

# Association of Iowa Fairs

## South Central District Meeting Minutes – March 30, 2008

The 2008 spring South Central District Meeting was on March 30, 2008 at the Sports Page Bar & Grill in Indianola Iowa. District Chairperson Jo Reynolds called the meeting to order at 1:37 pm.

Roll call: as each of the fairs answered roll call they introduced those attending from their fair.

Guests present: Pocahontas County Fair, Iowa House Representative Mark Davitt, Iowa State Fair Directors Randy Brown and Jerry Parkin, AIF Executive Director Tom Barnes and AIF Executive Secretary/Treasurer Sue Barnes and AIF District Directors Curtis Sebolt and Erlene Leonard. A total of 50 persons were in attendance.

AIF District Director Curtis Sebolt handed out the final 2007 state funding checks, 2008 Application and Certification for State Funding and other pertinent information. Deadline to submit funding 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.

Madison County made motion to accept minutes from the 2007 fall district meeting as written. Polk County seconded motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Erlene reported a balance of \$366.06 on hand. \$16.64 was spent for postage since the Sept. 2007 balance of \$312.70 and \$70.00 in dues collected for 2008. Polk County & Union County has yet to pay 2008 dues. Jo stated the treasurer's report was acknowledged.

Iowa State Fair report: ISF Directors Jerry Parkin and Randy Brown handed out information about Kids Club, IFAA scholarships & grandstand entertainment. County Fair Day will be August 8<sup>th</sup>. Other highlights included major renovations for horse exhibitors, A/C in Pavilion, increase on advance gate tickets, camping fees, parking and park & ride fees. Premium book is completely on line.

AIF report: AIF Executive Director Tom Barnes gave report on several issues and items of interest.

- Overview of legislative concerning fairs. SF 2337 covering liability insurance will give AIF having the ability to process policies for better buying power. More as this develops. Smoking legislation will affect all buildings and grandstands. Bingo Bill is in committee, County Fair funding of \$15,000 is in the Governor's budget. All may need to contact legislators for support if cuts are suggested. SF 2278, Absolute School Start date of August 25th has been sent to the House for approval.
- May 18<sup>th</sup> – Iowa Speedway in Newton will be County Fair Day. County fairs will receive discount on tickets.
- Iowa Department of Agricultural will be checking poultry again this year at fairs across Iowa for Avian influenza.
- All fairs need a Premise ID as well as their exhibitors. In 2008, Hormel will not accept hogs without ID from each exhibitor.
- Jack Payne, Vice Provost for I.S.U. Extension, has an exploratory committee looking into the working relations of fairs and county extension offices. There should be a report in this summer of findings of the committee report.
- 2008 AIF Conference will be held December 5-7, and will continue to focus on youth involvement. There will be a Consumer Protection Workshop on December 5.

Other business: Leroy Perkins gave an overview of the current licensed electricians' bill that went into effect January 1, 2008. There are 10 license categories. He is still working for change.

Fall District Meeting will be Sunday, September 28, 2008. Mike Erdman extended an invitation to Madison County as they will have a new facility ready by their 2008 fair. Jerry Parkin made motion to hold meeting at the Sport's Page in Indianola. Lucas County seconded motion. Motion carried.

Polk County made motion to adjourn meeting at 3:35 p.m. Lucas County seconded motion. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Erlene Leonard, District Secretary