



Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2025

1:00PM

Meeting Location:

Virtual

Meeting Link: meet.google.com/vqs-avzw-pbq Phone: 1 785-422-7977

PIN: 651423781

Members Present: John Foster, Caley Parrish, Jeff Phillips, Joe Bolick, Karmin McShane, Joe Mayne, and Abe Sandquist

Absent: Jeff Bradley, Jenny Trent,

Guests: Theresa Stiner, Zac Hornung

Foster called The meeting to order at 1:02 pm on March 13, 2025. Foster conducted roll call.

Phillip moved to approve the agenda, which Mayne seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Bolick moved to approve the meeting minutes of February 13, 2025, seconded by Parrish. All ayes, motion carried.

Chapter Director's Report: None

IRA update: Bolick updated us that the IRA board is getting ready to do strategic planning in May. Diane Albertson scholarship will give out two this year; spread the word. Legislative day is as anticipated.

Iowa DNR Report: Stiner reported that IDNR has a new website. Old links should be redirected, there is a transition it is anticipated to be phone friendly. The solid waste permit holders were hit with a phishing scam, and the website was shut down, issue is now resolved. Continue to work on EO10. Land application is posted on website and up for comment now. One pending permit for a small compost facility for a butcher shop.

Committee Reports:

Membership Committee Report: McShane updated the board on membership renewals, the process with IRA and the plan moving forward.

Programs and Training Committee Report: Phillips talked to Theresa at IDNR regarding what needs to be submitted for approval for compost operator renewal training IDNR confirmed they need an outline. Phillips reviewed a draft course outline including 6.5 hours of course content. Discussion ensued regarding the details of training and board volunteers for specific agenda items. Cedar Rapids Linn County Solid Waste Agency offered to host the training on June 24, June 25th is the Annual Meeting of Membership. Discussion of fees and details ensued.

Advocacy Committee Report: Sandquist and Foster attended the subcommittee meeting with IDALS regarding modifications to the regulations, which are focused on rules, not regulation, and the addition of a Beneficial substance category. House Study Bill 143 was introduced modifying soil conditioners and amendments to Beneficial substances. The bill is moving forward; it has passed the funnel and has been renamed HF799. Sanquist also reported meeting with a restaurant industry lobbyist while at the capital. Some discussion ensued.

Communications and Marketing Committee Report: Zac has been posting. Summer event planning will be underway. A table will be set up at the Growing Sustainable Communities conference.

Organizational Development Committee: Foster will soon send out the call for nominations and will work on the ballot, which will be promoted on the website and newsletter.

Finance Committee: Financials were emailed with an updated balance of \$19,000.

Old Business:

Discussion and direction regarding Strategic Plan Update.

Foster reviewed the Iowa composting mission's statement and vision statement previously distributed to the board. Mission: The Iowa Composting Council (IACC) is dedicated to developing, expanding, and promoting the composting industry in Iowa based on sound science, principles of sustainability, and economic viability. IACC Vision: We envision a world where organic materials are transformed into valuable resources through composting, fostering healthy soils, clean air and water, job creation, economic growth, and sustainable waste management systems. Phillips made a motion to adopt vision and mission statements as presented, seconded by Bolick, all ayes, motion carried.

New Business:

There was a motion by Bolick to receive and file the IACC draft Chapter 105 Comment and IDNR Response Letter, seconded by Phillips, all ayes, and the motion was carried.

There was a motion by McShane to receive and file a Letter of Support for UNI IWRC's Compost Research and Training Facility, seconded by Mayne, all ayes (Bolick abstained), and the motion was carried.

Discussions regarding Fundraising and Membership ensued. Foster asked the board to consider alternative approaches, such as annual contributions or donations. Discussion ensued, and the point was made that the administration of the membership platform is changing on IRA's end, providing continuity and structure. Bolick and McShane expressed confidence in the changes moving forward. Discussion ensued, with no changes to structure recommended.

Other:

Adjourn: Sandquist motioned to adjourn due to a lack of further business at 2:05 pm; seconded by Mayne. All ayes. Motion carried. Next meeting April 10, 2025 2 10:00 am, Decorah City Hall Council Chambers, 400 Claiborne Dr. Decorah Iowa Tour to follow meeting at Decorah Compost Facility

Respectfully submitted, Karmin McShane, Secretary