members to the August, 2009 General Membership Meeting.

## ROLL CALL

District #1	2	District #4	4
District #2	2	District #5	1
District #3	1	District #6	0

Ladies Auxiliary President: Pat Houston - present  
Associates Chairman: vacant  
Staff: Debbie Dickens - present

## MINUTES APPROVAL

A motion was made by Nelson Wilson and seconded by Ken Balkenbusch to approve the minutes of the 2009 Winter Membership Meeting as printed. The motion carried.

## NATIONAL REPORT - BRUCE BARNHART, NATIONAL LICA PRESIDENT

National LICA President Bruce Barnhart thanked the membership for inviting him to the 2009 Summer Meeting. He detailed National LICA's activities over the last several months (see the National LICA News for more details), including included several membership drives held in individual chapters. The National LICA membership level remained the same for the 2009 fiscal year which was good news considering the current economic conditions. He informed the membership that, with the help of Jerry Biuso and the local chapter's team of contractors, the membership drives held in New York and Illinois have been very successful, with Illinois LICA gaining almost a 40% increase in membership. Bruce encouraged each member present to become involved in the membership drive process. He reminded the members that we have a lot of benefits to offer prospective members and that we need to learn how to promote those benefits (i.e., LIC license plate, 1/10th Cent Soil, Water and State Parks Sales Tax, etc.)

Bruce also reported that in Iowa LICA, they have a Safety Director (Linda Moyna) who, for a small retainer, provides OSHA and MSHA training for the contractor members. Linda charges the members for this service, but gives LICA members a reduced fee. Or, she can come to a member's job site or shop and put on the program(s) for their employees. She also provides the 8-hour OSHA/MSHA refresher course. He encouraged Missouri to investigate the possibility of working with David Miguel in this capacity.

## PRESIDENT REPORT

President Larry LaFollette thanked Prins Insurance and Continental Western for sponsoring the 2009 Summer Meeting. He reported that he attended the National LICA Summer Meeting and Field Day in Des Moines, IA. The meeting was good and the field day was amazing. He attended the Conservation, Excavating, and Earthmoving; the On-Site Waste; and Convention/Education Committee meetings.

Larry also reminded contractors that the University of Missouri-Extension's rates survey has been mailed to our members. He encouraged each member to complete the survey and return it as soon as possible.

## TREASURER/SECRETARY REPORT

Ozzie Wallace presented the Secretary/Treasurer's report for the first nine months of fiscal 2009.

## LADIES AUXILIARY

Pat Houston reported that the Auxiliary discussed the 2010 Winter Convention, to be held at the Isle of Capri Hotel and Casino in Boonville. The Auxiliary decided to hold an auction during the Convention. Lisa Davis will find an auctioneer. The Auxiliary will make crafts for auction items and asked that the contractors contact our Associate members for contributions.

The theme for the 2010 Convention will be Mardi Gras. Debbie Dickens will contact the Missouri Association of Nursing Home Administrators (MANHA) to get an inventory of their Mardi Gras decorations which they have agreed to loan us.

The Auxiliary will also schedule a jewelry-making class at the Winter Convention. Sally Bauer's daughter will be the instructor.

In order to update their by-laws to reflect the current officer duties, the Auxiliary has proposed the following bylaws change which will be voted on at their Winter Meeting: [Note: Copy to be deleted is in [brackets]; copy to be replaced is in **bold**.]

[Article IV - Section 4. Secretary shall perform the duties incidental and usual to her office. She may delegate to an Executive Secretary any of these duties.

Section 5. Treasurer shall have custody of the funds of the Auxiliary and shall collect dues. The Treasurer shall be authorized to disburse funds on behalf of the Auxiliary upon presentation of proper vouchers. The signature of both Treasurer and President shall be on the bank signature card. The Treasurer may sign the checks with her signature only.]

