

# **Association of Iowa Fairs**

## **Southeast District Meeting Minutes – March 14, 2009**

President Keith Bothell called the meeting to order on March 14, 2009 in Eldon, Iowa. Bev Sloan gave the invocation.

Roll call was taken with 16 fairs present. State Representative Mary Gaskill and Wapello County Supervisors Jerry Parker, Steve Siegel and Greg Kenning were also present. Great Mississippi Fair and Wapello County 4H-Expo were absent.

Johnson County made motion the minutes of the 2008 SE District fall meeting be approved as sent out Van Buren County seconded motion. Motion carried. Johnson County made motion to approve Treasurer's report. Muscatine County seconded motion. Motion carried.

Gary McConnell, State Fair Director, discussed the new concessions stands being built. Grandstand entertainment was announced for the 2009 year. Dr. Dean Hoy will be the vet for the Animal Learning Center. The Center was a huge success. Livestock will be and has been bred for the coming fair season. Gary asked that you talk to your state representatives about the school start dates, moving the start to after Labor Day. Due to economic conditions, Wells Fargo and Principal Financial Group have stepped down as sponsors of the State Fair. August 14, 2009 will be County Fair Day.

State Fair Director Bob Schultz stated the theme for the 2009 fair will be "Fair Time". Daily gate admissions will be on sale April 15, 2009. Changes are coming for the 4-H hog show in 2010. Trends are shifting from 4-H to FFA due to requirements by the 4-H. Jacobson Center, the new \$35 million horse arena located west of the current horse barn, will be completed in 2010. In October of 2010, the world Percheron horse show will be at this facility. Elwell Center, which is the old tourism building, is being remodeled with a completion date of May 1, 2009. Fair dates are August 13 through August 23, 2009.

Richard Smith, SE District Director Association of Iowa Fairs, thanked everyone for their support and help for the past twelve years. His term will end the fall of 2009. His position is up for election.

Don Cain, SE District Director Association of Iowa Fairs, thanked everyone for coming and their support for the past year.

Tom Barnes, Executive Secretary Association of Iowa Fairs, welcomed Curtis and Donna Sebolt of Appanoose County. Curtis is the Director of the South Central District Association of Iowa Fairs. Legislative report - state funding at this time is not in place. Legislative breakfast is scheduled March 18, 2009 at 7:00 a.m. with everyone invited. Grant money from the State Treasurer's office has not been distributed at this time due to the large amount of fairs that applied for the grant (90 fairs applied for \$2.4 million). State funding application for 2009 is due in the Association's office July 1, 2009. Chickens will be checked by the State Fair Vet at local fairs this year. Premises ID number for county fairgrounds have to be applied for at the IDALS office. ICAP insurance will be offered state wide for county fairs for the coming year which will be concession, flood insurance for equipment, property, general liability, director's, Dram Shop and worker's comp. You will be able to use your local agent as your ICAP representative.

Keith Bothell thanked Wapello County for hosting the spring meeting and the tours of the Gothic Center, Mahaffrey Opera House and the Rock Island Depot. Van Buren County made motion that Des Moines County will host the fall meeting of the SE District on September 19, 2009 in West Burlington. Louisa County seconded motion. Motion carried.

Johnson County made motion to adjourn the meeting. Van Buren County seconded motion. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jim Sloan, District Secretary