

AIF – Southwest District Meeting Minutes March 27th, 2010

The meeting of the Southwest District of the Association of Iowa Fairs was held on March 27th, 2010 at the Page County Fair Wibholm Hall, in Clarinda, Iowa, with Page County in charge of registration and the host county for the evening. There was buffet meal served with the meeting following. Thank you to Page County for hosting and supplying door prizes.

President Ann Crawford called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with 17 out of 18 counties present for roll call (Westfair absent). Lucas County attended with two guests for a total of 61 persons attending.

Secretary Report was read, Adams County motion to approve the minutes, Audubon County seconded the motion, motion carried.

Treasurers Report was given with \$213.71 in checking account. Kathy submitted a bill of \$18.67 for stamps and supplies. Guthrie County motioned to pay the bill. Carroll County seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Iowa State Fair Report:

The Iowa State Fair report by the ISF Directors: C.W. Thomas spoke of the Jacobson Building, it will be usable this year (may not be finished) with the barn quilt art on the building. Grandstand shows have been announced.

Gary Van Aernam spoke of the early school openings and the waiver that has been in place. The entertainment schedule is on the ISF website. The gate admission will be \$7 early sales. Gary reminded everyone about the Iowan of the Day program at the State Fair. A poem, "County Fairs, Why" by Baxter Black was distributed.

Association of Iowa Fairs Report:

John Straight reviewed the 2009 Conference. He encouraged youth to apply for the AIF scholarship. The youth must request the scholarship application from the AIF office.

Jim Mohr spoke on the IAFE Zone 5 meeting and the great time that was had by all and lots of information given out. The AIF's Legislative Breakfast Social was held and the Capitol and enjoyed a good turnout.

Tom Barnes spoke on changes to the 2010 Conference, including starting earlier on Friday and moving showcasing to Friday afternoon. The Social A'Fair and Auction will start earlier Saturday. Tom said there is a possibility of hosting another Consumer Protection Workshop as some counties have not taken the training.

Legislative issues discussed included the RIIF bill now includes county fair funding (\$10,000 per fair). Tom reminded all fairs that the State Funding request must be sent to the AIF office by July 1.

Iowa Property Tax exemption forms were distributed. Fairs were reminded to fill these out and give to County Supervisors or Assessors.

ISU Extension 're-organized' in 2009 resulting in the loss of all County Extension Directors. Fair Boards need to communicate with their local Extension office to insure the youth programs are maintained.

The school start date legislation was discussed. Fair should talk to their local tourism groups to get them to support the legislation.

The Iowa Veterinary office will have employees attend each county fair to obtain samples of poultry feces to be used in testing for diseases. This same testing was done in 2009 and all fairs tested out a 100% negative for diseases. There has been very good reports from fairs on the ICAP program for county fairs.

The final payment of 2009 State funding where handed out. The American Legion is asking county fairs to acknowledge their local military and military kids.

District Business:

County Fair Day at State Fair will be August 13. Keith Urban will be performing at the fair that evening.

Election for district director to the AIF Board will take place at the Fall District meeting. Jim Mohr, current AIF Board member, will be seeking re-election to the AIF Board. Gary Van Aernam will be seeking another term on the Iowa State Fair Board, with this election taking place at the Conference in December.

Only two of the fairs in the SW District are not members of the IAFE.

The IAFE Zone 5 meeting was held in Des Moines on February 26 to 28, 2010. Zone 5 covers a five state area (Ill, NE, IA, KS, & MO). 15 out 18 fairs in the SW District attended the Zone 5 meeting in Des Moines.

Adjournment:

The fall district meeting will be held on September 11, 2010. Location will be determined. Meeting will have a 5:30 p.m. social time with the meal at 6:00 p.m. Business meeting will follow the meal. County Host will be Pottawattamie County. Pottawattamie County moved to adjourn the meeting. Crawford County seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Secretary Kathy Bozwell- Adams County