Board Meeting - Regular (Thursday, Januarry 30, 2025)
Hotel Arista, Naperville, IL

Board Meeting Opening Items

Call to Order | The meeting was called to order by President Mitchell at 9:07 a.m.

Present | Officers: Tamara L. Mitchell, President; Edward J. Brophy, President Elect; Seth Chapman, Treasurer; 2022-2025 Directors: Alicia M. Cieszykowski, Melissa L. Morgese, Kevin T. Werner; 2023-2026 Directors: Tony Inglese, Angie Smith, Frank Williams; 2024-2027 Directors: John N. Benedetti, Cindy J. Dykas, Jennifer A. Porter; Liaisons: Jillian Scholl, SAAC Chair, Byron Given, SAAC Vice Chair; NIU Liaison: Raoul J. Gravel; Illinois ASBO: Kristopher P. Monn, Executive Director/CEO; Carla D. Paschal, Chief Financial Officer; Rebecca Anderson, Online Learning & IT Manager; Oonagh Barrow, Meetings & Professional Development Manager; Craig T. Collins, Statewide Professional Development Coord., Jennifer Corbin, Sr. Manager of Professional Development; Stacia Freeman, Sr. Manager of Branding & Communications; Michael Van De Voort, Director of Marketing; Julie A. Warner, Sr. Administrative Director for Board Relations; *Absent* | David Bein, Immediate Past President

Appointment of a "Devil's Advocate" | Director Benedetti was appointed as the "Devil's Advocate" for the meeting.

Ask the Board | No items received.

Professional Development Committee Discussion

Professional Development Committee Discussion | An overview of the PDC's, the work they do and have accomplished, as well as the process staff goes through and what we ask of the PDCs. It was also noted that Illinois ASBO is getting what is needed from the PDCs; however, there may be better ways to accomplish what is needed. Initial items brainstormed were as follows: 1) Which PDCs are overcrowded and which need more participation? 2) Should there be subcommittees? 3) Do we have the correct PDCs? Are we missing any? Should an Analytic PDC with AI as a subcommittee be added? 4) Do we need to provide structure? 5) How do we incorporate statewide attendance on PDCs? 6) How can we get new speakers involved? 7) How do we innovate new learning? 8) How can we direct students in the CSBO program to join those PDCs with lower participation? 9) Should member terms be developed to get members involved in other PDCs or would you lose participation? 10) Can we grow our expertise in a different way? 11) How can we be the leaders of AI? 12) How do we pool feedback? 13) Do we provide PDCs with topics based on feedback received to plan and work with other PDCs when applicable? 14) How do the people feel who are developing the content? How do the people feel that are receiving the content? 15) Do we have data that shows that it is "worth their time?" 16) How do we generate topics? 17) How do we gather what new CSBO's need? 18) Is feedback provided when a presentation is not accepted? 19) Can an electronic submission tool be created to submit sessions that would be accessible to members, like ASBO International's "Call for Presentation?" 20) Do updates need to be made to the PDC Handbook and do we still review the handbook with the PDCs

After the initial brainstorming session, the board and staff and SAAC Chair divided into the following four subgroups to further discuss and then came back together as a group and reported out.

- Committee and Meeting Structure
- Committee and Meeting Process
- Content Submission and Selection
- Data and Analytics

The staff will review the work of the subgroups and will provide an update on what can be implemented. The Board stated that if there was a need for a subgroup to meet outside of a board meeting to let them know.

Legislative and ISBE Update

General Update | Legislative Liaison Warnecke and Executive Director/CEO Monn reported on the following: 1) 104th General Assembly; 2) an Appropriations Committee for Pensions has been created; 3) Summary of Superintendent's FY 2026 General Funds Appropriation Recommendation; 4) FY26 State Budget; 5) Mandated Categoricals; 6) Tier 2, HB 5909/SB 3988; 7) PRP Studies.

Action Items

Second Reading: Policy 9000 | This policy series will be brought back to the board in March for a third reading with the following addition: *Article VII, Section B - Nominating Committee, add the following sentence prior to the last sentence of the second paragraph*: It is a goal of the Board of Directors to have geographical representation on the Nominating Committee.

