

# MLICA General Membership Meeting

Sheraton-Crown Center - Kansas City, MO  
February 2, 2013

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Larry LaFollette at 4:30pm.

## WELCOME/INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

President Larry LaFollette welcomed LICA Region IV Vice President Steve Anderson, LICA Vice President Steve Miller, LICA CEO Jerry Biuso, Missouri LICA Scholarship Winner Luke Everhart, and all the Missouri members to the February 2, 2013 General Membership Meeting.

## ROLL CALL

District #1	7	District #4	3
District #2	3	District #5	3
District #3	2	District #6	0

Chairman of the Board: Jim Bledsoe - present  
President: Larry LaFollette - present  
Vice President: Chris Brauer - present  
Secretary/Treasurer: Mont Gilbert - present  
Ladies Auxiliary President: Mona Bledsoe - absent  
Associates Chairman: vacant  
Executive Director: Deb Dickens - present

## MINUTES APPROVAL

A motion was made by Jeff Lance and seconded by Elwin Yoder to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2012 Membership Meeting as printed. The motion carried. A motion was by Tom Lawlor and seconded by Melvin Beckemeyer to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2012 Membership Meeting. The motion carried.

## NATIONAL REPORT - STEVE ANDERSON, NATIONAL LICA REGION IV VICE PRESIDENT

Steve reported that he had been fortunate enough to meet several of Missouri LICA's members at its Summer Meeting last July. He stated that he has been around LICA since he was about eight years old, has been moving dirt for about 36 years, and a member of LICA since the early 90's. He believes one of our major goals is to get members involved. From personal experience, Steve said that holding an officer position in LICA can be very rewarding and builds leadership skills. He has been honored to be an officer in LICA, at the local, state and regional level.

Steve reported that the 2013 National LICA Convention will be held in Savannah later next week. He would like to see more LICA members attend the national meetings. He stated that a member's business can benefit greatly by attending the national meetings. He thanked the Missouri LICA members for inviting him to attend this convention, growing its membership in 2012 and encouraged them to get more involved - the benefits are great.

## **PRESIDENT REPORT**

President Larry LaFollette reported the following: Since the National LICA Summer Meeting in July, Missouri LICA has been busy with a variety of events, including signing up 17 new contractor members and three new Company Associate members! On July 20, we held a Demonstration Day for a construction-grade GPS system, along with our Summer Meeting and Fish Fry in northwest Missouri. On August 29, we assisted the University of Missouri by installing sub-surface drainage test plots for the Hundley-Whaley Research Center in Albany, Missouri. On October 29-30, we hosted a 10-Hour OSHA training session in Warrenton, MO. On November 6-8, Missouri LICA hosted the Equipment Rodeo, as well as helped set-up and tear-down and manned a booth, at the 2nd Annual Damage Prevention Summit held at the Boone County Fairgrounds in Columbia, MO where almost 800 contractors were in attendance. On December 12-13, Missouri LICA attended a meeting at the United Fire & Casualty headquarters in Cedar Rapids, IA to review the new LICA Safety Insurance Group.

In addition to the special events listed above, our Districts held regular meetings with local contractors; we attended the Missouri Department of Natural Resources' Soil and Water Program Commission meetings; held our Fall Board Meeting; moved the LICA office; planned the 2013 Winter Convention; and coordinated arrangements for the 2013 Drainage Workshop which will be held on February 26-28, 2013 at the University of Missouri's Bradford Research and Extension Center.

We are grateful to all our Missouri LICA members who volunteered their time and talent to accomplish everything we have in the last six months and look forward to more of the same in the coming year!

## **TREASURER/SECRETARY REPORT**

Mont Gilbert reviewed the financial statements for FY 2012-13. A motion was made by Dennis Brinton and seconded by Charlie Boyer to accept the Treasurer/Secretary's report. The motion carried.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

The Executive Director reported that AmerenUE would like to present information about a legislative proposal to allow utilities to charge for infrastructure replacement costs. Details regarding this presentation were distributed to the District Presidents for their local meetings.

Membership awards for those not in attendance at the Winter Convention were distributed to District Presidents and/or representatives for presentation to their members at a local District meeting.

Membership prospect folders, including membership applications, recent newsletter and *LICA Contractor* magazine copies, and benefit lists were distributed.

A request for membership in the Soil and Water Society was discussed. No action was taken.

Members were advised that John Peterson, National LICA Legislative Liaison, would like to write a history of LICA. Members were encouraged to contact the Missouri LICA office or John with any historical information they would like to contribute.

Updated information on the Accidental Death & Dismemberment policy was discussed. The new policy will cover members 24 hours a day, seven days a week, whether or not they are on the job. The ability to purchase additional coverage, as well as age categories for coverage, was presented.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Budget/By-Laws** - Chris Brauer reported that the Committee did not meet.

