

The Indiana Registry of Soil Scientist Board met at 1:30 on Wednesday June 11, 2013 at the FFA Conference Center located near Trafalgar, Indiana. Members present were Don Ruesch, Gary Steinhardt, David Lefforge, Spence Williams and John Bonsett. Also attending were: Gary Hudson, Randy Staley, George Saxton, Ray Sinclair, John Robbins and Matthew Pearson.

Don Ruesch moved the minutes of the December 11, 2012 meeting be approved. Gary seconded the motion and the motion was approved 5 to 0.

Matthew Pearson from the Office of the Indiana State Chemist (OISC) presented a financial report. A copy is attached to the minutes.

The Board discussed the procedures for conducting meetings utilizing telephones and electronic means. This procedure would allow for Board members to participate in meeting from an off site location. Specific guidelines would be required to be in compliance with the Open Door Law. This procedure would require that at least two members to be present at a specific advertised location with other members having the opportunity to be present at the meeting utilizing electronic means.

Gary Steinhardt moved to accept the electronic means for meeting participation as proposed by the State Chemist Office. This motion was seconded by Don Ruesch and approved 5 to 0. It was further noted that each member would be required to physically attend at least one meeting per year at the advertised location. A copy of the electronic means procedure is attached to the minutes.

Following discussion related to a complaint filed against John Robbins, Gary Steinhardt moved to draft a letter stating the soils report compiled by John Robbins for the Stoltenberg property located in Orange County does identify a wetness characteristic in the soil. Because the wetness characteristic was identified there is no merit to the complaint. Don Ruesch seconded the motion at it passed 5 to 0.

The soil report compiled by David Tuzsynski further supported John Robbin's field investigation. A copy of this letter is to be sent to Mr. Robbins and to the Stoltenbergs.

George Saxton reported on the complaint investigation from LaPorte County. Because the property owner was less than cooperative in the investigation process the investigation could not proceed. The homeowner would not allow the investigators on the property. Purdue University would not allow the investigators to continue their investigation without a specific contract between the Board and Purdue University. George Saxton stated the LaPorte County complaint is currently suspended pending a contract with Purdue. Gary Steinhardt stated the Board needs a process in place to allow for the hiring of the necessary investigators.

A draft contract concept was discussed. Contracts for specific investigations need to be approved by Purdue University. David Lefforge moved to authorize Gary Steinhardt to sign the necessary contract after electronic agreement by the Board members. This motion was seconded by Gary Steinhardt and the motion carried 5 to 0.

Pending complaints were discussed and will be investigated. After discussion Gary Steinhardt moved the Board needs to respond to complaints and that Spence will coordinate investigation of complaints subject to Board approval. This was seconded by David Lefforge and passed 5 to 0.

Matthew Pearson recommended the development of policies and procedures for Board actions. This would be beneficial to future Boards and their activities.

The Board discussed the reinstatement of soil scientist Larry Gramm who is currently licensed in North Carolina and Tennessee. Don Ruesch moved to accept reinstatement with acceptable field exam within the next six months and favorable recommendations from the currently licensed states. David Lefforge seconded the motion which passed 5 to 0.

Gary Steinhardt advised that Jeff Fischer had passed the required test and has been granted RASS registration. The Board reviewed and approved the CEU's for Dave Tuzsynski, Tim Jones and Vicki Adams.

Bill Rutherford's CEU's were received by email and were approved.

The next meeting was proposed for September 12 with the fall tour to occur on September 13. The location is to be announced at a later date.

John Bonsett

Secretary