Approval of Recommended SAAC Members from SAAC Nominating & Selection Committee | *A motion was made by Tony Inglese and seconded by Melissa Morgese to approve the 2025-2029 SAAC Member nominees recommended by the SAAC Nominating Committee as follows: Lindsey Fish, Sikich, LLP and Brian Scully, DLA Architects, Ltd. All were in favor and the motion carried.*

Liaison Reports

Service Associate Advisory Committee | SAAC Chair Scholl reported on the following: 1) the SAAC met on 1/29/2025; 2) *SAAC Strategic Goals:* Implemented email outreach with suggested PDC options to join; 3) *Illinois ASBO Golf Outing:* 2 sponsorships still avalable; 4) Annual Conference attendance are ahead of last year; 5) *Maximizing Your Experience as a Service*

Associate: Final review of PowerPoint presentation; 6) SAAC Nominating & Selection Committee Recommendation: Lindsey Fish, Sikich, LLP and Brian Scully, DLA Architects, Ltd.

Northern Illinois University | Executive Director/CEO Monn reported on the following: 1) Ed.D. Cohort; 2) discussions about a School Business and Operations Bachelor of Science in Applied Management program; 3) NIU will have a booth at the Annual Conference.

Board Committee Reports

Advocacy | All items were discussed during the legislative update.

Finance, Foundation & Programs | 1) *Annual Conference:* Planning is going well; 2) finalized audit reports; 3) Spring SBM Doctoral program invoicing has been completed; renaissance rooms tuesday; finalizing oom space; *Human Resources:* Posted vacant marketing position and hired Mitch Prentice to begin on 3/3/2025; *2025 Leadership Day:* Finalized details with speaker; *2026 Annual Conference:* Opening General Session speaker options have been shared with President Elect Brophy; *Finance:* Completed payroll and tax filing; closed 6th month financials; preliminary budget to be discussed in closed session; *Membership:* Lapsed member calls by staff, prior to them becoming inactive, has helped with renewals; Service Associate members dropped due to an issue with renewal notifications.

Marketing | 1) *Emails:* Open and click rates are up; working to decrease the number of emails being sent; 2) *Social Media:* The peer2peer Network digest emails continue to grow and action rates have increased; X/Twitter showed a drop off; researching Bluesky, however, the user base is small and Higher Logic does not currently use it so it would be a separate entry; 3) *Publications & Marketing:* Spring Update scheduled for March distribution; a Nonmember Service Associate Campaign is active from now to March; the Sponsorship Opportunities brochure has been sent to Service Associates; 4) *Annual Conference:* Signage, videos, marketing; 5) *Website:* The redesign is coming along nicely; a staff committee was formed and is currently working on updates.

Professional Development | 1) Recent Lunch & Learn Webinars attendance was reviewed; 2) *Annual Conference:* 117 booths sold; 17 exhibitors participating in the theme and followup with the 56 unsures; 57 X Game participants; 68 breakout sessions; 3) Craig Collins will retire from being the Statewide Professional Development Coordinator on 6/30/2025; he will continue with the Leadership Institute and possibly some academies; reassigning his responsibilities is currently being discussed.

Board Member Leadership Discussion

Professional Development Committees & Regional Organization Board Liaison Reports | The board discussed this topic in the morning; no additional discussion was held. Executive Director/CEO Monn gave a brief overview of his regional visits and stated that he is enjoying meeting the members.

Information/Discussion Items

2024-25 Strategic Plan and SMART Goal Update | Executive Director/CEO Monn provided updates on the Board Strategic Plan and SMART Goal achievements and the SAAC Strategic Goals. He also provided three optional names for the former director membership category, for Goal 5: 1) Alumni Society, 2) Legacy Guild and 3) Pinacle Society.

First Reading: Policy Series 1000 | Director Morgese provided a brief update of the recommended changes for the first reading of Policy Series 1000. A second reading and approval of the policy series will be made at the February Board Meeting.

Illinois ASBO Board Nominating and Selection Committee Results | President Mitchell shared an update from Immediate Past President Bein on the Illinois ASBO Nominating Committee's recommendations to be affirmed by the membership at the 2025 Annual Conference. They are as follows:

2025-2026 Treasurer:
Alicia Cieszykowski, Asst. Supt. of Business Services, CSBO, Lake Park CHSD 108

2025-2028 Directors:
Katie A. Hannigan, Dir./Finance & Operations, CSBO, LaGrange Highlands SD 106
Ray Toliver, Chief School Business Official, Carbondale CHSD 165
Mike Vargas, Business Manager, Marquardt SD 15

Additional items discussed were: 1) informing candidates of how many will serve on the Nominating & Selection Committee; 2) the sharing of when the board members receive communication of those candidates selected, as well as who applied to avoid awkward conversations with the candidates that were not selected. Further discussion is to be held and the board asked for the process to be added to board policy once finalized.

