

The LICA News

Volume 24 No. 4

The Land Improvement Contractors of America

July/August 2011



In This Issue:

National Summer Meeting	1
President's Message	2
Summer Meeting Pictures	2
Board of Directors Minutes	3
Scholarship Winners	10
2011/2012 Budget	10

Thanks to all the Associates who Contributed to the 2011 National Summer Meeting!

LICA Members in Rochester

LICA members had a blast in Rochester, Minnesota! Members had plenty to keep them entertained with exciting pre-tours and meetings. Wednesday LICA members had a choice of experiencing McNeilus Truck Company or visting Laura Ingalls Wilder's childhood home. They were taken to Amish country and Century Plastics as well. Both tours ended their days with a visit to the Minnesota LICA Mini-Expo, where they mingled with exhibitors and had a hearty meal.



MNLICA Mini-Expo

The next day was shopping at Red Wing, Minnesota. There members were able to visit the famous Red Wing Pottery and Red Wing Shoes; then it was a ride on the Red Wing Trolley. After meandering around town it was off to the silica sand mine to observe an open air cave.

That evening LICA Associates were on display! They mingled with the LICA members while dining on appetizers. At the end of the evening the winners of the Silent Auction were announced. Many Associates generously donated items, it was a huge hit!

The LICA ladies were off the next morning to visit Assissi Heights, while the rest were in committee meetings. All the committees were well attended and discussed the issues important to LICA. After business was attended to, members scattered all over Rochester for some fine dining!

At the Board Meeting on Saturday, the minutes from the previous day were read and all the Officers updated LICA members on their activities. At the go-karts that afternoon, there were no losers! Even with the sweltering heat, every person put their all into racing the track!

The dinner cruise on Lake Pepin was a relaxing way to end a busy week. The paddleboat cruised around while people ate and enjoyed the views of the Mississippi.



LICA Members on the Pearl of the Lake

**The Land Improvement
Contractors of America**



THE LICA NEWS is the official publication of the Land Improvement Contractors Association, dedicated to the professional conservation of soil and water. LICA was founded in 1951 and is today comprised of twenty-four chapters across the continental United States

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THE LICA NEWS welcomes letters, subject to editing for accuracy and brevity. THE LICA NEWS also welcomes articles relevant to the land improvement industry. Include your name and daytime phone number for verification purposes.

Deadlines are the twenty-first of the month preceding issue date. All unsolicited material must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

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President's Message

LICA Members,

A special thanks to all the hard work Minnesota LICA put in for the Summer Meeting in Rochester. They put together an impressive and fun event. The meeting was quite successful; with good attendance and great committee meetings.

Thanks to our Associates who participated as well, we couldn't put on these events without your support!

Work hard and stay safe while enjoying the rest of summer!

Steve Gerten

Steve Gerten
National LICA President



Don Loken speaking about the Shriners at breakfast.

Members enjoying good food and good company.



LICA Board Meeting

Land Improvement Contractors of America Board of Directors Meeting Rochester, Minnesota • July 16, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dirk Riniker at 9:45 am at the Kahler Grand Hotel in Rochester, Minnesota.

CREDENTIALS REPORT

Secretary Steve Miller called roll and declared a quorum present. A complete roll call is listed below:

California absent	Missouri Pres. Jim Bledsoe
Carolinas Brian Cody (proxy)	Montana absent
DelMarVa absent	Nebraska Jim Wemhoff (proxy)
Illinois David Kennedy (proxy)	New Jersey Pres. Chris Wagner
Indiana absent	New York David Rule (proxy)
Iowa Pres. Randy Liddle	Ohio absent
Kansas Troy Mindrup (proxy)	Pennsylvania Fredrick Hays (proxy)
Michigan absent	South Dakota Todd Fink
Minnesota Kevin Bakken	Virginia absent
	Wisconsin Ken Martinson
Executive Committee Chairman Dirk Riniker President Steve Gerten Vice Pres. Merlin Welch Region 1 David Rule Region 2 absent Region 3 Bob Clark Region 4 Steve Miller Region 6 Brad McArdle Region 8 absent	Past Presidents Bruce Barnhart Dean Neiswinger Darrell Birge Assoicates Chair Kent Rodelius (proxy) Ladies Chair Dee Liddle

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approval of agenda, motion by Todd Fink, second Bruce Barnhart. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Chris Wagner called for an approval of previous minutes from March 21, 2011 as printed in the LICA News, second Darrell Birge. Motion passed.

REPORTS

Chairman Dirk Riniker

Thank you for your work on the committees and getting your minutes done promptly. The Strategic Plan meeting was Thursday morning. We reviewed the present Strategic Plan, combining some goals and adding others. In addition we added an action plan that contains who, what, when, and costs involved. The plan will be revised and emailed to those who attended and state offices for input. The final version will be printed and voted on by the board in San Diego.

President Steve Gerten

It has been a pleasure and honor to serve as LICA President. I visited Peoria and planned to go to Moline with Dirk, Jerry and Bruce. I had to cut the trip short due to an injury. I have been in contact with our CEO, Jerry and the National office.

