

Association of Iowa Fairs

North Central District Meeting Minutes – March 16, 2008

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Alan Brown. Alan thanked Mitchell County Fair for their hospitality.

Roll Call – Each county introduced the members attending and gave a brief summary of what's happening or new at their fair this year. Counties in attendance were: Boone, Butler, Cerro Gordo, Franklin, Grundy, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardin, Humboldt, Kossuth, Marshall, Mitchell, Story, Tama, Webster, Winnebago, Worth & Wright. Webster attended the NW District meeting and the only county not in attendance was Hardin.

Guests attending: Iowa State Fair Directors James Romer & Don Greiman, AIF Executive Director Tom Barnes and AIF Executive Secretary/Treasurer Sue Barnes.

Each county attending was presented with the balance of the State Funding they were due following the completion of the year end reports.

Grundy County made motion to accept minutes of previous meeting as sent. Wright County seconded motion. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: A balance of \$247.63 – Marshall County made motion to accept report. Butler County seconded motion. Motion Passed. Dues were collected from all counties except the following; Cerro Gordo, Hardin & Story. Butler County has sent their's via mail.

Iowa State Fair report: James Romer gave the line-up of entertainment at the 2008 Iowa State Fair with TBA getting applause. Many of the free stages are filled with entertainment and he told the group to look for the schedule in the near future. Don German told the group that the AIF should be commended for the great 2007 State Conference and commended the fairs on their great job. He also spoke about several projects concerning the show arena west of the Horse Barn. Much of the progress is being slowed by the weather. One of the projects is in phase one and will be finished following the Iowa State Fair. The stalling barn is on hold until frost is out but it will have 220 horse stalls and 533 cattle ties. Funds are available to renovate the tourism building and that project is underway.

Association of Iowa Fairs Report:

- Executive Director Tom Barnes reviewed activities of the AIF. Tom was very pleased with the 2007 Conference. Tom asked for input from fairs on session topics for the 2008 Conference.
- The Consumer Protection Workshop that was offered last fall will be offered on Friday of the 2008 Conference this year. He encouraged anyone who hasn't seen it to attend. State Funding for county fairs is in the state budget for 2008 and the AIF is working with legislators to on it. Tom reminded all to contact legislators know how much you appreciate their efforts to help support your county fair.
- The 2008 Application and Certification for State Funding were passed out to member fairs. Tom explained the forms and application procedure. Deadline to submit application is July 1, 2008. An outline of the infrastructure fund was reviewed. All funding forms sent the AIF must be the original (no copies or faxes will be accepted). All forms are available on the secure site of the AIF.
- Iowa Speedway will be hosting County Fair Day on May 18, 2008. The race on that day will be the Camping World NASCAR East-West Challenge. Tom encouraged all to attend.
- Another handout included a DVD on Poultry and is very informative. Tom asked the group how many fair have a Premise I.D. Some slaughter facilities will be requiring this in order for your fair to ship animals to them. Be sure to check on this and fill out the forms if you don't have it.

New Business: It was suggested by Alan Brown that in order to cover the host counties expense for the meal each county will be charged for the total number reservations received and not the number attending. Example if a county would reserve 4 for meals and only 3 attend the county will still owe for 4. Grundy County made motion to set policy for reservations as presented. Kossuth County seconded motion. Motion carried. Wright County also requested that e-mail reservations be sent a reply so they know it was received.

Grundy County made motion to have the NC District Fall Meeting on September 21, 2008 with Story County hosting. Cerro Gordo County seconded motion. Motion carried.

Mitchell County made motion to adjourn meeting. Humboldt County seconded motion. Motion carried.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Debra McVicker, Secretary/Treasurer.