2025-2026 Board Meeting Dates | The FY26 Board meeting schedule will be as follows. Calendar invites will be sent to attendees.

Date	Day	Time	Board Meeting Type
9/11/2025	Thursday	7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.	Regular
10/2/2025	Thursday	2 p.m. to 3 p.m.	Interim
11/20/2025	Thursday	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Regular

1/29/2026	Thursday	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Regular
3/5/2026	Thursday	2 p.m. to 3 p.m.	Interim
5/1/2026	Friday	12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.	Regular
6/9-12/2026	Tuesday-Friday		Regular

FY26 Committees & Special Assignments | Those interested in changing their PDC or Regional Board Liaison assignments are to contact Sr. Admin. Dir. for Board Relations Warner. President Elect Brophy will have the responsibility of final appointments.

2025 Illinois ASBO Board Retreat | The tentative schedule was shared for information only. Sr. Admin. Dir. for Board Relations Warner will be reaching out to gather hotel needs.

Proposed Member Program - Bespoke Communities | Jennifer Sulentic presented a new member program opportunity with her company, Bespoke Communities. The board discussed the opportunity during the Confidential Session.

Non-Dues Revenue Reports

Non-Dues Revenue Reports | *Frontline:* Year over year is slightly lower; *IEC Powered by Future Green:* Should start to see program revenues increase; Procurement Card (p-Card): The number of districts are up and spend remains close to where it was last year.

Reports & Information

Executive Director's Report | The Executive Director and Regional Organization calendars were provided as information only.

Upcoming Meetings & Events | Information on upcoming meetings was shared; the 3/6/2025 Interim Board Meeting will be rescheduled to 3/13/2025 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Other Items | There were no additional items discussed.

Consent Agenda Items

Motion for Consent Agenda Items | *A motion was made by Kevin Werner and seconded by Melissa Morgese to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: 1) 11/21/2024 and 10/3/2024 Board Meeting Minutes, 2) October 2024 Financials and 3) New Service Associate Members as follows. All were in favor and the motion carried.*

- Evolv Technology, Waltham, MA - Chris Trott
- WESCO, Tinley Park, IL - Daniel Chmelina
- Rhombus, Sacramento, CA - Matt Klingbeil
- Tough Tek Metals, Lansing, IA - Angie Maag
- Vistra Corp., Collinsville, IL - Rita Marshall
- Diverzify Pro, Itasca, IL - Thomas Nowicki
- CloudPoint, Roanoke, IL - Jonathan Hodel
- HES Facilities Management, Knoxville, TN - Rodger Hollenbeck
- Michaels Energy, La Crosse, WI - Paityn Wedder
- NetZero USA, Alpharetta, GA - John Ficarrotta
- Blaylock Van, LLC, Chicago, IL - Jonathan Ly
- Euna Solutions, Chicago, IL - Fleicia Carroll

Plus/Delta Meeting Evaluation

Did we talk about the right things? Yes; *Did we spend the right amount of time on items?* Yes, enjoyed the PDC discussion in the morning and the elimination of the Board Committee meetings; maybe move the business items to the beginning of the agenda; *How did we treat each other?* Good; *What should we have done differently?* Want to see action come out of the PDC discussion, not just talk and nothing happens; *What do we need to share with the membership?* 1) Incoming Treasurer, Directors and SAAC Members; 2) PDC Deep Dive Discussion; 3) Annual Conference.

Confidential Session for Board and Executive Staff

Confidential Session for Board and Executive Staff | The board went into a Confidential Session at 3:33 p.m. to discuss the FY2026 Preliminary Budget Review and the Proposed Member Program - Bespoke Communities.

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn | *A motion was made by John Benedetti and seconded by Frank Williams to come out of the Confidential Session and adjourn the meeting at 3:56 p.m. All were in favor and the motion carried.*

Signatures

President | Tamara L. Mitchell

Executive Director/CEO | Kristopher P. Monn