Treasurer Bob Clark

Before you are the financial statements for nine months ending June 30, 2011. Income and expenses are on target. Dues are at 98% of budget, which is very encouraging. We will continue to monitor income and expenses while continuing our membership drives and public relations program. Motion by David Rule, second Chris Wagner to accept the treasurer's report. Motion passed. Also before you is the budget for 2011/2012. It is the similar to the budget of this year, with a few line item changes. Motion by Darrell Birge, second Steve Miller to accept the budget for 2011/2012. Motion passed. (Accepted Budget printed on page 10)

Executive Committee Steve Miller

The executive committee met in the evening of July 12th. All officer's gave reports on their regions. Jerry gave a report on membership expansion, ConExpo results and member benefits. Reviewed the present strategic plan. The budget for 2011/2012 was discussed.

Chief Executive Officer Jerry Biuso

During the months following CONEXPO the industry experienced a severe drop off in participation and sales response. Not for LICA; our main focus was to follow up on the many leads generated both on a state and national level. The other focus remains membership and expansion. A great deal of groundwork has been made in the expansion into the southeast and south central part of the country while continuing to support our state chapters.

The LICA Contractor

The National Magazine "The LICA Contractor" Spring Issue 2011 was very well received at CONEXPO and was the single most important handout our volunteers had. The summer issue immediately followed. I moved the publishing date up so we could utilize the circulation to promote our summer meeting in Minnesota. Finding interesting subjects and LICA members to feature continues to be a struggle. The publication continues to receive rave reviews, which adds additional pressure to keep the readers stimulated and equal to the past issues.

Board Meeting (from page 3)

REPORTS (Continued)

Chief Executive Officer Jerry Biuso (Continued)

The fall issue will be full of advertising. The magazine continues to be a powerful sales tool, as well as a revenue generating source.

National Meetings and Convention

The Summer Meeting 2011: I went to Rochester MN to meet with the hotel and visit the demonstration site. Some renegotiations still had to be made with the hotel but we did well overall. Minnesota LICA has worked very hard to offer unique educational and entertaining tours and all who attend will enjoy the Rochester, MN.

CONEXPO

During the five day show we recruited 5 contractors and 3 National Associates. LICA volunteers generated 282 qualified contractor leads and with Petrocon, over 450 leads.

I participated in a wrap up meeting in early May. CONEXPO 2011 attendance was 117,000 down from 2008 143,650 and 2005 124,301. Our speakers did very well one speaker Bill Dougherty of True Insurance rated fourth over all out of 136 speakers. His topic was "Avoiding 10 critical business insurance mistakes". I will invite him to speaker in San Diego in February the subject and his message important and I believe will be well received by our members.

The LICA Store

We have reviewed and selected the initial products for the opening of the LICA store. The products will consist of apparel, novelties, educational safety books and videos. Some of these products are available now!

Expansion

It is imperative we have someone within the state to conduct the normal activities after I have made the initial contact and meetings have been scheduled. This is a unique structure that we are initiating. State chapters operate independently from National LICA and hire their own Executive Director. As in franchising there are independently owned franchises and corporate run franchises. Florida and Texas are two states that are ready to develop and grow. In both states I have located two individuals who are ready to work to build their state Rebecca Hall in Texas and Deb Cordella in Florida. They will help to develop membership, schedule meetings and function as an Executive Director but these states will be organized as Members-at-Large and report to National LICA. Hopefully the states will form the own state chapter and hire these two individuals. In all states earmarked for expansion we will have a similar structure unless we can develop a state chapter. CNA has been a great partner in our expansion and supports our efforts especially in the southeast and south central area of the country. I have divided the states into regions and CNA has help to identify the contractors with in the states. We are posed to launch and extensive membership drive in the fall.

Arkansas LICA

This state has new members interested in starting a chapter. Jim Speers who attended our Winter Convention in Las Vegas is very willing to start the chapter. I submitted by laws for the chapter for him to review. We have divided the state in to regions and CNA has help to identify he contractors with in the state. Unfortunately

REPORTS (Continued)

Chief Executive Officer Jerry Biuso (Continued)

the severe weather conditions within that region have an adverse effect on business.

Florida LICA

We are organizing the state as Members-at-Large and dues are paid directly to National LICA and kept separately for Florida. We have 8 associates members paid within a two week period. We have divided the state into regions and CNA has help to identify the contractors with in the state. Petrocon, NER and Caterpillar will assist in developing Florida. We have member meetings scheduled for September and October both at Caterpillar facilities in Orlando and Tampa.

Louisiana - I submitted by-laws for the chapter. We have divided the state in to regions and CNA has help to identify the contractors with in the state.

Mississippi - I submitted by-laws for the chapter. We have divided the state in to regions and CNA has help to identify the contractors with in the state.

Tennessee - I submitted by-laws for the chapter. We have divided the state in to regions and CNA has help to identify the contractors with in the state.

Texas - During CONEXPO I met with the Executive Director of ECAT at the LICA Booth I asked if we could meet with their executive committee with the possibility of them rejoining LICA. He said he would get back to me, he never did. I reached him by phone and asked if he had broached the subject with the Board of Directors. They do not want to change their current structure at this time. Petrocon, NER and Caterpillar will assist in developing Texas.