**Article IV - Section 4. The secretary/treasurer shall have the responsibility for keeping full and correct accounts of the receipts and disbursements of the Auxiliary, and effects in the name and to the credit of the Auxiliary in such depositories as may be designated by the board. The secretary/treasurer shall be authorized to disburse funds on behalf of the Auxiliary upon presentation of proper vouchers, and shall render to the board, as it shall desire, an accounting of the finances of the Auxiliary, not more infrequently than annually. In addition, the secretary/treasurer may delegate to an executive director any of these duties.**

Section [6]5 . Any officer or member of the Board may resign from her office by submitting a written resignation to the Secretary.

Section [7]6. The Board shall fill any vacancy occurring in any office of the Auxiliary. The Auxiliary also discussed nominations for their 2010-2011 slate of officers, along with the installation ceremony to be held at the 2010 Winter Convention.

The Auxiliary decided to establish the scholarship program at Linn State Technical College and reviewed suggested guidelines for the scholarship program. It was decided that the \$1,000 scholarship would be awarded annually to a full-time student in either the "Construction & Civil Engineering Technology" or "heavy Equipment Operations" courses. The application deadline will be May 1 of each year. The award winner will be required to attend the Saturday night banquet at the Winter Convention, with the Auxiliary paying for lodging and the banquet meal.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The Executive Director reviewed renewal premium for the Association's Liability policy which had a 35% increase for 2010. The policy was renewed to provide continued coverage. A motion was made by Ozzie Wallace and seconded by Milburn Davis to have the Executive Director investigate other companies to provide this coverage. Motion carried.

The Directors & Officers insurance policy was also reviewed. The premium only increased 3% for 2010 and the Association has the opportunity to bind that insurance, at the same rate, for a second year. A motion was made by Gerald Bauer and seconded by Ozzie Wallace to bind this insurance over for a second year.

The National LICA raffle and National Ladies 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Quilt raffle was discussed.

Districts were encouraged to hold their October Membership Meetings and to report their new slate of officers to the State Office within 45 days, as required by the Association by-laws. Members also discussed the need for a new State Secretary/Treasurer to be elected at the 2010 Winter Convention.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Budget/By-Laws** - Ozzie Wallace, Chairman, the budget for fiscal 2010. Some changes included to the 2010 budget include: reducing the number of issues of the MLICA News to four times per year (after the Winter Convention, Summer Meeting and each Board meeting) and adding Constant Contact as the service to provide more timely e-newsletters for the membership; the type of checking account used by the Association has been changed to a "free checking" account to reduce the service charges; the Awards line item includes costs for Past-President and President pins for the Association; and the directory will be printed every two years, instead of every year. The budget will be reviewed again at the October Board meeting, after the final numbers for fiscal 2009 are available. A motion was made by Nelson Wilson and seconded by Ken Balkenbusch to accept the Secretary/Treasurer's report and the 2010 budget. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ken Balkenbusch, seconded by Gerald Bauer, and passed to adopt the following bylaws change:

Proposed By-Laws Language: (Changes are listed in **bold** type)

Article II - Membership; Section 4. Any person genuinely and sincerely interested in the furtherance and promotion of sound soil and water conservation practices and any sales person dealing in the sale of materials, equipment or services incidental to the soil and water conservation industry, but not eligible for either active or associate membership, **as well as any contractor over the age of 70**, shall be eligible for membership as a supporting member. Supporting members shall not be entitled to a vote in the Association.

**Convention/Education** - Ken Balkenbusch, Chairman, reported that the committee had reviewed the contract for the 2010 Winter Convention to be held January 8 & 9, 2010 at the Isle of Capri Hotel and Casino in Boonville, MO. The following list of possible classes was also discussed:

- Fuel and Oil Update - possible presenter: MFA
- Owner/Operator Costs for Equipment
- Government/Regulations Update - the new Missouri NRCS State Conservationist and DNR Soil and Water Program Directors have been invited to participate. It was suggested that we also contact a representative from the Missouri Department of Transportation (Commissioner or Director) to also attend and update the members on the "farm to market" roads. An update from the Missouri Department of Conservation might also be helpful.
- Sales and Use Tax Update
- How to Bid a Job

- Certification - a short course on the proposed Missouri LICA Certification program was also requested.

