# WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK IL CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

# LOOK INSIDE:

We've been working all year to help you have a voice in Springfield, IL, and Washington, DC, and we can't wait to show you how...





"I am proud of the work we've completed this year on your behalf and I hope you'll find that you get excited about the way we've represented you as well.

It's been a challenging year, in the field, in the office, and in Springfield and Washington, DC. IL Corn **Has Your Back** and has made every possible effort to increase market opportunities, decrease regulatory pressures and affect legislative initiatives in 2019.

Your partnership and membership in this association has left a mark. I urge you to flip through these pages and see for yourself."

Ted Mottaz

#### **ICGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

District I – Mike Homerding, Plainfield, 815-693-9735 District II – Aron Carlson, Winnebaoo, 815-262-5886 District III – Randy DeSutter, Woodhull, 309-368-4802 District IV – Bill Leigh, Minonk, 309-361-0224 District V – Justin Durdan, Utica, 815-252-9040 District VI – Sarah Hastings, , 217-841-2190 District VII – Bill Christ, Metamora, 309-635-1348 District VIII – Ted Mottaz, Elmwood, 309-368-0154 District IX – Terry Smith, Clayton, 217-242-0256 District X – Marty Marr, Jacksonville, 217-473-9304 District XI – Keith Sanders, Vandalia, 618-267-2024 District XII – Don Guinnip, Marshall, 217-251-2199 District XIII – Matt Rush, Fairfield, 618-599-1042 District XIV – Garrett Hawkins, Waterloo, 618-604-7678 District XV – Joe Murphy, Harrisburg, 618-926-5005 At Large Director – Kate Danner, Aledo, 309-337-2256 At Large Director – Dave Rylander, Victoria, 309-337-1360

#### Illinois Corn Crowers Association

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# **OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS BACK YOUR FARM'S SUCCESS**

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Paving the way for higher ethanol blends, the EPA signed the E15 RVP waiver in May 2019 allowing for year-round sales of E15. In October, the administration directed the EPA to reallocate waived gallons from the past three years.

### CALL-TO-ACTION DELIVERY SYSTEM ...... 2

Farmers that wish to engage can now receive texts to their phones when a call to an elected official is needed. We've made this system super easy and over 1,500 farmers answered the call.

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ICGA offered members an opportunity to weigh in with the President and the USDA. Those comments and other conversations resulted in more equitable Market Facilitation Program payment structures.

### LAGRANGE LOCK REHABILITATION FUNDED ..... 4

The Corp of Engineers FY19 plan of work included major rehabilitation of \$57.5 million from start to finish.



### **ACCESS TO ETHANOL MARKETS**

President Trump announced his intention to remove regulatory barriers to selling E15 in the fall of 2018. Later in May 2019, the EPA finalized its rule and made year-round E15 sales a reality.

This is one important step in the road to higher corn demand. The Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) waiver gives retailers an easier choice to sell E15. As retailers convert infrastructure to allow for higher ethanol blends, this becomes an important step to higher blend availability to consumers.

Again, in October 2019, the EPA answered the President's commitment to ethanol by announcing a public comment period for a rule that will reallocate the waived gallons of ethanol over the past three years. These are both important steps to drive your largest growing market! In recent months, more than 15 ethanol plants have been idled or closed, impacting jobs in rural communities and cutting demand for corn.

## **CALL TO ACTION SYSTEM**

ICGA made political advocacy easier with a new call-to-action system called Phone2Action. In just one year, ICGA added almost 1,500 farmers and advocates to the system, each of which receives a notification when calls-to-action are needed.

As of September 2019, ICGA has helped members make more than 1,800 contacts with legislators.

Are you signed up for this service yet? If not, we've made it easy! Simply create a new text, type "52886" in the TO: field, and type "ILCorn" in the message field. Super simple!



## **RECALCULATED MFP PAYMENTS**

Your association facilitated a conversation between farmers and the administration regarding the Market Facilitation Program payments issued in 2019. Remember, corn farmers felt that corn was treated a bit unfairly in the calculation of the payments and sought to make the calculations more equitable.

> ICGA offered corn farmers the opportunity to tell the administration that A PENNY WON'T CUT IT on their farms, activating hundreds of corn farmers along the way.

> > In the end, the administration made significant changes to the MFP calculations in 2019, making the payments based on county level.

1,807 CONTACTS WITH LEGISLATORS IN 2019 ON KEY CORN ISSUES

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Text "ilcorn" to 52886 to sign up for our advocacy platform.

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WITH ITS PARTNERS, ICGA HELPED IL DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UNDERSTAND THAT A PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP (P3) PROPOSAL WOULD MOVE TONNAGE AWAY FROM THE RIVER. NO P3 PROPOSAL WAS SUBMITTED!

### LAGRANGE LOCK REHABILITATION FUNDED

Years of advocacy on behalf of the locks and dams on the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers yielded fruit this year when the Army Corps of Engineers plan of work included \$57.5 million for major rehabilitation on the LaGrange Lock and Dam near Beardstown on the Illinois River. The LaGrange Lock and Dam is at the top of the priority list, needing massive repairs to continue its functionality. Experts have watched in prior years as chunks of the lock have simply fallen into the river unaided. This major rehab budget is a significant win.

Additionally, many Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee Members have included a change in the Inland Waterways Trust Fund cost-share as one of their priorities for inclusion in the 2020 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). This change from a 50/50 to 75% general revenue funding/25% IWTF for IWTF projects would maintain a robust construction budget for Corps projects.

# Illinois Corn Growers Association / Financials

Bloomington, Illinois . Year Ended September 30, 2019

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

#### ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 405,117
Accounts Receivable	
Related party	15,646
Other	50,149
Grant Receivable	23,128
Prepaid Expenses	43,327
Short Term Investments	1,440,000
Other Current Assets	8,062
Total Current /	Assets 1,985,429
Marketable Securities	7,848
Other Investments	73,890
Property and Equipment, Net	637,385
Long-term Prepaid Lease	13,166
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,717,718

#### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$343,839
Deferred Revenue	820,802
Accrued Expenses	253,441
Total Current Liabilities	1,418,082
DEFERRED RENTAL INCOME	197,301
Total Liabilities	1,615,383
NET ASSETS	
Without Donor Restrictions	1,102,335
Total Net Assets	1,102,335
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$2,717,718

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### **REVENUES AND GAINS**

Dues	\$119,800
Grant and Project Funding	1,715,500
Special Projects	823,602
County Projects	30,000
Corporate Sponsorships	475
Rental	8,221
Interest	9,852
Income from Equity Investments	587
Other	952
Unrealized Gain on Marketable Securities	s 504
TOTAL REVENUE AND GAINS	\$2,709,493

### **OPERATING EXPENSES**

Program Services	
Grassroots Committee	519,220
Exports Committee	528,423
Industrial Committee	971,766
Special Projects	906,398
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	2,925,807
Management and General	116,219
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	3,042,026
Change in Net Assets	(332,533)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	1,434,868
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	1,102,335



