

## **ILLINOIS CORN MARKETING BOARD**

### **Minutes of a Meeting Held March 8 – 9, 2017**

A meeting of the directors of the Illinois Corn Marketing Board was held at the Illinois Corn office on March 8 – 9, 2017.

Directors present were:

Dirk Rice  
Mike Wurmnest  
Don Murphy  
Pat Dumoulin  
Roger Sy  
Bill Long

Jim Reed  
Dan Cole  
Lou Lamoreux  
Don Duvall  
Mark Wilson  
Tom Mueller

Also present were:

Kayla Veeder  
Dave Loos  
Lindsay Mitchell  
Suzie Rogers  
Tricia Braid

Rodney Weinzierl  
Jim Tarmann  
Phil Thornton  
Caroline Wade  
Laura Gentry

Jim Raben, chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and the board reviewed the agenda.

#### **SECRETARYS REPORT**

Roger Sy reviewed the minutes of the ICMB Executive Committee meeting that was held on January 24, 2017 and the full board meeting that was held on January 25-26, 2017.

**It was moved by Roger Sy and seconded by Don Murphy**

**THAT the minutes of the January 24, 2017 Executive Committee be approved and placed on file.**

**The motion carried.**

**It was moved by Roger Sy and seconded by Don Duvall**

**THAT the minutes of the January 24, 2017 full board meeting be approved and placed on file.**

**The motion carried.**

Roger Sy reviewed the minutes of an ICMB Conference call that was held on February 27, 2017.

**It was moved by Roger Sy and seconded by Dan Cole**

**THAT the minutes of the February 27, 2017 ICMB conference call be approved and placed on file.**

**The motion carried.**

#### TREASURERS REPORT

Don Duvall reviewed the financial statements for the period ending February 28, 2017.

Many larger farmers are requesting refunds and the board discussed why this is and what sort of communication could help the larger farmers understand the value of ICMB.

Rod shared how he answers questions about our cash reserve and balance sheet recently published in the recent ICMB annual report.

**It was moved by Don Duvall and seconded by Jim Reed**

**THAT the treasurers report be placed on file.**

**The motion carried.**

#### EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Rod shared a pocket ICMB and ICGA directory with the board.

The Director of Ag, Sonny Perdue, has not be confirmed yet. Rod believes once that happens, the positions under Perdue will be filled fairly quickly. Last week, the nominee for the Sec of the Army withdrew. This is a position that will impact IL corn farmers so we are watching it closely. Congressman Shimkus is one of the new potential nominees. If he is chosen, he would have input in who is nominated the Asst Secretary of the Army through which lock and dam construction would go through. The downside is that he is currently the subcommittee chairman for any legislation that would handle any changes to the RFS.

We are still watching the infrastructure bill, but expect it to not move until the end of 2017.

Within IL, there is an effort to come up with a “Grand Bargain” which Rod believes will happen in the next 30 days, if it happens. We are starting to see major problems in Universities because of the lack of funding and lack of a budget.

The Consumer Fuel Choice for IL is introduced and we are adding sponsors. Also a couple of bills out there to institute “home rule” in some Chicago suburbs to prevent crop protection products.

Rod recognized Ashley Deal for two years of service.

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Lindsay Mitchell reminded directors in districts 1, 4, 7, 10, and 13 that petitions are due in the office of the Director of Agriculture by May 15, 2017. Please send a copy to Kayla and to the Dept of Ag.

The ICMB election will be held on July 6.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Tom Mueller reported for the committee.

#### ***Goal Review***

The committee reviewed the Industrial Committee and Export Committee goals that will be reviewed and replaced at this meeting.

#### ***Corn Congress/Commodity Classic Review***

The committee reviewed opportunities to improve the Commodity Classic in future years.

#### ***Executive Programs & Communication Plan***

**It was moved out of committee**

**THAT we approve the following executive programs for FY17:**

<b>Master Showmanship</b>	<b>\$250</b>
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**The motion carried.**

**It was moved out of committee**

**THAT we approve the following Communications Plan programs for FY17:**

<b>General Corn Brochures</b>	<b>\$4,500</b>
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**The motion carried.**

#### ***NCGA Syngenta Leadership Academy & Advanced Leadership***

The Chairman will appoint a farmer leader from the ICMB board to participate in the Leadership Academy.