**Field Day/Drainage** - Jim Bledsoe, Chairman, presented information about the Greenley Research Center's 2009 Field Day. In addition, it was discussed that, if Dr. Kelly Nelson's grant is approved, we might consider hosting the next Drainage Workshop in the Moberly area with some support from Port Industries and/or Sydenstricker Implements. Dr. Allen Thompson's grant to test a computer-based terrace program was approved. He is in the process of completing an environmental impact statement for the grant and believes the field day would be held in the summer or fall of 2010. The members agreed that mid-to late August would be a good time-frame in order to get more contractors to help.

**Governmental Relations** - Jeff Lance, Chairman, was absent - updates were provided through the Legislative Committee report.

**Legislative Committee** - Gerald Bauer, Chairman, reported that JR Flores has been hired as the new Missouri Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) State Conservationist. In addition, Mark Templeton, Director of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has appointed Bryan Hopkins as the new Director of the DNR Soil and Water Program. Missouri LICA has written each of these individuals to welcome them and invite them to speak to our membership at the 2010 Missouri LICA Winter Convention. Both have agreed to attend.

The federal "Cap & Trade" bill (H.R. 2454) was discussed by the members. Included in the Summer Meeting booklet was a copy of National LICA's position paper on the issue, as well as a short fact sheet, sample letter to a Senator and Op-Ed piece which were provided by the Moore & VanAllen Law Offices. Members were encouraged to review this information and voice their concerns.

The committee also discussed proposed changes to the federal "clean water" act (S 787). The Army Corps of Engineers is trying to remove the word "navigable" in the definition of the waters over which they have jurisdiction. Members were encouraged to review this bill and, again, get vocal.

Legislation which passed during the 2009 Missouri legislative session was reviewed, including HB919 - health insurance. We are investigating the health care bill to see if it will allow Missouri LICA to provide health insurance as a membership benefit.

The committee will review proposed bills during the 2010 Missouri legislative session and using the new Missouri LICA e-newsletter to update members in a more timely fashion as concerns arise. If members have particular issues they would like the committee to track, please contact Gerald or the state office.

A motion was made by Roger Levings and seconded by Milburn Davis to accept the committee reports. Motion carried.

## OLD BUSINESS

- LICA Insurance Program** - It was reported that, due to several large claims in 2008, the LICA Safety Insurance Group would not be issuing a dividend to 2008 participants. However, as of the end of June, 2009, the program had a very low loss ratio (27.01%) and, if the program remains safe for the rest of the year, the 2009 dividend could be as high as 12%. All members were encouraged to hold weekly safety meetings and stress safety for their employees.
- Drainage Workshop** - See report under Field Day/Drainage Committee
- 2009 Legislation** - See report under Legislative Committee

## NEW BUSINESS

- A. **2010 Membership Drive** - Bruce Barnhart, National LICA President, reviewed the efforts and results of the very successful membership drives held in other LICA chapters, particularly Illinois LICA. He said that National LICA would be willing to send Jerry Biuso, National Executive Vice President, to Missouri for a membership drive if the members are willing to work the program. After discussing the particular steps required and the commitment needed, the members decided to hold the first membership drives in District #2 and District #4 in either fall of '09 or spring of '10. Prins Insurance will send Missouri LICA a list of prospects whose Workers Comp codes match the work types of LICA contractors. The Executive Director will contact Jerry Biuso to determine his availability. All members are encouraged to participate.
- B. **2010 District Officers** - See Executive Director's Report
- C. **2010 District Meetings** - The importance and timing of District Meetings was discussed. No specific dates were set.
- D. **2010 State Meetings** - The following dates and locations were agreed upon by the membership:

2009 Fall Board Meeting - October 24, 2009 - Jefferson City, MO

2010 Winter Convention - January 8 & 9, 2010 - Isle of Capri Hotel & Casino; Boonville, MO

2010 Spring Board Meeting - March 20, 2009 - Jefferson City, MO

2010 Summer Meeting - Dates and location to be decided at the October 2009 Board Meeting

A motion was made by Nelson Wilson and seconded by Gerald Bauer to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 4:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Debbie Dickens  
Executive Director