

USCHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Face-to -Face

Wednesday March 2nd 2011

USCHI Board of Directors held their regular monthly meeting in the form of a face-to-face meeting on March 2nd, 2011 in the boardroom of the Midtown Holiday Inn Grand Island, Nebraska. President Tracy Zeorian, called the meeting to order at 1:05pm CDT. Those present were President Tracy Zeorian, Vice-President Kent Braathen, secretary Taff Hughes, treasurer Jon Orr, board members Roger Sammons, Kirk Grove and Dean Karau, advisor to the board Steve Shepherd and Operations Manager Pam Shmidl. Also present were members Anthony Adams, Bill Stevens, Jim Baker and Mike Parker.

AGENDA was reviewed by all present, without any corrections or additions Jon made a motion to accept, Dean seconded.

MINUTES of the February 8th 2011, meeting were reviewed without any corrections. Dean moved to accept Taff seconded.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Were reviewed by those present. Pam responding to a question confirmed the checking account balance to be \$277,130.45, with no further discussion Roger moved to accept treasure's report, Dean seconding.

OLD BUSINESS

Safety Video

Filming will commence Monday morning after convention as planned. Jon stated 1/3 payment will be due Conrad Weaver directly after filming is completed as contract states, it was discussed that since equipment is here if time allows there will be some forage harvester filming. When asked when project will be completed Jon replied not before harvest this year and there will be some shooting during harvest and the need to edit different pieces in.

Steve commended Jon for getting it done, said there has been talk for a long time of doing this and Jon took it up and ran this will be a very professional DVD with tests and certificates as the goal. Bill Stevens asked if there was any way to recover the cost. Consensus was that the organization is currently financially strong and this will be a huge member benefit for being part of USCHI.

Kansas Length Law

Taff reported on his knowledge of a meeting with Transportation House Committee, Highway Patrol Kansas Motor Carrier Association representatives and several custom harvesters. Taff was not in attendance so reported information from sources. During that meeting harvesters present gave testimonials and attendees were receptive but feel no changes can be made at state level without fear of loss of funding, therefore it was decided that Tom Whitaker with Kansas Motor Carrier Association will deliver a resolution to congress asking to eliminate the federal freeze on length and weights for trucks in the state of Kansas. Mike Parker added he was in attendance at this summed it up, he has contacts at the state house and will stay abreast of any developments and help keep us informed.

Taff added he again was in contact with Senator Moran's office and felt last time he was given the run around pretty good, Bill Stevens encouraged Taff to contact state Senators.

Bill Stevens and Mike Parker left the meeting at 1:38pm.

Convention

Colors of shirts for each day for board members were discussed for each day, and t shirts to be worn during the auction. Taff asked about board member duties. Pam stated over 800 were pre registered and could use everyone's help at 4:00 pm, at the registration booth. She also stated Dave and Daniel Misener were doing an excellent job, and said security would be checking badges for entry and board members could help get people moved timely into meeting rooms and meals.

NEW BUSINESS

Website Map Locator

Anthony Adams member was present to share his idea of map locator of membership for the website and gave a short demonstration of how it would work. The map will have a flag for each member and associate member's place of business showing address and phone number, membership can also post their current location throughout the season. It could be linked to the website. The board sees this as an intriguing idea and questioned who would manage it; to this Anthony said he would be willing to control and add data as needed from an email address where members if they wished could give him their current location. The board members gave Anthony the go ahead to try it.

Texas Ag Council

Tracy said she couldn't recall for sure what the charge was for Taste of Texas at \$150.00 above regular dues of \$350.00, she thought it was to cover the cost of a meal at a legislative gathering. Jim Baker informed us all members of the Ag Council were called upon to help annually. He stated that the Ag Council was always there when we had needed their help. After the clarification there was no further discussion and Pam was instructed to go ahead and pay.

Attorney

Tracy shared her thoughts that after dealing with the problems with the state of Nebraska and the growth of USCHI, if it would be wise to acquire the services of an appointed attorney as needed. There was discussion on all states being different and the difficulty in specific state problems. Jim Baker then asked how many members the organization actually grew from 2009 to 2010 we gained 17 new full members that an attorney would represent, no motion was made.

Magazine

Pam informed the board of a member's suggestion that we auction off a front cover advertisement in the harvest news at the auction. After discussion over no benefit and loss of advertising money and Pam stating it was not a problem for enough advertisers no motion was made.

Glenn Jantzen joined the meeting at 2:20pm.

Advertising

Proposed promotional advertising for year 2011 was reviewed. Much the same as last year with the addition of a proposal by Red River Farm Network introduced by Kent. Everybody present reviewed and discussed advantages. Dean proposed a motion for an advertising budget of approximately \$20,000, Taff voiced some reservations and after further discussion it was decided to have Kent and Tracy decide how to spend advertising dollars. Kent seconded the motion on the floor, motion carried.

Bylaw History

Information had surfaced that in a letter delivered to Ellouise House, to update USCHI's incorporation in the state of Texas, was not filled out and returned, therefore, the Incorporation in the state of Texas

had been involuntarily terminated as of September 2007. At the time of the office move to Kansas, the board applied for authority to do business as a foreign entity doing business in Kansas. When it was discovered to come to Nebraska we needed authority, the incorporation was changed to Kansas and the Nebraska authority was applied for using Tracy's address. Incorporation has now been changed and US Custom Harvesters, Inc. is a Kansas corporation, and needs to list this way in the directory. After further discussion it was decided this was not a Bylaw merely a statement and no vote should be necessary.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 2:54 CDT