### ***Budget Process for 2017 – 2018***

The committee reviewed a revised budget process for FY18.

### ***Past Director Event***

ICMB will host a past director event on Tuesday, August 22, 2017 for all past leaders of the organization. IL Corn will also invite past directors to an “update” session for them to get refreshed on ICMB and ICGA projects.

### ***ICMB Director Petitions***

The statute requires either 200 signatures or 5 percent of the district on a petition to run as a ICMB Director. We have investigated opening the law and making technical corrections to portions like this, but past ICMB boards have not decided to proceed.

**It was moved by Don Duvall, seconded by Pat Dumoulin**

**THAT ICMB does not change the number of signatures needed to run for the ICMB board.**

**The board voted by roll call vote:**

**Pat Dumoulin – Yes  
Lou Lamoueux – Yes  
Tom Mueller – Yes  
Mark Wilson – Yes  
Paul Jeschke – Absent  
Dirk Rice – No  
Jim Reed – Yes  
Mike Wurmnest – Yes  
Dan Cole – Yes  
Bill Long – Yes  
Don Murphy – Yes  
Roger Sy – Yes  
Don Duvall – Yes  
Karen Neff – Absent  
Jim Raben – Yes**

**The motion carried.**

### ***NCGA/USGC Leadership Positions***

When ICMB leaders run for national leadership positions the board needs to “bless” the candidates, knowing that they are agreeing to cover expenses until the end of the national leadership term.

**It was moved out of committee**

**THAT ICMB will cover additional expenses not already covered by US Grains Council for Jim Raben, should he be elected to US Grains Council secretary.**

**The motion carried.**

**Jim Raben abstained from the vote.**

**It was moved out of committee**

**THAT ICMB will cover additional expenses not already covered by US Grains Council for Tom Mueller, should he be elected to US Grains Council corn sector chairman.**

**The motion carried.**

**Tom Mueller abstained from the vote.**

**It was moved by Pat Dumoulin, seconded by Dan Cole**

**THAT the report of the Executive Committee be approved including all committee recommendations with a total budget impact of \$4,750.**

**The motion carried.**

Don Duvall reviewed further changes to the board policy.

**It was moved by Dan Cole, seconded by Dirk Rice**

**THAT ICMB policy on page 2, 5, b, 2 be amended to read: "Airfare should be purchased at economy/extended leg room coach class."**

**The motion carried.**

Suzie reviewed with the board the IRS policy that would require first class airfare to be reported to the IRS, which makes it publicly available information, and would also require first class tickets in excess of \$600 over the course of a calendar year to generate a 1099.

**It was moved by Dan Cole, seconded by Lou Lamoreux**

**THAT ICMB policy on page 2, 5, b, 2 be amended to delete the following:  
“For domestic flights with flying time of 3 hours plus ICMB will pay for ½ of an upgrade not to exceed \$125. For international flights with a flying time of 4 ½ hours or more, ICMB will pay for ½ of an upgrade not to exceed \$1,000.”**

**The board voted by roll call vote:**

**Pat Dumoulin – Yes  
Lou Lamoueux – Yes  
Tom Mueller – Yes  
Mark Wilson – Yes  
Paul Jeschke – Absent  
Dirk Rice – Yes  
Jim Reed – Yes  
Mike Wurmnest – Yes  
Dan Cole – Yes  
Bill Long – Yes  
Don Murphy – Yes  
Roger Sy – Yes  
Don Duvall – Yes  
Karen Neff – Absent  
Jim Raben – Yes**

**The motion carried.**

After voting on two amendments, the board wanted to vote on a final board policy statement.

**It was moved by Don Duvall, seconded by Pat Dumoulin**

**THAT ICMB policy page 2, 5, b, 2 read: “Airfare should be purchased at economy or extended leg room coach class.”**

**The motion carried.**

Another proposed policy statement addresses the needs of directors that choose to drive instead of fly.

