

District Meeting Bylaws Summary

Now that all of the June legislative district meetings are complete, I wanted to report back on the result of each of the district bylaws discussions and related votes. I truly enjoyed the opportunity to work with the districts on this project, and appreciated the level of engagement and lively discussion that occurred on the topic at each meeting. Much like the practices of the districts before addressing the organizational topic, the results varied widely amongst the districts.

District I: District I voted to not adopt bylaws and not have district officers in the future. District I currently has some funds, which are being held on the District's behalf at ISAC. The District voted to postpone a vote on how to disburse those funds until the 2013 legislative district meeting in order to allow more time to consider the options.

District II: District II voted to not adopt bylaws and not have district officers in the future. District II voted to distribute its funds at the 2011 legislative district meeting and, thus, did not have to address that issue this year.

District III: District III voted to not adopt bylaws and not have district officers in the future. District III did have some funds to distribute and voted to donate those funds to the ISAC Education Foundation, and to designate that the funds be used to give an additional scholarship for District III in 2013.

District IV: District IV voted to adopt the sample bylaws as written; however, the District will consider if any modifications or customizations need to be made and will address those possible amendments at its 2013 legislative district meeting. You can find District IV's bylaws as adopted on ISAC's website. District IV elected officers for the next year and the officers will stay the same as last year: Scott Belt, President,

By: Kristi Harshbarger

ISAC Legal Counsel



Pottawattamie County Supervisor; Mark Wedemeyer, Vice President, Cass County Supervisor; and Joyce Jensen, Secretary / Treasurer, Cass County Recorder.

District V: District V voted on several amendments to the sample bylaws and then voted to adopt the bylaws as amended. The amendments were largely designed to make the sample bylaws concur with the District's historical practices and included making the District's annual meeting its December meeting, electing officers bi-annually, requiring member approval (as opposed to officer approval) to have ISAC hold District revenues, and requiring amendments to the bylaws to be approved by the members via a motion from the floor (as opposed to having officers vet any proposed amendments before they are presented to the members). You can find District V's bylaws as adopted on ISAC's website.

District VI: District VI voted to not adopt bylaws, but to continue to have District officers. District VI elected officers for the next year and the officers will stay the same as last year: Rod Sullivan, President, Johnson County Supervisor; Lu Barron, Vice President, Linn County Supervisor; and Kim Painter, Secretary, Johnson County Recorder. District VI does not have any funds, and, therefore, did not need to address the distribution issue.

For those of you that were not able to attend your district meeting and would like more information on this issue and the options that were presented at the 2012 legislative district meetings, please see the May 2012 Legal Briefs article. If you have any other questions about this issue, the discussions at the district meetings on the topic, or the resulting votes by the districts, please do not hesitate to contact me.

feature

Continued from page 4.

stakeholders, create more partnerships with non-profits and rethink how we deliver services. This is an example of an entire organization shifting from the technical, process-oriented way of doing things into a new environment of adapting to changes beyond our control.

The County Leadership Institute has helped me develop a better understanding of the issues that we face as elected officials

and to more effectively identify problems as adaptive or technical. I would highly recommend the County Leadership Institute to anyone who is interested in being able to look at issues in your county through a new lens with a sharper focus. Please contact ISAC Executive Director Bill Peterson for more information on how to apply or contact me about my experience: ben.rogers@linncounty.org.