About ECAT - Earthmoving Contractors Association of Texas began in May of 1958 with a few contractors meeting at Holt Tractor Company in San Antonio under the new name of Conservation Contractors Association of Texas, to address the problems of the day. In June of 1977, the association voted to join the national organization Land Improvement Contractors of America (LICA) as the Texas Chapter. in January 1993 they reorganized as ECAT. ECAT is comprised of 12 districts, each having a director.

Legislative

I edited the "Federal Permitting Process Resolution" and approved its release. I am having ongoing discuss with Bob Bak and John Peterson with reference to MSHA, it is apparent LICA needs to respond to many of our members problems with the agency. John Peterson will try to schedule a meeting with MSHA in the fall. He and I will present some of our member's issues. We have an obligation to our members to present their issues to MSHA. We will begin to send out a series of press releases addressing key legislative issues clearly ear marking our position and calling for action from congress. We cannot sit idly by without our voice being heard. John Peterson has skillfully written two releases on addressing the "Highway Bill" the other "USDA Watershed Projects.

Associate Members

We have been actively pursuing new national associate members

Board Meeting (from page 4)

REPORTS (Continued)

Chief Executive Officer Jerry Biuso (Continued)

and collecting dues from the existing members. We have been very successful in recruiting new associates especially during CONEXPO.

Membership

State Chapters will and have schedule membership meetings for the fall. From the most current report we are holding our own. The Petcon Program is our best membership incentive when our members and prospective members become informed.

Trade Shows

Land & Wildlife Expo – We will be exhibiting at The Land & Wildlife Expo. It is a unique 3-day exhibition, August 12-14, 2011 in Nashville, TN. Dirk Riniker and Bruce Barnhart have volunteered to work the both.

ICUEE Trade Show, Louisville, KY – The show runs three days October 4-6th every other year and this will be the fourth time will be exhibiting. Louis McFarland has volunteered to work the both for the fourth time.

Missouri Construction Trade Show- This is the first time this show will be in Missouri scheduled for November 8- 10, 2011. I will support the Missouri chapter and work the booth with the state volunteers.

Safety Manual

They safety manual which is one our important benefits. It needed to be reprinted and updated. Since CNA is the sponsor of this program it was imperative they revised toolbox talks. During my visit to Texas a CNA Risk Manager Representatives felt strongly we should include driver safety. The Manual will go to press with 70 pages of all new toolbox talks. It will be distributed in the fall.

CNA Foundation

LICA will partner with “Rebuilding Together and the CNA Foundation”. We have been asked by CNA to join Rob Huber, Zone Officer for CNA’s Southeastern territory, John Tatum, Vice President and Construction Segment Leader and the CNA leadership team at this worthwhile event, which will be held in the Southeast this fall. (This is the same area of he country CNA has focused for LICA Expansion). We have agreed to join and add our good name and willing helping hands behind this meaningful community project. We are looking for LICA Volunteers to take part in this great event.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Associate Meeting – July 14, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kent Rodelius Those in attendance were: Bruce Mosier, IA: John Downey, OH: Norman and Coretha Rozendaal, IA: Jason Oswald, CO: Charlie Schafer, IA: Tom and Marion Bower, OH: James Becvar,MN: Mike Hagen,MN: Xenya Mucha, IL: and Tony den Hoed,KS Motion was made and passed for an open agenda.

We would like to thank Minnesota for a great summer meeting in Rochester.

The winter meeting will be in San Diego California from February 7th to 12th 2011. We look forward to being there to spend time with all of you. Once again we would like to offer our services and

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

Associates (Continued)

support to the National LICA. Please feel free to call on us for any input or resources we can provide for seminars and classes.

The associates would like to see the display format be on Friday evening and run into the morning breakfast meal on Saturday. This allows those who are planning to stay for the banquet on Saturday a better travel schedule.

There was good attendance at the ADMC water table management class held in conjunction with the summer board meeting. This training allowed the participants to become technical service providers. We appreciate being able to facilitate this type of school in conjunction with the summer meeting.

The associates would also appreciate if we could get better communication from the National and the summer meeting host state. There is a lack of information distributed to the National Associates. It would be helpful to for us in our planning to get information on a timelier basis. Also we need to know if we are to bring door prizes or auction items. Thank you in advance for that.

As always it is great to be together. We will see many of you in our travels to your locations. Thank you for your continued support of the national associates. We sincerely appreciate it. If we don't see you before, we look forward to our time together in San Diego. Kent Rodelius – Associate Chair

Awards- July 15, 2011

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Gerten at 2:50 pm.

Those in attendance were: Steve Gerten, OH; Evelyn Cottrell, PA; Linda Rule, NY; and Jason Oswald, CO.

Top State, Contractor of the Year, Contractor’s Wife, you can use sheet as guidelines or highlight why you feel the state/person should win. The award application should be sent electronically to the National Office by January 16th. The judges will be chosen from each region from the Region Vice President. There will also be the Hancor, Kemps Award, and Safety Award, which do have specific guidelines.

