

**MINUTES OF the IWOA Director's Meeting**  
**West Union, Iowa April 18, 2007**

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The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by President Hendricks. Present were: Brink, Fullenkamp, Hansen, Hendricks, Rosenberger, Stientjes, Wiley and Woodruff. Also present was John Walkowiak - IDNR.

**Minutes of the January 20, 2007 meeting** were approved with a correction being that of the Annual Fall Conference being at Wickiup Hill in Linn County, Iowa.

**Treasurers Report** was discussed and approved noting an increase in dues income and early payment of normal annual donations.

**Membership Report** was discussed and approved. The Comp member list was reviewed and updated.

**Note** - Our policy for Comp members will continue as at present with those being the State Foresters, ISU Forestry Ext., IDNR Leadership, NWOA and new Master Woodland grads for the first year.

No additional Forest Reserve member counties for new member solicitations will be added until the results of the present efforts in Clinton and Delaware are reviewed.

Hendricks will attend the new MWM course when held in Page County (May 3-June 7) and review IWOA and the one-year membership gift.

**Field Day** - Brink/Hendricks discussed the next day event at the L. Christen farm near Wadena. About 65 are expected with about 35 pre-registered. (Later note - there were actually 72 who attended with 12 of the pre-registered not attending).

**Annual IWOA Fall Conference and Annual Meeting** - Stientjes confirmed Wickiup Hill Nature Center near Palo, Iowa. The date is Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. More details will be available at our June meeting but a definite interest was expressed in more training on the basics of using fire.

**Tri-State Field Day** - Attended and booth manned by Rosenberger and Wiley. Both felt it a good way for the \$50 investment to represent IWOA. There is need for a more portable folding IWOA banner and additional display items. Brink will investigate.

**National Walnut council National Meeting** July 29 - August 1 at the Grand Harbor Dubuque Convention Center. Member/organizer Krotz recommends going to their WEB site, ***Walnutcouncil.com*** for registration and more detailed info. Information is also on our WEB site. An early registration drawing will result in a free registration Krotz will personally gift. He will also share this info at our Field Day tomorrow.

**Iowa Forestry Network** - Fullenkamp and Walkowiak have led and completed this new organization and a WEB site established. That WEB site will be added to our IWOA site. Several new members have come on board and an individual has been identified to head it up. There will be more info later on current members and operation. This is expected to be a highly effective communication tool especially in advising appropriate groups on the direction of Forestry matters.

**Newsletter** - Brink shared the draft and content of the May edition. Shorter articles, photos and diversity of content are making this a very effective communication. Good reports continue since we combined with the Iowa Tree Farmer membership.

There is zero interest in doing any advertising in our newsletter due to staffing and associated bureaucracy.

**WEB Site** - Brink reports hits on our site in April '06 numbered 120 while in April of '07 there were 376. We now have 299 of our IWOA members on the List Serv portion and that has resulted in numerous comment and feed back. Members who have used this are doing so in a professional manner.

**IDNR Activities** - Walkowiak updated proposed changes being considered with his work and others. Dennis Micheal has replaced him on an interim basis but he will continue to represent IDNR at our Board meetings and other functions.

His recent explanations of the Forest Reserve bill #299 on our WEB site was reviewed along with a strong concern that we actively assist in shaping the future of Forest Reserve. Unless we effect some changes, it will continue to be reviewed by legislators. All are encouraged to participate.

Walkowiak noted the many misconceptions of the 100 year old Iowa Forest Reserve program ie forestry ownership and it being 96% owned by Iowans who live within 25 miles of their forests.

A motion was made and approved for President Hendricks to write IDNR Director Leopold and offer assistance on the direction and future of forestry. In general, this approved letter proposed by Fullenkamp and seconded by Woodruff, will reference: 1) our

overall concerns for the future of Forestry in Iowa 2)the qualifications of positions filled, 3) effective organizational systems and 4) IWOA being available to meet and positively and professionally review appropriate forestry matters. This final letter will be shared with all members. IWOA has a lot of balanced expertise to offer the State of Iowa.

**Other:**

\*The new Iowa Tree Farmers of the Year are John/Sharon Orvid from Lineville, Iowa in Decatur County. \*Dr. Jesse Randall is our new ISU State Extension Forester replacing Dr. Paul Wray and will be at our field Day tomorrow.

\*Stan Tate, retired SE Iowa IDNR Forester, was given a gift from IWOA by President Hendricks at the ITF Board meeting in Amana on April 13<sup>th</sup>. Fullenkamp is preparing a story on Stan and it will be in our newsletter. Stan was one of our IWOA original founders in 1987.

\* A grant was considered to update the popular "Big Tree" designations in Iowa.

\* At least one new Board member will be needed for the 2008 election plus the position of IWOA Secretary - see President Hendricks for suggestions.

\* There is always a need for timely and current articles for our Newsletters.

**Next Board Meeting - 10.am, Wednesday June 13<sup>th</sup> at the OX Yoke Inn in Amana, Iowa.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:35pm.

Respectfully,

Tom A. Woodruff, IWOA Secretary