

# INDIANA GRAIN INDEMNITY BOARD



## OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Jerome G. Hawkins called this meeting of the Indiana Grain Indemnity Corporation Board of Directors to order at 10:04 a.m.(EST) on February 17, 2011. The meeting was held in Assembly Hall A on the first floor of the Indiana Farm Bureau Corporate Headquarters located at 225 South East Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

**QUORUM:** Chairman Hawkins did a roll call of the Board members, stated that there was a quorum present and asked those present to make sure to sign the attendance form.

**PRESENT:** The following voting members were present:

Joseph F. Kessie	Herman Rettinger	William Tudor
Michael Morehouse	Mike Shuter	Don Villwock
Ron Reichart		

The following nonvoting members or their representatives present were:

Jerome G. Hawkins, Director, Indiana Grain Buyers & Warehouse Licensing Agency  
Rich Bramer, Chief Attorney, representative of the Attorney General

**ABSENT:** The voting members absent for the meeting were:

Robert G. Ax                      Don Lowe

The following nonvoting members absent for the meeting were:

Vicki Pool, Chief Accountant, representative of the Treasurer of State

**RESOURCE** The following resource staff present were:

Bob Goulet, Indiana Grain Buyers & Warehouse Licensing Agency  
Dennis Henry, Indiana Grain Buyers & Warehouse Licensing Agency  
Kyleen Welling, Chief Counsel, Lt. Governor's Office

The following guests were present:

Heather Crocket, Attorney, Attorney General's Office  
Joe Miller, Rose Acre Farms  
Justin Schneider, Attorney, Indiana Farm Bureau  
Mark Thornburg, Attorney, Indiana Farm Bureau

**OLD BUSINESS:** Chairman Hawkins gave the board a quick update on the issues the Agency had been working on. He then went into a timeline of events regarding the surrender of the license of Mentone Agri Center, LLC. He reviewed with the board that the agency was working with the Attorney General's Office and Heather Crocket to obtain grain assets. There was then some discussion on Mentone Agri Center, LLC's bank records. Additional discussion focused on the new entity formed by owner of Mentone Agri Center LLC and how producers should be aware there is no protection for them under the fund with this unlicensed entity. Chairman Hawkins advised the board this has been addressed in a press release from the Indiana State Department of Agriculture.

Some discussion on the history of Mentone Agri Center, LLC and current litigation against the company, some of the specifics on how many claims the agency expects and the total claim amount. Chairman Hawkins let the board know that the grain assets could be gone and or already forwarded on, leaving the agency with only the funding of the called surety bond.

With much discussion Ron Reichart motioned to retain the Attorney General's Office as legal representation to deal with reimbursement of payouts from claims for Mentone Agri Center, LLC. (Second by M. Morehouse)  
***Motion was carried to retain the Attorney General's Office for legal representation in matters concerning Mentone Agri Center, LLC.***

A volunteer committee will be working with Chairman Hawkins to work with the Attorney General's Office regarding any decision that need to be made on behalf of the board.

Chairman Hawkins then gave the board a timeline of events that will happen after the Claims Hearing on February 18, 2011. If no claimants appeal the Fact and Final Order issued by the Agency, it would be possible to present claims to the board in early April. The board reviewed calendars and it was decided to meet again on April 7 at 10:00 a.m. in Assembly Hall D of the Indiana Farm Bureau headquarters.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Chairman Hawkins advised the board that he has been asked to visit Serbia by official to help establish a grain insurance fund similar to Indiana's. He will be leaving March 12<sup>th</sup> and return the 27<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT:** It was motioned that the meeting adjourn by D. Villwock. (Second by R. Reichart) The meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Claim forms and travel vouchers for mileage and per diem submitted by:

Joseph F. Kessie	\$103.20	Herman Rettinger	\$140.40
Michael Morehouse	\$166.00	Mike Shuter	\$94.00
Ron Reichart	\$102.00	William Tudor	\$74.00

Joseph F. Kessie declined submitting a claim for per diem.

Don Villwock declined submitting a claim for mileage and per diem.

***Respectfully submitted by Dennis Henry on March 10, 2011.***