Motion by Linda Rule, seconded by Evelyn Cottrell to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Budget- July 15, 2011

Meeting was called to order by Bob Clark at 5:00 pm.

Those in attendance were: Merlin Welch, CA; Steve Gerten, OH; Dirk Riniker, KS; David Rule, NY; Steve Miller, IA; Brad McArdle, NE and guests.

Motion for an open agenda by Steve Miller, seconded by David Rule. Passed.

Motion for approval of previous minutes by Steve Miller, seconded by Merlin Welch. Passed.

Water Table Mgmt made the request to give ADMC \$3,000. Motion by Steve Miller, second by Brad McArdle to approve. Passed. Motion to approve the 2011/2012 Budget to present to the Board of Directors by Steve Miller, seconded by David Rule. Passed. Motion to adjourn by Steve Miller, second David Rule. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.

By-Laws- July 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Darrell Birge at 11:07 am.

Those in attendance were: Patti McArdle, NE; Harry Hauschild,

Board Meeting (from page 5)

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

By-Laws (Continued)

NE; Dirk Riniker, KS; Wayne Litwiller, IL; Rebecca Hall, TX; Deborah Codella, FL.

Motion by Harry Hauschild, seconded by Dirk Riniker to approve the agenda. Approved.

Discussion held and recommendation made by Darrell Birge to change title from EVP to CEO in by-law articles 4 and 5. Motion made Harry Hauschild to make the change, seconded by Dirk Riniker. Motion passed.

Motion by Dirk Riniker, seconded by Harry Hauschild to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:17 am.

Certification- July 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am.

Those in attendance were: Dean Neiswinger, IN; Steve Gerten, OH; Worthin Grattan, IA; Stan Seevers, IL; Merle Gronewold, IA; Donna Clark, IN; Jim Bledsoe, MO; and Steve Miller, IA.

Motion by Steve, seconded by Stan for approval of the agenda. Passed.

Motion by Stan, seconded by Steve for approval of previous minutes. Passed.

Discussed flag school, should be up to each state. Drainage certification- how to put in place. No consensus.

Keep certification in the Strategic Plan.

Motion by Steve, seconded by Jim to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Conservation, Excavating- July 15, 2011

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Russ Peters at 11:00 am.

Those in attendance were: Russ Peters, IA; Steve Anderson, IL; Randy Liddle, IA; Brad McArdle, NE; Richard Cottrell, PA; John Rothberg, NJ; David Rule, NY; Keith Samuelson, NE; and Steve Robertson, NC.

Motion by Dave, seconded by Keith Samuelson for approval of the agenda. Passed.

Motion by Randy Liddle, seconded by John Rothberg for approval of previous minutes. Passed.

Talked about past resolution on permitting; final steps will be taken ASAP.

Talked about fuel cost and supply of oil in North Dakota. Talked about final draft on new resolution and adding DEP or DEQ to it if any different. Talked about Farm Bill and farm payments.

Motion by Steve Anderson, seconded by Steve Robertson to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Convention Committee- July 15, 2011

Chairman Merlin Welch, CA called the meeting to order at 1:30pm

Present: Steve Gerten, OH, David Rule, NY, Steve Miller, IA, Marilyn Robertson, NC, Patti McArdle, NE, Maretta Grattan, IA, Norman Greeb, WI, Evelyn Cottrell, PA, Leslie Mueller, WI, Shirley Mueller, WI, Tony de Hoed, Volvo, Ronda Fink, SD, Todd Fink, SD, Merle Gronewald, IA, Kevin Bakken, MN, Rhonda Neiswinger, IN, Grace Neiswinger, IN, Amy Gerten, OH, Maura Dibble, NY,

David Rule read the minutes from the meeting in Las Vegas, NV Maura Dibble, NY made the motion to approve the minutes, as read, Patti McArdle, NE seconded, carried.

Old Business – Merlin Welch talked about the Doubletree Hotel in

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

Convention (Continued)

San Diego. Feb 7 – 11, 2012

Instead of Racine, WI, Case has a plant and would rather have us come to Kansas. Steve Gerten, OH made the motion to change the location of the summer meeting 2012 from Racine, WI to Manhattan, Kansas. Seconded by David Rule, NY. Carried.

Eileen Levy talked about San Diego, CA. and talked about the tours possibly for the San Diego Zoo, Aircraft carrier, Naval Base, Wineries.

New Business:

2013 Winter meeting – Savannah, GA Holiday Inn Express – \$95, Hilton Garden \$94 – Hampton \$129, Marriot Riverfront \$164 + reduced parking (Feb 3rd – Feb 8th) the rates would be \$129. Marilyn Robinson, NC made the motion to have Eileen Levy check out the hotels in Savannah, GA and decide at her discretion, seconded by Steve Miller, IA carried.

2013 Summer meeting – Akron & Canton, Ohio,

2014 Winter meeting – will look San Antonio, TX - unless that is ConExpo.

2014 Summer meeting – will look into Indianapolis, Indiana, also Tony de Hoed from Volvo invited LICA to the new Volvo plant in Shippensburg, PA.

