

Association of Iowa Fairs

Northeast District Meeting Minutes - Sunday, September 14, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 P.M. at the Delaware County Fairgrounds Pavilion, Manchester, Iowa by the Vice Chairman, Ron Pullin.

Roll call was taken asking each county present to introduce their members present. The following fairs were in attendance: Allamakee Co. Fair, Benton Co. Fair, Chickasaw/Big Four Fair, Black Hawk Co. Fair, Bremer Co. Fair, Buchanan Co. Fair, Clayton Co. Fair, Delaware Co. Fair, Dubuque Co. Fair, Fayette Co. Fair, Howard Co. Fair, Jackson Co. Fair, Jones Co. Fair, Linn Co. Fair, National Cattle Congress, Winneshiek Co. Fair and the Big Four Fair, Postville. The Wyoming Fair Association board members were in attendance and their fair will become full fledged members on October 1, 2008.

Guests present: Iowa State Fair Directors Paul Vaassen and Dave Huinker, AIF Executive Director Tom Barnes and AIF Executive Secretary/Treasurer Sue Barnes.

Sue Barnes passed around the AIF attendance sheet for all in attendance to sign.

Mary Esther Pullin read the minutes of the March 9, 2008 district meeting. National Cattle Congress made motion to accept the minutes as read. Clayton County seconded motion. Motion carried.

There was no Treasurer's report.

District officer elections:

- Nominations from the floor were called for chairman. Rick Palmer, Delaware County, was nominated. There being no further nominations from the floor Delaware County made motion nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Rick Palmer as Chairman. Bremer County seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Nominations from the floor were called for Vice Chairman. Ron Pullin, Black Hawk County, was nominated. There being no further nominations from the floor Bremer County made motion nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Ron Pullin as Vice Chairman. National Cattle Congress seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Nominations from the floor were called for Secretary-Treasurer. Mary Esther Pullin was nominated. There being no further nominations from the floor Bremer County made motion nominations cease and an unanimous ballot be cast for Mary Ester Pullin as Secretary/Treasurer. Jones County seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AIF District Directors elections:

- Two District Directors will be elected, one to fill the one year term left vacant by the death of Lynn Dunn and one to be elected to a two year term as John Harms, who has completed his term as AIF Director.
- Voting procedure will be as follows: Each fair will have one ballot. Each ballot shall contain two names of candidates running. The candidate receiving the most votes would fill the two year term and the candidate receiving the next highest vote getter would fill the one year term.
- Nominations from the floor were called for. Those nominated were: Joe Yedlik, Jones Co.; Bill Sloan, Linn Co.; Karen Kutsch, Dubuque Co; Dwayne Hansen, Jackson Co.; Rick Palmer, Delaware Co. and Carol Coates, Dubuque Co. Each person nominated was allowed time to speak in their behalf.
- Voting results: Rick Palmer was elected to the two year position and Joe Yedlik was elected to fill the vacancy on the AIF Board.

Iowa State Fair report:

- Paul Vaassen gave his State Fair report. He updated us on the construction of new streets and facilities. The Iowa State Fair will host the National Percheron Horse Show in 2010 and the new arena will be completed by then. He reported that the board has received many compliments on the addition of air conditioning to the Livestock Pavilion and that the new streets are working out very well. The board is very proud of the accomplishments of the staff and the support of the Iowa Legislature and the Blue Ribbon Foundation. The new facilities will help the fair attract national shows and sales.
- Dave Huinker thanked everyone for attending the Iowa State Fair and to help set a record attendance of one million plus. He is looking forward to the 2009 Iowa State Fair.

Minutes continued on other side ...

Minutes continued from other side ...

Paul Vaassen announced that he will be seeking another term on the Iowa State Fair Board.

John Harms thanked everyone for the support that he has received during the years that he has served on the Association of Iowa Fairs Board. He also announced that Allamakee County Fair will receive the Blue Ribbon Fair award for the NE District at the 2008 Conference.

Association of Iowa Fairs report: Executive Director Tom Barnes gave the Association report.

- **District approval of expenditure of state funding by its member fairs: Tom reported on each fairs' state funding report. He reported each fair has meet requirements of state funding. He asked for a motion to ratify the state funding expenses in the Northeast District as per applications submitted to the Association of Iowa Fairs by July 1, 2008. Howard County made that motion to accept state funding applications as submittals by member fairs in the NE District. Linn County seconded motion. Motion carried.**
- **Tom Barnes talked about the new officer forms and conference registration forms which must be submitted by November 15. He also reviewed the fiscal year financial summary and encouraged the fairs that had not already attended the Consumer Protection Workshop to do so at the upcoming Conference.**
- **The new pooled money forms were explained and clarification of how that program will work was discussed.**
- **The State Legislature has passed a bill that will allow the AIF to form an insurance pool for the benefit of its members. Tom Barnes reported this process will take some time. The AIF will be meeting with insurance industry members in the next month or so to begin the process.**
- **Discussion of the new smoking laws was held. There could probably be some changes in the laws regarding this in the next legislative session.**
- **The AIF Conference and Annual Meeting will be held December 5, 6 and 7 in Des Moines.**

The spring NE District meeting will be held March 15, 2009 and Dubuque County will host this event.

There being no old business and no new business, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mary Esther Pullin, District Secretary