

USCHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Conference Call
Monday October 10, 2011

USCHI Board of Directors held their regular monthly meeting, Monday October 10, 2011. President Tracy Zeorian called 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. Pam asked that business revenue protection insurance be added to new business, and Larry Froese be added to old business. With the additions included Kirk motioned to approve the agenda, Dean seconded, motion carried.

MINUTES of the September meeting, were reviewed by all. Tracy and Roger brought forward attention to a statement made by Roger that was misinterpreted. After corrections were made Roger moved to accept, Kent seconded motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Was given by Pam. September financial's were reviewed. Tracy questioned dues paid to NFIB. Pam explained stood for National Federation of Independent Businesses. Following a short discussion Kent moved to accept, Dean seconded, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

AG CONNECT

Ag connect contacted Tracy and Pam inquiring about ideas and topics for combined interesting educational topics to benefit, producer and harvester alike. Tracy thought H2A, Insurance (equipment, work comp), Business Management (hiring and managing quality help, and technology), also Safety was brought up.

Next was discussion on catering comparisons provided by Pam to board members. After extensive discussion of different caterers and location of meals consensus was to follow Pam's recommendation. There was also discussion regarding buffet compared to served plate and cost. Then followed discussion and revision of hotel contract and details pointed out needing clarification and estimated which nights and how many rooms for each one.

Jon joined the call @7:12 am CDT

LARRY FROESE

Larry did not join call as Pam thought he intended, therefore Pam reported on their conversation regarding the settlement of his lawsuit over protected seed wheat and the inquiry to print a letter in the harvest news and on the implications of publicizing. Pam suggested Larry changed his mind since he did not join call.

CONVENTION PLANNING

President Tracy presented several key discussion points to the board, 1st suggested highlighting and short write up on speakers on itinerary and in magazine, to attract attention to

the high caliber of speakers lined up for this upcoming convention, board was in agreement with her recommendation.

2nd acquiring the sound and lighting required by Thursday night entertainment, since Heartland center does not have. Pam reported working out the details in hand.

3rd separating and detailing the ladies happenings and itinerary.

4th member post convention evaluations and suggestions of different color badges for vendors, hospitality questions, auction concerns, all these were discussed extensively and also discussion on the suggestion of separating grain and forage equipment. Board consensus is they should all be mixed together. Taff passed on suggestions from a member for trade show seating and relaxing areas possibly located at major manufacture sponsors areas. Pam reported her findings on seating and sponsorship for providing the seating. Taff also pointed out a member's inquiry about asking for an information session regarding going into Canada to work. Roger volunteered to arrange something informative on the topic.

Tracy then questioned scheduling and pointed out the need for key time for Kerry Scott and Frank Gasperini, to cover changes in H2A information.

NEW BUSINESS

WISCONSIN CROP MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Pam reported on receiving a packet in the mail with prices for exhibiting at the above mentioned conference. Differences between member and exhibitor prices were discussed and the size of their membership, board did not see any benefit in attending.

CANADIAN INVITE

The invitation for USCHI board members to attend the association of Canadian Custom Harvesters convention in Calgary Alberta was discussed. Roger said he would be happy to attend to represent USCHI. President Tracy presented her reservations on the organization paying all expenses for board members to attend suggesting paying for a portion of expenses. Following discussion Taff motioned for USCHI to pay \$500.00 for any board member wanting to attend, Kirk seconded after further discussion a vote was taken, Kent NO, Taff YES, Jon YES, Roger Yes, Kirk Yes, Dean Yes, motion carried.

Then there was discussion about providing an auction item, agreement was to furnish a registration and three nights' accommodation to the USCHI annual convention in Grand Island, Nebraska March 2012, for two people.

WORLD AG EXPO

Discussion was held on attending and reports from those that attended previously. Following discussion there were suggestions on a regional meeting for current members and prospective members, or maybe a kick off safety meeting early spring as an idea to gain more members on the west coast. Jon agreed to head this up and seek possible sponsorship, it was decided to go this route and not attend the expo.

TRAILER

Pam reported her concerns of the organization's cargo trailer, age and condition, then on her visit with Steve Cranston S&S Trailer and price of new trailer and benefits plus trade in value. Taff suggested keeping trailer longer Jon was in agreement. Kirk felt he could sell trailer outright. Board agreed to have him try and discussion was tabled until next meeting.

BUSINESS REVENUE PROTECTION INSURANCE

Pam reported to the board on the conference call by the committee that was developed for this project, with David Anderson of Vincent Urban Walker Insurance Company. Main topics were premium cost suggested at \$3800 per member of all registered members of USCHI, ownership of policy by USCHI there followed discussion and concerns voiced of USCHI being accountable.

ADJOURN

President Tracy Zeorian called to adjourn meeting @ 8:32 am CDT.

NEXT MEETING CONFERENCE CALL TUESDAY NOVEMBER 8, 2011 @ 6:00 AM CDT