David Rule made the motion to adjourn at 2:04 pm, seconded by Steve Miller, IA Carried.

Devotions- July 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Evelyn Cottrell at 9:45 am.

Those in attendance were: Norm Rozendaal, IA; Maretta Grattan, IA; and Evelyn Cottrell, PA.

Motion by Maretta Grattan, seconded by Norm Rozendaal for an open agenda. Passed.

Motion by Maretta Grattan, seconded by Norm Rozendaal for an open agenda. Passed.

Norm will work on getting a speaker for devotions in San Diego, CA in February. If a speaker can't be secured the devotions committee will still have devotions. Motion was made by Norm Rozendaal, seconded by Maretta Grattan to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

Education and Technology Committee- Friday, July 15, 2011

Called to order by Chairman, Merlin Welch, CA at 9:54 am

Those in attendance were: Merlin Welch, CA, Donna Clark, IN, Steve Miller, IA, John Rothberg, NJ, Maura Dibble, NY, Jim Bledsoe, MO, Xenya Mucha, John Deere, Tony den Hoed, KS, Rebecca Hall, TX, Deborah Codella, FL, Maretta Grattan, IA, Jason Oswald, CNA.

John Rothberg, NJ, read the minutes from the Las Vegas meeting in March, 2011

John Rothberg, NJ, made the motion to approve the minutes as read. Seconded by Xenya Mucha. Carried

Merlin Welch talked some education topics, such as Tier 4 engines, Particulate filters, exhaust systems, and electric vehicles.

Education ideas –

DOT compliance and updates on the Federal level

Maintenance and fluids on the Tier 4 engines

Board Meeting (from page 6)

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

Education & Technology (Continued)

Diesel fuel requirements on modern day engines
Internet training
Oil requirements, pros and cons of recycled oil
Safety meetings on site, tailgate talks
Fleet management systems
Understanding your service needs in reference to the indicated intervals
Telematic systems
How to integrate the old equipment into the newer maintenance requirement systems.
Updated information on auto claims, distracted driving, cell phone use, and as it pertains to the construction industry.
GPS limitation based on broad band usage.
Jason Oswald of CNA talked Webinars that can be cobranded with LICA, and put on CD's.
He also talked about National LICA on forming 501C3 Non-profit organization. It has to have a stand-alone Mission Statement and the money to use for educational benefits or community involvement.
John Rothberg NJ, made a motion to have the Executive committee look the possibility of including any of these at the next convention in San Diego, seconded by Steve Miller, IA. Carried unanimously by voice.
Merlin Welch talked about Perkins grant funding, CTE – career technical training.
Meeting adjourned at 11:00am. Carried.

Executive Directors- July 14, 2011

Called to order by Chairman, Patti McArdle at 2:06 pm
In Attendance: Patti McArdle, NE, Debbie Dickens, MO, Maura Dibble, NY, Nordis Estrem, MN, Donna Clark, IN, Janet Burtle-Doubet, IL, Steve Miller, IA, Evelyn Cottrell, PA, Marilyn Robertson, NC, Deb Codella, FL, Rebecca Hall, TX, Toby Crow, SD, Jerry Biuso, CEO, John Peterson, LICA, and Jason Oswald, CNA, Eileen Levy and Allison Hack, LICA

Patti introduced the two new Executive Directors to be: Deb Codella, FL, Rebecca Hall, TX.

Jerry Biuso, CEO talked to the group about the two new chapters in FL and TX.
The Safety Manual is being redone in part and will be sent to the Executive Directors to distribute.
He talked about the magazine and the benefits.

John Peterson, LICA talked to the group about the News Releases and Strategic Planning. Two things in Washington to be concerned about the – the debt and the 2012 Farm Bill.

Eileen Levy talked about the LICA Store and the updated list for the LICA Contractor magazine, the updates for the Safety Manual, New Member Handbooks

Patti McArdle talked about the awards applications and the requirements that have changed. Discussion on the amount for the national scholarships and when to have the next meeting.
The Directors talked about what each state does for their conventions and what to use for the covers on the Membership Directory.
The Directors had a discussion on what the duties consist of for the President of the state.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

Executive Directors (Continued)

The next meeting will be held in San Diego, CA.
Donna Clark, IA, made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Janet Burtle-Doubet, IL and carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Insurance and Safety- July 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm.
Those in attendance were: Chris Wagner, NJ; John Rothberg, NJ; Jim Bledsoe, MO; Brad McArdle, NE; Keith Samuelson, NE; Russ Peters, IA; Jason Oswald, CO; Larry Gossard, SD; Don Loken, MN; and Donna Clark, IN.
Motion by Russ Peters, seconded by Chris Wagner for an open agenda. Passed.
Motion by Jim Bledsoe, seconded by Keith Samuelson for the approval of previous minutes. Passed.
Jason Oswald from CNA discussed CD's and brought two copies of Toolbox Talks updates that will be sent out to LICA members. All companies should be aware of distractive driving, cell phone and texting while driving. Companies should consider a cell phone policy.
Motion by Chris Wagner, seconded by Russ Peters to adjourn, Meeting adjourned at 2:01 pm.

