

USCHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING  
Conference Call Thursday  
September 9, 2010

USCHI Board of Directors held their regular monthly meeting, September 9, 2010 by conference call. President Tracy Zeorian called the meeting to order at 6.00am, CDT. Present were, Treasurer Jon Orr, Secretary Taff Hughes, board members, Dean Karau and Kirk Grove. Operations manager Pam Shmidl was also present, board advisor Steve Shepherd. Vice President Kent Braathen joined the meeting at 6.01 am. Board member Roger Sammons joined the meeting at 6.02 am.

AGENDA was reviewed by all present. Pam requested chopper challenge be added to old business, with the addition Dean moved to accept agenda Jon seconded the motion carried.

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

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

Fuel tank

Tracy reported she sent emails to Helen Engrum and Roger Paquet with PHMSA, she was not surprised about not receiving any reply. Tracy said the American Trucking Association's website has a lot of information, she talked with Russell Laird in their Ag transport division, he said as we are now associate members he would be willing to help with our cause and if our current efforts fail look at different avenues to pursue. He encouraged Tracy to set up an appointment to meet next time we have representation in DC. Kent said the letter signed by senator Dorgan supporting our cause was sent to the wrong agency, went to FMCSA instead of PHMSA. FMCSA replied they could not help and encouraged us to have restricted class B CDL drivers, hard to believe coming from an agency that always pushes for safety.

This led to a discussion about Farm Bureau support and possibly more involvement between our organizations, as Indiana Farm Bureau had shown their support during the comment period for the fuel tank effort. Jon and Taff both said they knew people active in the Farm Bureau organization and will follow up on some fact finding.

Safety video

Board discussed the contract received from CONJO studios to produce the video and their plan of action, looks good there was questions about lack of silage chopper video. Jon as head of the project reported he was skeptical about legal issues and repercussions, and is still looking into information and the right material. He said if need be this could be added later. Steve commented the Tech school in Mitchell South Dakota would possibly have the right facilities to help. Jon said he is also looking at sites closer to his location so he could supervise and cut down on travel expenses, everybody was in agreement to sign contract. Pam will do so and send the deposit check.

Scholarship

Roger reported the scholarship committee had approved the revised application and this was published in the newsletter and in use. At this time there have not been any further meetings of the committee. The board decided to have the deadline for any further changes extended to the December board meeting. Tracy said she received an email from Robin Houlette concerning her resigning from the

scholarship committee. Tracy requested a signed letter from Robin and has not yet received it.

#### Chopper challenge

Pam said she received the bill for kernel processing tests from Dairy land laboratories as discussed in the last board meeting in the amount of \$381.00. Roger made the motion to pay the bill; Dean seconded no opposition motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Board of directors nominees.

Pam stated it was time for the board to start thinking of names of nominees for vacant board positions for next year. She presented a list of names she gathered off membership application forms of individuals showing interest. Jon added he had been contacted by Monty Dunn from Texas with interest in a board position. It was also suggested Jon re-run for his position as he has several important projects going on, the biggest being the safety video. Steve stated throughout his involvement its always an individual's dedication that makes things happen and encouraged Jon to consider his position. Jon is in agreement to run again.

#### Window stickers.

Dean had questioned what happened, Pam admitted she forgot. Polled everybody as to who would like stickers to display in their vehicle windows showing them to be members of the USCHI board of directors, Dean and Taff showed interest nobody else.

Kirk moved to adjourn meeting at 6.58 am, Roger seconded, motion carried.

Next meeting is Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup> 2010 @ 6.00 am CDT.