**Convention/Education** - Ken Balkenbusch, Chairman, reported that the Committee had discussed both the 2013 Summer Meeting and the 2014 Winter Convention. A motion was made by Mont Gilbert and seconded by Chris Brauer to hold the 2013 Summer Meeting and a fish fry at Buddy Hostetter's place on either July 20<sup>th</sup> or July 27<sup>th</sup>. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mont Gilbert and seconded by Greg Muenks to hold the 2014 Winter Convention in Columbia, Missouri on January 30 - February 1, 2014. The motion carried. A motion was made by Jeff Lance and seconded by Elwin Yoder to ask Greg Muenks and Bruce Mosier to contact Associate members who exhibited at the 2013 Winter Convention and ask them what format they'd like for the Exhibit Hall in 2014 and present the information to the Executive Committee for its decision. The motion carried.

The Committee also discussed the possibility of holding some OSHA training at the Bobcat facility in Columbia on the Thursday afternoon preceding the Winter Convention.

**Field Day** - Jim Bledsoe, Chair, thanked all the members, in particular Jeff Lance and Tom Lawlor, who helped with the Summer Meeting. He also reported on the field day held at the Hundley-Whaley Research Center in Albany and thanked all those who helped make it a success.

**Government Relations** - Discussion was held about NRCS's recently announced changes to terrace design. The continued sale of pipe and other products by county offices, as well as farmers performing for-hire work using their farm exemptions was also discussed. Jeff Lance, Co-Chair, reported that his committee will continue to meet with NRCS and the Soil and Water Program to discuss these issues

**Ladies** - Mona Bledsoe was absent. No report was given.

**Legislative** - Co-Chairs Gerald Bauer and Elwin Yoder reported that the committee discussed the expected One Call legislation. As of this meeting, no bill has been filed, but it is expected that it will be. The committee outlined its objections to the initial proposal as: 1) no longer exempting the removal of fill from ditches; 2) the new definition of a work day; and 3) the removal of an exemption for agriculture work, including tilling. The committee will continue to monitor this issue.

The committee would like to pursue a blanket overweight permit, perhaps tied to the Land Improvement Contractor (LIC) tag. Elwin Yoder will research this issue and report back to the committee.

**Membership** - Co-Chairs Larry LaFollette and Chris Brauer reported that the committee did not meet. Jerry Biuso, National LICA CEO, provided a detailed description of the membership benefits and prospect folders were distributed.

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

## OLD BUSINESS

- A. **2012 Damage Prevention Summit** - this was a very successful event with over 800 contractors attending. The Executive Director thanked everyone who helped set up and tear down the event, worked the booth, and coordinated the equipment rodeo.

- B. 2013 Golf Tournament** - A motion was made by Charlie Boyer and seconded by Jeff Lance to ask Bruce Mosier, Prins Insurance, to coordinate the first-ever 2013 Missouri LICA Golf Tournament in the fall. The motion carried and Bruce agreed.
- C. 2013 Drainage Workshop** - The Executive Director reported that the 2013 Drainage Workshop will be held February 26-28 at the Bradford Farms in Columbia, MO. Since the Workshop has sold out the last three years, members were encouraged to register early.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. 2013 Membership Drive Goals and Dates** - A motion was made by Greg Muenks and seconded by Jeff Lance to ask Jerry Biuso, National LICA CEO, to conduct a membership drive in Missouri this spring. The motion carried and Jerry agreed. Jeff Lance, Richard Fordyce, Mont Gilbert, Andrea Powell, and Matt Kujath have agreed to work with Jerry on this drive. Jerry has set a goal of 200 contractor members for Missouri LICA..
- B. Spring Board Meeting** - March 16, 2013 was set as the date for the Spring Board Meeting. The Executive Director will contact Bobcat in Columbia to see if their meeting facility is available.
- C. Summer Meeting** - See Convention/Education Committee Report.
- D. Fall Board Meeting** - October 19, 2013 was set as the date for the Fall Board Meeting. The Executive Director will contact Bobcat in Columbia to see if their meeting facility is available.
- E. 2013 District Meeting Dates** - No action was taken.
- F. 2013 National LICA Delegates** - Larry LaFollette will be the only contractor attending the National LICA meeting in Savannah, so three Delegate proxies were signed for him to carry to the meeting.
- G. Honorary Member** - a motion was made by Gerald Bauer and seconded by Elwin Yoder to recognize Robert Eastin as an Honorary Member of Missouri LICA in recognition of his pioneering efforts to establish a LICA Insurance Group. The motion carried. The Executive Director will work with Gerald to coordinate a plaque and presentation to Mr. Eastin's widow.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Debbie Dickens  
Executive Director