

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am by President Tom Rosenberger. There were approximately 72 members present.

Senator Rob Hogg, from the District 19 in eastern Linn County, spoke about the funding stream for the Natural Resources program and how best to bring issues to the attention of legislators. The carbon credit issue was explained and discussed. Also, examples brought were brought up on the woodburning power plants and the biomass needed to fuel these plants. Also discussed was the tax reform on the Forest Reserve, and whether or not this will be coming up on the legislature agenda in the near future. He stated that there is no serious consideration for anything like that to come before the legislature, unless it is attached to another bill.

President Rosenberger introduced himself and the members of the Board of IWOA. He expressed his thanks to the old members, and to the new members coming on. He also asked for volunteers to replace the out-going 05-08 members.

The speakers for the morning program were introduced: John Walkowiak, Mark Vitosh, Jesse Randall, and Shawn Riley.

Carol Fullenkamp read the Secretary's report from last year's annual meeting held at the Swiss Valley Conservation Park. Minutes were approved as read.

Tom Woodruff gave the Treasurer and Membership reports. They were both approved as presented.

President Rosenberger reported the combined newsletter mailings are up to 1400.

Bev Brink reported on the IWOA website and the IWOA listserv. Both have been well received. Over 300 IWOA members and Iowa Tree Farmers are active in the listserv.

Members of IWOA will be meeting with DNR personnel and Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Northey at the Iowa State Nursery.

It was noted that Paul Wray and Stan Tate had retired during the past year.

John Walkowiak and Ron Fullenkamp explained the Iowa Forestry Network and the primary goal for 2008: to get the coalition going and give the woodland groups and other related groups one united voice for forestry related objectives.

President Rosenberger introduced a group of six foresters from India, who were attending the field day.

John Walkowiak, who is leaving Iowa for a forestry-related job in Washington State, was given a monetary token of appreciation and an IWOA sweatshirt for his years of hard work assisting the association.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05.