Ladies - July 15, 2011

Meeting opened by Dee Liddle at 8:01 am
Those in attendance were: Miriam Seevers, IL; Marilyn Tani, KS; Mona Bledsoe, MO; Marilyn Robertson, NC; Patti McArdle, NE; Rogene Samuelson, NE; Ronda Fink, SD; Sandy Birge, IN; Linda Rule, NY; Maura Dibble, NY; Dee Liddle, IA; Shelley Barnhart, IA; Fran Miller, IA; Maretta Grattan, IA; Evelyn Cottrell, PA; Marion Bower, OH; Coretha Rozendaal, IA; and Marie Gronewold, IA.
Opening prayer was given by Shelley Barnhart
Evelyn Cottrell moved for an open agenda, seconded by Marilyn Karlin, approved
Secretary report and Treasure report read by Fran Miller. Maura Dibble motioned to approve, seconded by Coretha Rozendaal. Approved

Old Business:

Dee Liddle reviewed 19 scholarship applications and said she was very impressed with the applications. Eight applicants were chosen for scholarships of \$500 each
At the winter meeting in San Diego we will decide how much to give to next year's scholarship fund. (Note not to be read. We allocated \$1000 for this year's scholarships per the March 20th Minutes)
Devotions were also brought up and per the summer meeting in 2010 it was decided that we allocate \$100 per speaker for the winter and summer meetings going forward.

New Business:

Raffle of a diamond necklace will be done for the winter 2012 meeting. Each state present took raffle tickets to sell. Cost is 1 for \$5 or 4 for \$10. At this time do not have a picture but will check with Eileen or Allison to see if can put picture on National website along with emailing or mailing to those that would like it.
Ladies committee will also be selling the National shirts, hats, and lunch boxes, and getting a portion of the proceeds for doing so.
Evelyn Cottrell volunteered to set up a committee looking into redoing the LICA National Cookbook. This will be a two year

Board Meeting (from page 7)

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

Ladies (Continued)

process. Winter 2012 meeting will submit pricing to see if this is something we want to pursue.

Winter 2010 San Diego meeting Linda Rule motioned to allocate up to \$1000 for the ladies program and up to \$500 for the kids program. Shelley Barnhart seconded. Motion passed by voice vote. Will be using the jewelry donated by the National office for a silent auction during the winter 2012 meeting.

Evelyn Cottrell motioned to adjourn the meeting. Maretta Grattan seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:48 am

Legislative Committee- July 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m., by John Peterson. A motion for an open agenda was called for by Bill Doubet and seconded by Bruce Barnhart.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read aloud. Darrel Birge made a motion to approve the minutes as read; Steve Anderson seconded it.

Old Business

Prevailing Wage

Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana all have current state prevailing wage bill issues. Although the Lt. Gov. of Illinois has been said to be championing a position sympathetic to the position held by LICA on this issue, it is not known if any current action is being taken in the matter. Illinois has developed an ILLICA position paper on the subject and it is available to members who would like to review it.

Federal Budget

Federal budget issues are being overshadowed by the current debate on the federal debt ceiling. However, John Peterson assured the group that the budget issues are the more fundamental of the two issues. He promises that debate on the 2012 Budget Bill and the budget itself will "be a dandy." LICA members have been warned to expect major cuts to conservation programs in addition to the defunding of NRCS.

Farm Bill

As pointed out previously, Frank Lucas, Chair of the House Committee on Agriculture, has delayed action on the Farm Bill until 2012 in hopes of better educating newer legislators on ramifications of the anticipated wholesale calls for spending cuts. Farm Bill hearings are being held throughout the country. Members are encouraged to watch for these in their states and to attend if at all possible.

MSHA

Reports of overzealousness and confusion in MSHA inspections and penalties continue to persist. The case of LICA member Bob Bach was cited as an example. Bob has worked with the Rocky Mountain Legal Foundation and is currently working with a national environmental attorney known to John Peterson. John also cited the Institute for Justice as another public interest law firm with interests in the current MSHA crisis.

Both Jerry Biuso and John Peterson have received a number of specific complaints from LICA members on this issue. The two are planning a joint visit to Washington, D.C. to discuss such matters in non-specific terms with MSHA officials and others who may be of assistance.

Don Loken suggested that LICA consider identifying and teaming up with other groups that are expressing similar concerns and experience with MSHA.

Farm Taps

Several members reported that communication with pipeline com

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

Legislative (Continued)

panies regarding location, etc. appears to be improving. Several chapters have reported working successfully with Common Ground Alliance. Debbie Dickens cited a scheduled Missouri event being jointly sponsored by Common Ground, Missouri LICA, and a number of other organizations to promote education and discussion on these issues. Debbie will make information about the event available to other state executive directors.

Motor Carriers Action

Much of the discussion about this issue centers around CSA (formerly known as CSA 2010). Although information seems to be coming from the private sector, consulting companies, insurance companies, and organizations such as LICA, law enforcement and similar public sources seem to remain ill-informed or reticent to discuss related issues. Several state chapters and other organizations have held informational meetings on the topic.

