

**USCHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**  
**Conference Call**  
**Tuesday November 8, 2011**

USCHI Board of Directors held their regular monthly meeting, Tuesday November 8<sup>th</sup> 2011. President Tracy Zeorian called the meeting to order at 6:00 am CDT. Present were, Vice President Kent Braathen, Secretary Taff Hughes, board members Kirk Grove, Roger Sammons and Dean Karau. Also present was Operations Manager Pam Shmidl. Absent was Treasurer Jon Orr.

**AGENDA**

Was reviewed by all present. Tracy asked website be added to new business, after the addition Dean moved to accept, Taff seconded, motion carried.

**MINUTES**

October meeting minutes were reviewed by all present. Kirk moved to accept with no corrections or additions, Dean seconded, motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Was given by Pam. October financial's were reviewed. Tracy presented a question on a vendor's sponsorship, Pam answered. Roger moved to accept treasurer's report, Dean seconded, motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**AG CONNECT**

Tracy and Pam reported on their meetings in Kansas City on October 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> with Ag connect personnel at the location of the 2013 show. Tracy stated the meeting rooms were perfect for our needs located directly under the USCHI pavilion with escalator access, including banquet room, five meeting rooms and all underneath the main show floor. Very good placing for our group to have independent meetings separate of general public access.

Hotel of choice is the Marriott with a short walk through a connecting tunnel. One drawback is the parking costs are a little high, but the Kansas City convention people are working on reduced rates.

They also met with our choice of caterer Kansas City Catering, and reported the seemed like a good fit for us also. Tracy questioned that now after there has been a press release announcing USCHI co-locating with Ag connect if vendors should be notified of intentions and details. Tracy agreed to send out a memo. Tracy then presented a question about major sponsorship for discussion,

Chairman of the insurance committee Jim Diebert joined the call at 6:15 am. Ag Connect discussion was put on hold,

**INCOME PROTECTION INSURANCE**

Jim Deibert reported the committee had met twice and things were moving along. Although there had been a bump in the road with questions regarding forage harvesting. Jim stated the committee planned to meet face to face November 28<sup>th</sup> in Hutchinson. Jim is confident in this becoming a reality and said committee members were committed. He also commented on the value of the CHAMPS program for data for the project. He then answered questions from the board. Premiums handled through USCHI office? NO. Years working for client prior to being allowed to present loss claim? 2 to 3 Jim reinforced his belief of this to

be a good product of value to all members small and large when completed. Not quite there yet but by March thinks there will be a good solid deal. Jim left call at 6:35 am CDT

Jon Orr Treasurer joined call at 6:35 am CDT

### **AG CONNECT**

Reconvened. Ag Connect personnel showed interest in wanting to help make USCHI's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary auction memorable and more profitable. They are working on the "Harvest Hop" hospitality featuring major sponsors booths. Ag Connect will have a booth at the USCHI 2012 convention and had asked about the possibility of a forum once again. There proceeded further discussion on registration for vendor's costs and registration badges.

### **KANSAS LENGTH LAW**

Taff reported on his brief handshake contact with senator Jerry Moran, and bringing this up to him. He found out there hopefully should be a highway reauthorization bill by the middle of 2012. This will be when the freeze can be lifted and the state will be able to make a ruling.

### **CANADIAN CONVENTION**

Tracy, Kent and Roger said they will be attending. Taff announced he will not attend. There were several others showing interest but not sure.

### **CONVENTION PLANNING**

There was not much to discuss this meeting only a brief discussion on buffet style meals.

### **TRAILER**

Kirk reported he had posted trailer for sale had some interest but nothing solid as yet. Inquirers hesitant because back door does not fold down to make a ramp. Board sees no need to reduce price from \$1500 yet. It was decided to advertise the trailer in the magazine.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **DEL PETERSON USCHI ANNUAL AUCTION**

Tracy brought to the boards attention the email sent out to all board members asking if they wished to have any promotional information included in the auction publication at no cost. Tracy sees this as a great advertising opportunity. There followed discussion on what should be included. It was decided the Mission statement of the organization would be good.

### **DC VISIT**

Tracy feels like we need to go back to DC and refresh people memories of our continuing effort and as there were several who said they were on board but very few had followed through and co-sponsored the bills presented. Tracy then asked who should go. She added she would not go if others wanted to and rooming might be easier. Board members felt it best if Tracy, Kent and Jon attend as they are familiar faces and have accomplished a lot previously.

### **SHIRTS**

Pam reported she asked Tracy if she would introduce a new shirt color as has been done in the past by outgoing presidents. Tracy does not see a need to and declined. Pam

asked if anybody needed any replacements.

### **WEBSITE**

It was brought up the need to revamp the USCHI website. This could be done at a cost of \$450.00 to change the main pages look. General consensus seemed to be it is ok as it is. There followed discussion of the discussion board and the prospect of making this part of the member only section. It was decided Pam should follow through this idea.

### **CALIFORNIA MEETING**

Since the board has decided not to attend the World Ag Expo, and has discussed the possibility of hosting a one day promotional/safety meeting, Jon reported on his findings. He feels this is a way to benefit the organization better in gaining membership by inviting operators from California to attend as there are many more out there than what belong to USCHI already. This would have some cost but possibly no more than attending the expo. Jon has had some sponsor interest. After further discussion Dean made a motion to allow Jon a \$4000 budget to work with, Kirk seconded, motion put to a vote and passed unanimously.

### **ADJOURN**

President Tracy Zeorian called to adjourn the meeting at 7:57am CDT.

**NEXT MEETING FACE-TO-FACE IN HUTCHINSON DECEMBER 12 & 13, 2011  
BEGINNING AT 8:30 AM CDT.**