

**SWICO Board Minutes**  
**March 17, 2011 – Atlantic, Iowa – Martin House**

**Board Members Present:** Clarence Moshier, Alec Turner, George Maher, Kenner Baxter, Russ Joyce, Bob Jansen, Twila Larson, Steve Adams, Bill Henderson, Joe Blankenship, Dale McAllister, Karen Bender

President Joe Blankenship called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM.

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda. A motion by Maher to accept the agenda with a second from Turner passed unanimously.

A motion by Turner to approve the minutes from the November board meeting and a 2<sup>nd</sup> from Henderson passed unanimously.

Baxter submitted a treasurer's report reflecting regular expenditures for SWICO. She reported that there was \$11,266.82 cash on hand. A motion by Joyce to approve the treasurer's report with a second by Jansen passed unanimously.

The board had discussion about the membership drive. It was suggested that board members make regular reports to county board of supervisors so that they remain aware of the work being accomplished. Lynn reported that there were two new members; Bunge from Mills and Adams County Commission on Sustainability. Lynn will talk with Lori about visiting with the Pottawattamie County Board of Supervisors. Lynn encouraged board members to continue approaching local business and industry about memberships.

RCDI grant update: Lynn reported that the new bank account for the remaining grant funds was active, a new EFT with the USDA had been set-up and a draw had been made. Grow Iowa Foundation had kept the cash on hand totaling a little more than \$24K from the previous account to cover its claim on employee unemployment liability and would release Buy Iowa LLC after it received a final payment of \$2,200 from the current draw to cover its claim on administration fees. Lynn recommended that the payment be made and SWICO move ahead. Mosier made a motion to remit the \$2,200 payment to Grow Iowa which passed by unanimous consent with a second from Henderson. Turner suggested that the motion should include the amount retained by Grow Iowa in the amount of about \$24,800. Mosier offered an amendment to include the previous cash kept by Grow Iowa. The motion to all Grow Iowa to retain the \$24,800 in the previous accounts and to remit the additional \$2,200 was made by Mosier with a second from Larson which passed unanimously.

Baxter, Blankenship and Olive reported on the legislative visits in February with the Governor and House and Senate leadership. Olive reported that the local foods legislation seemed to have good bipartisan support and could likely pass. Olive reported that he spoke to the job creation aspect of the legislation. Blankenship stated that the legislation also had support from the League of Cities. Baxter reported that, while a federal issue, the group did mention the broad band issue in case there were opportunities for Iowa to weigh in on the Federal level. Blankenship reported that the bottle tax was not a fight the governor wanted to have because the grocery lobbyists were too strong. There were no details given the group, but the Governor did want to make changes to TIF. Blankenship reported that he had checked with Winum and that the Hwy. 34 bridge funding was still safe even with the current budget issues.

Blankenship reported that Workforce Development would likely combine the Red Oak and Shenandoah offices but had not determined which location would stay.

The board discussed the HF 590 bill privatizing IDED in part. The board felt that there was not enough information regarding the details and so chose not to take a position; more discussion would take place at the membership meeting.

With no other business before the board, Turner made a motion to adjourn and Baxter made a second to the motion which was passed unanimously.