Perkins Grants

Merlin Welch continues to champion the cause for directing Perkins Grant educational funds toward equipment operator training programs. It is feared, however, that Perkins Grants themselves may become targets of anticipated budget cuts.

New Business

Death Taxes

Deb Dickens brought up the issue of "death taxes" especially as it relates to the transfer of family farms. This was an issue of previous great concern expressed by LICA members. Along with assistance from other committee members, John Peterson will locate and review the previous LICA position paper on the topic to see if any updates are required.

Dikes and Levees

John Peterson made the committee aware of several situations of conflicting authority with regard to dikes and levees. He cited a case where the NRCS approved the work only to have the EPA contest the finished project. Several committee members shared knowledge of similar situations.

Deb Dickens cited a problem in Missouri whereby conservation districts and other government entities are doing work that is actually in competition with area contractors. No one seems to be clear on where authority lies in these areas or how to proceed. John Peterson asked that members keep him informed of any similar situations.

Cell Phone Interference

An issue was raised regarding a new cell phone technology that is said to cause interference with GPS systems. Committee members with wage for continuing information on this issue.

In John Peterson's absence, Darrell Birge will read the minutes of today's meeting at tomorrow's LICA Board meeting.

Motion for adjournment was made by Darrell Birge and seconded by Dean Neiswinger to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Long-Term Planning/Past Presidents-July 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 1:25 pm.

Those in attendance were: Darrell Birge, IN; Dean Neiswinger, IN; Dirk Riniker, KS; Harry Hauschild, NE; Steve Anderson, IL; and Bruce Barnhart, IA.

We talked about the strategic plan and what is working such as marketing/membership, legislative, trade shows and adding a goal about developing leadership.

Meeting adjourned.

Board Meeting (from page 8)

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

Membership Committee- July 15, 2011

Co-Chairmen - Bruce Barnhart, IA, and Harry Hauschild, NE, called the meeting to order at 2:48 pm.

Present: Harry Hauschild, NE, Don Loken, MN, Steve Miller, IA, Debbie Dickens, MO, John Rothberg, NJ, Chris Wagner, NJ, Merlin Welch, CA, Brad McArdle, NE, Wayne Litwiller, IL, Norm Kocher, IL, Jim Bledsoe, MO, Norman Greeb, WI, Keith Samuelson, NE, Richard Cottrell, PA, Kevin Bakker, MN, Rebecca Hall, TX, Deborah Codella, FL, Janet Doubet, IL, Maretta Grattan, IA, Worthin Grattan, IA, Todd Fink, SD, Ronda Fink, SD, Stan Seevers, IL David Rule, NY, Maura Dibble, NY.

Merlin Welch, CA made the motion for an open agenda, seconded by Steve Miller, IA, carried.

Bruce Barnhart read the minutes from the meeting in Las Vegas, NV. Maretta Grattan, IA made the motion to approve the minutes, as read, John Rothberg, NJ, seconded, carried.

Bruce Barnhart, IA, talked about the states with the Members-at-Large, and the states that are being recruited.

Jerry Biuso talked at length to the group about membership and what is happening with Florida and Texas. He also talked about the benefits.

Stan Seevers, IL talked about the possibility of a retention committee – to go after the members that have not paid in the last year or years.

Janet Doubet, IL, and Debbie Dickens, MO talked about what is happening in their states.

Jim Bledsoe, MO and talked about a Common Ground Alliance will be having a damage prevention seminar in Missouri, including a 10 hr OSHA course, Backhoe Rodeo sponsored by National LICA.

Norm Kocher, IL, made the motion to adjourn at 3:30 pm, seconded by David Rule, NY. Carried.

On-Site Waste- July 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Randy Liddle.

Those in attendance were: Worthin Grattan, IA; Wayne Litwiller, IL; Steve Robertson, NC; Richard Cottrell, PA; Norman Rozendaal, IA; Stan Seevers, IL; Randy Liddle, IA and Gene Blazek, IA.

Motion by Worthin Grattan, seconded by Wayne Litwiller for an open agenda. Passed.

Motion by Stan Seevers, seconded by Norm Rozendaal for approval of previous minutes.

Talked about mini ex. field day and a mound systems.

Talked about getting younger people taking over business. Discussed billing process, getting bills out on time.

Keeping septic projects going with conventions. Talked about certification on septic system. Good and bad of it. Talked about using engineer and soil scientist for setting up septic system. Talked about relationship with sanitarian. Talked about prices of disposal. Motion by Steve Robertson, seconded by Richard Cottrell to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.

Policy- July 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Anderson at 2:45 pm.

Those in attendance were: Darrell Birge, IN; Gene Blazek, IA; John Weatherhead, FL; Donna Clark, IN; Patti McArdle, NE; and

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

On-Site Waster (Continued)

Steve Anderson, IL.

Motion by Gene Blazek, seconded by Darrell Birge for an open agenda.

Minutes were reviewed by Executive Committee meeting of March 19, 2011 and Board of Directors' Meeting of March 21, 2011 that were held in Las Vegas, NV.

Notes were made for admissions to the policy manual.

