



**Minutes of the NREC ANNUAL MEETING  
August 18, 2015  
Illinois Department of Agriculture, Room 66, Springfield, IL**

The 3rd NREC Annual Meeting was held on August 18, 2015 at the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

**Council Members in Attendance:** Chuck Cawley, Howard Brown, Dale Hadden, Matt Hughes, Ed Corrigan, Andy Knepp, Chris Matlock, Ted Mottaz, Jenny Mennenga, Jessica Dexter and Cindy Skrukud. Absent but excused were Matt Duncan and German Bollero. Trevor Sample sat in for Marcia Willhite but not in a voting capacity.

Others in attendance were David Reid (legal counsel), Bob Hoeft (research coordinator) and Jean Payne (administrator).

Vice Chairman Ed Corrigan called the annual meeting to order at 2:42 p.m.

**Review & Approval of August 12, 2014 Annual Meeting Minutes**

Dale Hadden presented the minutes of the 2014 annual meeting for review; Dale made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Howard Brown, motion carried unanimously.

**NREC 2014 Audit Report**

Matt Hughes reported that the 2014 audit conducted by Clifton Larson Allen was complete and that all Council members had received a copy of the audit. He reported it was a clean audit and that there were no significant findings out of the ordinary relative to what organizations of NREC's size encounter with a small staff. Matt made a motion to accept the 2014 audit report, Chuck Cawley seconded, motion carried unanimously. The Council then discussed which audit firm to use in 2015; Chuck moved to utilize Clifton Larson Allen for one more year (making it their 3<sup>rd</sup> year to audit NREC), with the provision to negotiate the price with them and accept bids from other audit firms for the 2016 audit. Dale seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

**Election of Officers**

Chuck officially reported that Dept of Ag Director Philip Nelson had appointed two new Council members to replace those who resigned their terms: Ted Mottaz replacing Gary Hudson and Jenny Mennenga to replace Matt Hughes. Ted and Jenny both introduced themselves and stated they were honored to serve in this important organization, as many states are looking to Illinois NREC as a significant program to address the challenges facing agriculture.

The Council thanked Matt for her service and leadership to the Council and in role as Treasurer. The Council discussed the selection of officers as follows:

Dale Hadden volunteered to serve as Chair; motion to appoint Dale as Chair made by Chuck Cawley, seconded by Chris Matlock, motion carried unanimously.

Ed Corrigan expressed his willingness to remain as Vice Chair; motion to appoint Ed as Vice Chairman made by Howard Brown, seconded by Andy Knepp, motion carried unanimously.

Ted Mottaz volunteered to serve as Treasurer; motion to appoint Ted as Treasurer made by Dale Hadden, seconded by Andy Knepp, motion carried unanimously.

Chuck Cawley indicated his willingness to serve as Secretary; motion to appoint Chuck as Secretary made by Dale Hadden, seconded by Ed Corrigan, motion carried unanimously.

Jessica Dexter asked about the terms of the Council members, and specifically if the initial, staggered terms counted as a term as it pertains to the re-appointment process. The bylaws do not consider the initial staggered term a full term. David Reid, NREC Legal Counsel, advised that it would be prudent for Council members whose staggered or initial terms were set to expire soon or had expired to expire seek reappointment by sending a letter to the IDA Director.

### **Other Business**

Dale reported that a committee consisting of he, Ed Corrigan, Chuck Cawley, Andy Knepp and Jean Payne had made significant progress over the summer in sourcing and interviewing candidates for NREC's first full time Executive Director and would be moving immediately to an executive session of NREC to select the final candidate.

Having no further business for the annual meeting, motion to adjourn the NREC annual meeting at 3:40 pm made by Ed Corrigan, seconded by Ted Mottaz, motion carried unanimously.

Minutes recorded by Jean Payne, reviewed by Dale Hadden.