

NORTHWEST REGION ON THE ASSOCIATION OF IOWA FAIRS

The fall meeting of the NW Region of the Iowa Fairs met on September 20, 2008 with Ida County hosting.

President Dave Hoffman called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm with 16 fairs in the NW Region answering roll call. Also present were Iowa State Fair Board members, Bill Neubrand & Jeanne Partlow, District Director Darwin Gaudian and Tom and Sue Barnes. During roll call a member of each fair introduced their attendees & gave a short report on their 2008 fair successes.

Minutes of the fall meeting were read. Cherokee County made a motion to accept the Minutes and O'Brien County seconded. Motion carried. No Treasurer's Report was given.

Next were the Elections for the District Officers. Dave Hoffman was re-nominated unopposed and elected as the District Chairman. Rod Olgrin was re-nominated unopposed and elected as the Vice Chairman. Lisa Grashoff of Cherokee County and Lynnette Soden of O'Brien County were nominated for District Secretary/Treasurer. Each nominee gave a short speech and a closed ballot was distributed. Dave Hoffman announced Lynnette Soden was elected as District Secretary/Treasurer. The Election for the District Director for Association of Iowa Fairs was held. Darwin Gaudian was re-nominated unopposed and elected for District Director.

Jeanne Partlow reported on behalf of the Iowa State Fair. The Corn Dog Stomp was a huge success. Some where between 42-43,000 people were in attendance. Only 11,000 people were able to fit in the stands. This year's overall attendance was over 1,190,000. Jeanne noted the weather cooperated for the most part which helped in this years attendance. Bill Neubrand gave an update on the construction projects. Not all of the projects were completed by the fair due to weather conditions. The fairs next plan is to build a new building which will have a seating capacity of 4000 and will also be heated and air conditioned. This is a 16 million dollar project they hope to have completed by 2010. The Fair received two sizeable donations totaling 4.5 million dollars. Jeanne announced she would be again running for the Iowa State Fair Board. She encouraged anyone present or anyone else interested to also run for the Board.

The Association Report was given. Calhoun County made a motion to approve, Lyon County seconded. Motion carried. Tom Barnes went over a packet that was distributed to each county. Tom encouraged everyone to go over their counties information and to make sure their information was up to date. Tom reviewed the application process for the State Funding. He noted the state appropriation would be \$10,000. Then he discussed the process for application for state funds in the 'pool'. He noted the application was due to the Iowa State Treasurer's Office by December 1. To receive funds from the 'pool' there needed to be matching funds available. He also stated along with the application, a resolution needed to also be sent. The conference forms, financial report forms and

officer forms were also reviewed. Tom then briefly mentioned some of the sessions that would be available at the 2008 Conference to be held on December 5th -7th. Calhoun County was named this year's Blue Ribbon Fair. Tom again strongly encouraged those fairs not participating in the AIFE membership to join. The Zone 5 meeting is to be held in Omaha sometime in early March. Tom stated this was a great opportunity for everyone to attend due to the location. More information would be available about the Zone 5 meeting at the State Conference.

No Old or New Business were discussed. The spring meeting is to be held on Saturday, March 21, 2009. Clay County agreed to be the host site for the spring meeting. Marcus Community Fair motioned to accept, Dickinson County seconded. Motion carried. A short door prize drawing was held. O'Brien County made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lyon County seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Lynnette Soden District Secretary/Treasurer