Motion to adjourn by Steve Anderson, seconded by Donna Clark. Meeting adjourned.

Water Table Management- July 15, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 am by Steve Gerten.

Those in attendance were: Steve Gerten, OH; Rick Vlach, NE; Stan Seevers, IL; Kent Rodelius, MN; Todd Fink, SD; Janet Doubet, IL; Steve Robertson, NC; Russ Peters, IA; Norm Kocher, IL; Worthin Grattan, IA; and Merle Gronewold, IA.

Russ Peters of Iowa made a motion to have an open agenda, which was seconded by Kent Rodelius of Minnesota which carried.

Steve Gerten read the minutes from the March winter Water Table Management committee meeting. A motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Stan Seevers of Illinois, seconded by Worthin Grattan of Iowa and carried.

Old Business

Russ Peters inquired about ADMC's research on subsurface drainage causing increased flooding but Kent Rodelius reported that nothing new has been found to clarify the topic.

New Business

Stan Seevers inquired about whether pull behind plows continue being a problem for drainage contractors. Norm Kocher said in his area they are being allowed to install terrace tile on cost share projects which can create problems due to the lesser amount of grade control these units provide. Several accounts of how much better the industrial machines, equipped with lasers and GPS, are able to do the job that is required than these plows were discussed.

Steve Gerten mentioned receiving an email from Nate Cook mentioning that there is a new cellular system being proposed that could interfere with the current GPS signals. Steve inquired about whether LICA should research this possibility and come up with a position statement to oppose this and get on file with the FCC. Russ Peters mentioned that he had heard that the new 4G systems that cellular companies have come out with may also interfere with GPS signals. More information on this topic is needed. Russ Peters made a motion to recommend that the executive committee research this issue for potential impact. Stan Seevers seconded the motion which carried.

Steve Robertson of North Carolina moved to have the meeting adjourned, which was seconded by Norm Kocher of Illinois. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 10:15 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept Committee Reports by Bob Clark, second Darrell Birge. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Darrell Birge, second Steve Miller. Meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.

2011 National LICA Scholarship Winners



Bryce Clinton Allen

Bryce is the son of Mark and Barb and lives in Stanton, Iowa. He attended Stanton High School and plans on attending a community college and majoring in Agribusiness or Ag Technology.

Jenna Blazek

Jenna is the daughter of Gene Blazek, current President of Iowa. They reside in Fredricksburg, Iowa. Jenna plans on attending University of Northern Iowa and studying pre-nursing.



Anna Bradley

Anna is from Garneill, Montana and attended Moore Public High School. She is the daughter of Russell and Kimberly. Anna plans on attending Montana Tech and studying Mining Engineering.

Luke Day

Luke is from Mahomet, Illinois and his parents are Scott and Kate Day. He is taking courses at Southern Illinois University Carbondale for Civil Engineering/Surveying Specialty.



Brock Kirian

Brock is from New Riegel, Ohio and is the son of Len and Rita. He is currently a Junior at University of Toledo. He is working on his Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

Stephen Lake

Stephen is the son of David and Ruth and is from Oakdale, Illinois. He has been accepted into University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and will be majoring in Technical Systems Management.



Jordan Mars

Jordan is currently attending Southern Illinois University Carbondale. She is a geology major. Her parents are Mike and Chris from Vandalia, Illinois.



Rebekah Seevers

Rebekah is the daughter of Jon and Veronica. They live in Cisco, Illinois. She plans on attending Quincy University while taking the courses required for a math major and teaching certificate.

Budget 2011/2012	
Income	Budget
Sale of Stock	
Contractor Dues	210,000.00
Associate Dues	11,000.00
Affil & Subs	1,000.00
Member Services	3,000.00
Interest	1,000.00
Registration	57,500.00
Summer Meeting	22,500.00
Magazine	3,000.00
Total Income	309,000.00
Expenses	
Rent	22,700.00
Office Supplies	4,000.00
Postage	3,000.00
Professional Services	4,000.00
Print and Publications	2,000.00
Telephone	3,000.00
Bank Charges	300.00
Total	39,000.00
National Staff	125,000.00
Taxes	5,000.00
Travel	15,000.00
Total	145,000.00
Legislation	15,000.00
Scholarships	2,000.00
Public Relations	10,000.00
Safety and Member Services	5,000.00
Total	32,000.00
Shirts/Hats	
Executive Committee	20,000.00
Committees	6,000.00
Liability Insurance	2,000.00
Summer Meeting	15,000.00
Convention	50,000.00
Total	93,000.00
Total Expenses	309,000.00



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Land Improvement Contractors of America

3080 Ogden Ave. Suite 300

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“Rebuilding Together & the CNA Foundation”

**Saturday, October 15, 2011
Atlanta, Georgia**

**CNA employees & their Construction CAM partners will come together for
CNA’s first national Rebuilding Together revitalization project.
Teams of volunteers will be working to repair homes & improve neighborhoods.**

**Anyone interested in volunteering pre-register at this site to get an
accurate assessment of skills by August 1st.**

http://getinvolved.rebuildingtogether.org/event/CNA_RebuildingTogether

More information will become available after responses are collected.