

USCHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING  
Conference Call Monday  
August 9, 2010

USCHI Board of Directors held their regular monthly meeting, August 9, 2010 by conference call. President Tracy Zeorian called the meeting to order at 6:01am, CDT. Present were Vice President Kent Braathen, Treasurer Jon Orr, Secretary Taff Hughes, board members, Dean Karau and Kirk Grove. Operations manager Pam Shmidl was also present, board advisor Steve Shepherd. Roger Sammons was absent.

AGENDA was reviewed by all present. Tracy asked for the new harvest documentary to be added to new business, with the addition Kent made a motion to accept the agenda, Dean seconded motion carried.

MINUTES of the August 9, 2010 were reviewed by all present. Dean motioned to approve the minutes as read, Jon seconded, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT was given by Pam, July financials were reviewed. Jon moved to accept treasurers report, Dean seconded.

**OLD BUSINESS**

AG-Connect

Pam inquired about who will man the booth from January 8-10, 2011(Sat-Mon) with a preview day being Friday the 8th of January. Jon added that the preview day is a regular day with less people. All present board members showed interest in attending and Pam will reserve 4 rooms from our block of 50 rooms. There has not been very much interest shown by the membership as of yet. We will continue to run this in the newsletter and on the web site until the cancellation date for our block of rooms.

Wichita Kansas

Pam had a site visit in Wichita KS on Wednesday August 4<sup>th</sup>. She toured the Century II complex and the Hyatt Regency Downtown. She reported it was a very nice hotel and a beautiful area with 93000sq ft of trade show floor space available and they are very willing and negotiable. The facility preliminary cost is \$10,800 and is good deal compared to many other places, possibly being used for 2014 or 2015 convention. We have been using 40,000 sq ft in Wichita Falls, Texas and in Topeka, KS. Kent pointed out that we will have 100,000 sq ft in Grand Island, NE and it will be hard to return to a smaller facility.

Scholarship

Pam thought she had the approval to use the new application. Tracy pointed out that she didn't think it had been approved by the committee yet and they need to have a meeting. Tracy will contact Roger to talk to Wendy Hughes, scholarship chair to see if they can get this approved by Friday August 15, 2010.

Safety video

Jon received a bid from Conrad Weaver, with CON JO Studios in Washington, DC for \$35,000 including on-site filming, post production editing, and 100 copies of the DVD with additional copies being \$5-\$6 each. He said it seems very reasonable compared to the last bid he received. Steve pointed out the board has talked about this since he has been involved and this is the first time it has moved this

far. Dean made a motion to proceed, Kirk seconded, motion carried.

### Convention Speakers

Jon, while visiting with Conrad Weaver, has a contact with FEMA Safety Training for a “train the trainer” session. Pam said the schedule is getting full and may be hard to fit in. Jon would also like to have a speaker from the “chopper challenge” held recently in California. This would possibly fit in during the chopper clinics as they seem to be shorter than the combine clinics. Jon reported that this is something that the foragers have shown a great interest in.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Chopper Challenge

Jon reported on the event that Dan Lamb had put together in California where they had 4 different machines and tested for output per hour, fuel consumption and length of chop. They had a university man come to check it out to have all the machines set up equal. Jon was inquiring about sponsorship from USCHI for samples sent to DairyLand Laboratories for testing. Not sure if it is 12 samples total or per machine. At 12 samples per machine total cost is \$1850.00. At 12 total it would be \$5-\$600.00 The board didn't see this as a problem but the issue was never voted on.

### Harvest Documentary

Tracy was contacted by Conrad Weaver as being interested in filming a documentary on the custom harvest industry and possibly looking for sponsorship or an endorsement. He feels maybe an endorsement from the USCHI and the use of their logo would go a long way in his project. Steve pointed out that this is nothing new and it has been done before and asked if it is the same man doing the safety video. Yes, it is. Kent asked about doing a silage harvest documentary. Jon doesn't see this as a great possibility for it does not seem to have the same allure, excitement and romance that the wheat harvest proclaims. At this time, the board doesn't want to financially support this endeavor, but they may use the logo if they wish.

### Adjourn

Jon moved to adjourn meeting at 7:13am, Kirk seconded, motion carried. Next meeting is Thursday September 9<sup>th</sup> 2010 @ 6:00 am CDT.