**It was moved by Dan Cole, seconded by Jim Reed**

**THAT ICMB policy page 2, 5, b, 3 read: “If a board member chooses to drive to a meeting rather than fly, reimbursement will be based on the average airfare to that location and associated costs (i.e. baggage fees, airport parking, etc.), not to exceed \$150.”**

**The board voted by roll call vote:**

**Pat Dumoulin – Yes  
Lou Lamoueux – Yes  
Tom Mueller – Yes  
Mark Wilson – Yes**

**Paul Jeschke – Absent**  
**Dirk Rice – Yes**  
**Jim Reed – Yes**  
**Mike Wurmnest – Yes**  
**Dan Cole – Yes**  
**Bill Long – Yes**  
**Don Murphy – Yes**  
**Roger Sy – Yes**  
**Don Duvall – Yes**  
**Karen Neff – Absent**  
**Jim Raben – Yes**

**The motion carried.**

The board discussed two potential deletions that were unclear in the board policy.

**Moved by Dirk Rice, seconded by Dan Cole**

**THAT ICMB policy page 3, 5, d, 3 be deleted.**

**The motion carried.**

**Moved by Jim Reed, seconded by Dirk Rice**

**THAT ICMB policy page 3, 5, d, 4 be deleted.**

**The motion carried.**

The board reviewed who is a guest and how to describe guests that the board feels comfortable reimbursing meal expenses for.

**Motion by Dan Cole, seconded by Dirk Rice**

**THAT ICMB policy page 3, number 12 read: “Expenses for official meal functions for industry-related guests, with prior approval from the Executive Director and the ICMB Chairman or ICMB Vice Chairman, shall be covered where their attendance is beneficial to the board’s duties and responsibilities.”**

**The board voted by roll call vote:**

**Pat Dumoulin – Yes**  
**Lou Lamoueux – Yes**  
**Tom Mueller – Yes**  
**Mark Wilson – Yes**  
**Paul Jeschke – Absent**  
**Dirk Rice – Yes**  
**Jim Reed – Yes**

**Mike Wurmnest – Yes**  
**Dan Cole – Yes**  
**Bill Long – Yes**  
**Don Murphy – Yes**  
**Roger Sy – Yes**  
**Don Duvall – Yes**  
**Karen Neff – Absent**  
**Jim Raben – Yes**

**The motion carried.**

Lunch was served.

**Moved by Jim Reed, seconded Pat Dumoulin**

**THAT ICMB bring the following motion off the table: “THAT we commit \$250,000 to the University of Illinois for the renovation of the Collaboration Lab in Turner Hall, to be split equally from FY17, FY18, and FY 19.”**

**The motion carried.**

Tom Mueller read a prepared statement sent by Paul Jeschke in support of this motion.

Jim Reed requested a summary of other ICMB donations to Universities in Illinois. Suzie had such a summary prepared.

**The board voted by roll call vote:**

**Pat Dumoulin – No**  
**Lou Lamoueux – No**  
**Tom Mueller – Yes**  
**Mark Wilson – No**  
**Paul Jeschke – Absent**  
**Dirk Rice – No**  
**Jim Reed – No**  
**Mike Wurmnest – Yes**  
**Dan Cole – No**  
**Bill Long – No**  
**Don Murphy – No**  
**Roger Sy – No**  
**Don Duvall – No**  
**Karen Neff – Absent**  
**Jim Raben – No**

**The motion failed.**

The Chairman Jim Raben brought up a concern about an unpaid balance for Trader’s Group on a 2015 invoice. This issue will be forwarded to the Export Committee for discussion and recommendation.



The Board reviewed Export Committee goal 2 and Industrial Committee goal 1.

Board member reports.

### EXPORTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Mark Wilson reported for committee.

*Goal 1: Start construction of two new lock replacements within the Upper Mississippi River Basin by 2019.*

Asian Carp mitigation has become an issue again. The Nature Conservancy has come up with a workable, cost effective idea to keep Asian Carp from the Great Lakes, but it would kill the fish so environmentalists struggle with that.

Roger Sy shared a summary of the Market Access Action Team meeting.

*Goal 2: Increase the amount of corn and co-products leaving the state by 5 percent by 2017 through improved infrastructure.*

The committee will receive an updated “economic impact of corn in IL” fact sheet when it becomes available.

