

# Association of Iowa Fairs

## North Central District Meeting Minutes - Sunday, September 20, 2009

The fall meeting of the North Central District of the AIF was called to order by Chairman Alan Brown at 1:45 p.m. and he thanked the Winnebago County Fair Board for hosting a great meal.

All counties answered roll call with the exception of Hardin who had indicated that they may not be able to attend. Dignitaries in attendance were Representative Henry Rayhons & his wife.

Secretary's report: Wright County made a motion to wave the reading of the minutes and approved them as they were sent. Hancock County seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Balance \$303.14 with all counties 2009 dues collected.

### Election of District Officers, conducted by Tom Barnes

- ⇒ District Chairman: Wright County nominated Alan Brown. No other nominations were presented. Wright County made a motion nominations cease and cast unanimous ballot for Alan Brown as Chairman. Hancock County seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- ⇒ District Vice Chair: Cerro Gordo County nominated Jerry Hopperstad. No other nominations were presented. Mitchell County made motion nominations cease and cast unanimous ballot for Jerry Hopperstad as Vice Chairman. Wright County seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- ⇒ District Sec/Treasurer: Winnebago County nominated Deb McVicker. No other nominations were presented. Winnebago County made motion nominations cease and cast unanimous ballot for Deb McVicker as Secretary/Treasurer. Cerro Gordo County seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### Election of AIF District Director, conducted by Jerry Hopperstad

- ⇒ Jerry indicated that since Alan Brown was stepping down to run for the Iowa State Fair Board the District will need to elect someone from the district to fill his position. Jerry called for nominations. Wright County nominated Tricia Rosendahl. No other nominations were presented. Cerro Gordo County made motion the nominations cease and cast unanimous ballot for Tricia Rosendahl for District Director to the AIF Board. Story County seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### Iowa State Fair Report, by James Romer & Don Greiman

- ⇒ James thanked the fairs for their attendance at the County Fair Day and indicated there were over 1300 served. James spoke about the Jacobson exhibition centers construction progress and if the weather holds it is on track to be completed by the July 10<sup>th</sup> deadline. The fair has met with an unexpected expense – it was discovered that the Old School House has foundation and termite issues and will be demoed and rebuilt for the 2010 fair.
- ⇒ Don Greiman also thanked the fairs for a very successful County Fair Day and told the meeting that as he remembered there were only 69 attendees in 1977. He thanked the boards for their support of the queen contest. He spoke of how impressed foreign dignitaries and other state fair board members are of our State Fair. Don also told the group that he will be retiring from the board after 44 years and thank them for their support over the years. Don encouraged Representative Rayhons to support the continuation of electing directors by the counties they represent and not by appointment of the governor.
- ⇒ Alan thanked Don for his service and dedication to the fair industry. With the retirement of Don from the State Fair Board, his position is open for the State Fair Board and Alan asked if there were any persons who would like to announce their candidacy.

- Kelly Biensen from State Center said he will seek election to the Iowa State Fair board in December. He spoke of his qualifications, family and 6 years as director on the Marshall County Fair Board. He spoke of his hog business and handed out his resume' and business card. Kelly told the group he hopes the Iowa State Fair is done putting up buildings and will just maintain the ones they have but was glad to hear the Old School House will be rebuilt. He said that he has a livestock background and is the only one with a livestock background if elected to the ISF board.
- Alan Brown announced he will be seeking the position. Alan spoke to the group about himself and his service on the Franklin County Fair Board (22 years), 9 years on the livestock committee – 3 of which he also served as board secretary, 4 years on Commercial Exhibits/Carnival committee, 4 years as President and the last 5 on the Entertainment committee. He feels that his service on the Association of Iowa Fairs board for the past 8 years has given him the experience required to fill the position. He told the group that he will represent them not his own agenda.

#### **Association Report by Tom Barnes, Jerry Hopperstad & Alan Brown**

- ⇒ Jerry said he was impressed with how the fairs were using their funding. He also told the group that they just signed a carnival out of Wisconsin for 2010 and that they were looking for other fairs in the area to book for 2010. He has the information if anyone needs it.
- ⇒ Alan said that he was able to attend 17 of the 19 fairs in the district but was unable to go to Boone & Marshall Co because they were the same time as his county fair. He was excited about the uses of the State funding with everything from wash racks to additional horse stalling to new camping hookups. He also thanked the group for their support in the last 8 years and knows the district is in good hands.
- ⇒ Tom told the group that the funding pool was split up with all fairs not just the ones that had applied for those funds, each fair will receive \$15,000.
- ⇒ Tom asked that the emails he sends be forwarded to your board members so they can stay informed.
- ⇒ The following forms are due – Association Dues - Oct 1, Officers form – Dec 15 (include current email), Conference forms – ASAP and Yearly Financial Report – November 15<sup>th</sup> (original, signed, by regular mail – not registered).
- ⇒ 34 counties have join ICAP assurance pool and reduced their cost.
- ⇒ Clarification - All fair must pay hotel/motel tax but are exempt from sales tax. Raffles are not exempt from sales tax.
- ⇒ He asked fairs to be patient with the changes in the Extension reorganization.
- ⇒ Conference info should be available mid October. There was a handout for spouses programs and Tom spoke about some of the speakers, showcasing and round tables they were working on.
- ⇒ School start date – Representative Rayhons told us that it is hard to change but advocates start date after state fair and encouraged the group to contact their school boards.

Tom told the group that all the counties of the North Central district were in compliance and asked for a motion to that effect. Webster County made the motion to accept expenditures of state funding by the NC District Fairs. Cerro Gordo seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Unfinished business: None**

**New business: Humboldt County made motion to have Webster County host the 2010 NC Spring District meeting on March 28, 2010 in Fort Dodge, Mitchell County seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**Humboldt County made motion to adjourn at 2:57 p.m. Kossuth County seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**Meeting minutes submitted by Deb McVicker, District Secretary/Treasurer**