Phil, Tricia, Jim Reed, and Marty Marr participated in the Grain and Feed of IL Conference this spring.

*Goal 3: Inform a growing world population of the benefits of the improving technology of food production.*

The board received a hard copy of IL Corn’s trade talking points.

Phil Thornton briefed the committee on a recent Japanese trade team that came to the U.S. to investigate ethanol production.

Don Duvall shared a summary of the Freedom to Operate Action Team meeting.

*Goal 4: Invest in research, demonstration, adoption, measurement and modeling of natural resource issues to promote science-based, voluntary solutions to regulatory concerns.*

Caroline summarized ICMB success with the cover crop trial program we’ve conducted in partnership with Beck’s. We’d like to continue this program, offering it to the entire state.

**It was moved out of committee**

**THAT ICMB commit \$60,000 for a program promoting cover crops to farmers that haven't used them before.**

**The motion carried.**

Water quality work is a small piece of the Soil Health Partnership, but it is an important piece. ICMB would like to continue working with them.

**It was recommended by the committee**

**THAT ICMB commit \$25,000 to continue water quality work within the Soil Health Partnership.**

Precision Conservation Management (PCM) is going well. PCM has hired Clay Bess as their first specialist, but is close to hiring a second specialist in IL and a specialist in KY. The program is going slowly, but going well.

ICMB has a three-year contract for two USGC monitoring stations in the Springfield watershed and one in the Indian Creek Watershed. We are in year two of this commitment.

**It was moved out of committee**

**THAT ICMB commit \$115,000 to continue monitoring projects with US Geological Survey in the Springfield and Indian Creek Watersheds.**

**The motion carried.**

*Goal 5: Increase corn, ethanol, DDGS, and other corn co-products exports to 3.5 billion bushels by 2017.*

Bill Long is the only person from ICMB able to go on the Ukraine mission at this time.

**It was recommended by the committee**

**THAT ICMB invite a farmer from the IL Corn Growers Association to travel with the group to Ukraine. ICMB prefers a current or upcoming officer attend.**

The committee discussed an alleged outstanding bill with The Trader's Group from a June 2015 mission to Cuba.

**It was recommended by the committee**

**THAT ICMB commit up to \$20,000 for Jim Raben, Don Duvall, and Tom Mueller to get the unpaid balance with Trader's Group resolved.**

*Goal 6: Increase corn and corn co-product usage by the domestic and international livestock sector by 5 percent by 2016.*

The committee heard an update from US Meat Export Federation and US Poultry and Egg Export Council on their current programming and use of ICMB funds.

Tom Mueller shared an update from yesterday's Illinois Livestock Development Group meeting. The group has decided to ask all participating associations for a 20 percent increase in funding. Prior to this, the funding has remained the same since the groups inception.

**It was recommended by the committee**

**THAT ICMB increase their annual contribution to ILDG to \$55,000.**

This \$55,000 is already committed. \$45,000 has already been paid, but ICMB will pay the remaining \$10,000 still this fiscal year.

Rod shared a discussion with his fellow execs that the livestock hearings are getting more and more controversial and discussions are being pulled into a policy direction. ICMB needs to be considering asking ICGA to join ILDG.

**It was moved by Mark Wilson and seconded by Lou Lamoreux**

**THAT the report of the Export Committee be approved including all committee recommendations with a total budget impact of \$220,000.**

**The motion carried.**

## INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Dirk Rice reported for the committee.

*Goal 1: Expand cornstarch to ethanol usage to 5.5 billion bushels by 2017.*

Illinois Renewable Fuels Association has agreed to commit up to \$5,000 per pump, reducing ICMB's original commitment.

**It was recommended by the committee**

**THAT ICMB reduce our commitment of the Feb 27 conference call by \$45,000 and to read: THAT ICMB provide up to \$20,000 for each 8 (9) locations in Illinois (max of up to \$180,000) expanding the offering to E15 and E85 based on meeting the following guidelines: UL-87a E25 dispensers will be purchased; grand opening and other promotions will be held in**

**conjunction with partners; and Prime the Pump guidelines relating to pricing, signage, etc will be followed and shared with partners.**

The retailer will be meeting in the next couple of weeks to decide if they will accept the terms as outlined.

Ethanol efficiency continues to increase. As we can prove our efficiency numbers, additional markets will open up to us.

Gilbarco is still not really interested in selling the higher blend certified pumps. ICMB will continue working on this issue.

ICMB has been asked to support Michigan's program promoting ethanol use in boat owners/users.

**It was recommended by the committee**

**THAT ICMB commit up to \$5,000 to support the Michigan Corn Growers Association's American Ethanol Promotion.**

*Goal 4: Undertake a minimum of three public outreach programs each year for three years with the goal of expanding confidence and trust of farmers and their farming methodologies through openness and accessibility to the non-farm public.*

**It was recommended by the committee**

**THAT ICMB commit up to \$25,000 for two summer communications interns that will focus their work on public education and outreach to non-traditional audiences.**

**It was recommended by the committee**

**THAT ICMB commit up to \$5,000 for the 2018 Spring social media intern program to enhance our outreach to non-traditional audiences.**

The committee received an update from Mary Hagan in the NCGA corn reputation project. We can use this this information, which more heavily tests Chicago, in the Illinois Farm Families and Illinois runs on Homegrown Corn projects.

**It was moved out of committee**

**THAT ICMB commit \$200,000 to NCGA's Consumer Engagement Action Team for the continuation of the NCGA Corn Reputation Research project.**

**The motion carried.**

**It was recommended by the committee**

**THAT ICMB commit \$15,000 to NCGA's Consumer Engagement Action Team (CEAT) to support Common Ground programming, contingent on the program being fully funded and held as a standalone program within CEAT.**

*Goal 5: Demonstrate a 60% reduction in Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Corn Starch ethanol compared to 2005 base crude oil by 2017.*

The NAS Poultry Nutrient Book is distributed worldwide to help folks understand the nutritional value of different feedstocks.

**It was recommended by the committee**

**THAT ICMB commit up to \$20,000 to support an update of the National Academy of Science's Poultry Nutrition Book which will reflect the value of DDGS as a part of poultry rations.**

**It was recommended by the committee**

**THAT ICMB commit \$1,000 to the Plant Management Network to support the production of their Focus On Corn webcast series.**

ICMB asked staff to write a letter to NCGA expressing their interest in NCGA investigating the National Corn to Ethanol Research Center ability to help develop new uses of corn.

**It was moved by Dirk Rice and seconded by Dan Cole**

**THAT the report of the Industrial Committee be approved including all committee recommendations with a total budget impact of \$451,000.**

**The motion carried.**

Rod presented the results of the Farm Bill Listening Sessions.

The board discussed Point of Obligation in the Renewable Fuel Standard and the disagreement among ethanol industry groups.

The ICMB, DBA Illinois Runs on HomeGrown Corn, will be hosting the Heartland Spirits Festival near Chicago (Logan Square neighborhood) on May 20. We are going to use the research we've gained in communicating with non-farmers to try out this pilot project. Other states (8) are involved in the project as well. Hopefully 6-8 farmers will be available to answer questions and engage with consumers.

The board wants coffee cups made with their names on them to keep at the office.

**It was moved by Dirk Rice and seconded by Dan Cole**

**THAT ICMB purchase corn coffee mugs with director names on them.**

**The board voted by roll call vote:**

**Pat Dumoulin – Yes**

**Lou Lamoueux – Yes**

**Tom Mueller – No**

**Mark Wilson – No**

**Paul Jeschke – Absent**

**Dirk Rice – Yes**

**Jim Reed – No**

**Mike Wurmnest – Yes**

**Dan Cole – Yes**

**Bill Long – No**

**Don Murphy – No**

**Roger Sy – No**

**Don Duvall – No**

**Karen Neff – Absent**

**Jim Raben – Yes**

**The motion failed.**

The board would like new shirt orders.

**It was moved by Dirk Rice and seconded by Don Duvall**

**THAT we go into Executive Session.**

**The motion carried.**

**It was moved by Pat Dumoulin and seconded by Lou Lamoreux**

**THAT we exit Executive Session.**

**The motion carried.**

**It was moved by Roger Sy and seconded by Tom Mueller**

**THAT we adjourn the meeting.**

**The motion carried.**

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Roger Sy, Secretary

