

Minutes of the Iowa Woodland Owners Association June 26, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by President Paul Millice at the Ronnenburg Restaurant in Amana, Iowa. Present were Iowa State University Extension Forester Jesse Randall, Board members Bob Jefferson, Al Wagner, Ann Schneckloth, Kevin Karr, Ed Kocal, Dave Bartemes, Tom Brady, and Treasurer Sherri Sisson. Dave and Kevin both announced that this would be the last meeting they will attend as Board members. Bob made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting, Dave seconded and they were approved. Dave moved, and Bob seconded to approve the Finance report. After discussion of expenses, it was approved. The Membership report was then discussed. Our membership numbers are still increasing, thanks to Cathy and Kevin's efforts on using the Forest Reserve lists. Kevin said that Central and Western Iowa are going to be considered next. On the Application and Renewal forms it should be made clear whether memberships are Family or Single. Dave said that our numbers should give us clout in the political light.

Jesse Randall gave a report on the status of the political climate and the money allotted for Forestry Programs. He said that both the DNR and ISU Extension stand to lose all funding, both Federal and State. Urban Forestry and many personnel will be lost. Field days are up in attendance, and attendees will probably have to pay in the future for them. The Master Woodland Manager program will be online, with a \$200 fee. Mailings are the best way to advertise field days, so they need money help to do this. There is much doom and gloom, but the Woodland Initiative and State Forest Nursery still exist. Jesse said that there are 6 field days lined up now. The IWOA is doing possible partnerships, one at Lake McBride and one at the Loess Hills in October.

We now have an established Postal Box for our letters for memberships and correspondence to Cathy or Paul. The new address is PO Box #334, North Liberty, Iowa, 52317-0334.

\$677.82

The Banner has been made, at a cost of ~~\$671.82~~, which is over our allotted budget of \$300. Ed moved, and Tom seconded that we pay all of the cost of the banner, and it was approved. Someone needs to store it

carefully, to preserve the Logo and art work.

Paul said that he will come up with Board duty assignments. He asked each of us to come up with a field day location, preferably by the October meeting. Dave said that he will no longer do the Legislative Liaison, and Cathy will need a Board member to help her with the membership campaign through the Forest Reserve lists. Kevin said that we need board members to be a Finance Committee to help make decisions between meetings.

The Spring Field Day was good, in spite of the rain. Shannon Ramsay of Trees Forever, Paul Tauke of the DNR, and Jesse Randall were all there. It was at the Shannon Ramsay and Huddy Gates' Farms.

The Proclamation was discussed. It was suggested that we make a mailing to the Legislators that looks like a certificate, with our Mission Statement on it, plus a statement about our concern for the diminished funding. Ed said the important words are Water Quality. We want full funding of the Forestry Bill and Tax credits. Paul appointed Dave to write this.

Paul then addressed the ISU Forestry Extension shortfalls. They are needing the IWOA monetary support. We can influence it with our support of the Scholarship, and our members need to know that we are spending the membership dollars correctly. Dave made a motion to give ISU Forestry specifically \$1,000 per year to aid field days, without overhead. Tom seconded, and the motion passed, with Kevin opposing.

pd.
7/5/17
CK # 1059

The Scholarship review has not been discussed in a while, and it has been overlooked. There is only \$1,500 left in the account. \$5,000 is needed to put our funds into an ISU growth fund. Dave made a motion that we make a \$1,000 contribution yearly until we have \$6,000, then we can add \$500 per year to keep it a revolving fund. Bob seconded it, and the motion passed, with Kevin and Paul opposing.. Dave said we should make it automatic so we don't forget.

* Mileage Pay for staff was discussed, and Dave made a motion to pay staff when it is essential to their duties at the current IRS rate. Kevin seconded and the motion passed.

Al made a motion that we have an option to pay any presenter up to \$100, and Dave seconded. It passed. There was a pause for lunch at 12:03, and we resumed at 12:20. A motion was made by Kevin that a laser-engraved wood plaque of the State of Iowa be given to field day hosts, with space at the bottom for additional field days. Dave seconded and it passed. The plaque could also be given to the host as Woodland Owner of the Year.

A field day with the Nut Growers Association was talked about. Their numbers are shrinking, so many of them could join our IWOA. They only had 6 people attend their Cherry Hill Farm field day. There is no Forester available for their 30th of September field day, so we will do ours at the Lake McBride one on October 14, near Iowa City.

The Nominating Committee of Al, Ed, and Ann will need to find one more volunteer to run for a Board seat at the annual meeting. Paul said he will do it again, and there is another name from Cathy.

Dave made a motion to allow members to have a free ad for forestry items

for sale in the Timber Talk. Al seconded and the motion carried.

Kevin handed out a paper with the update on the Tree ID program at the Iowa State Fair Grounds. Kevin will stick with the idea until it is implemented after the 2017 State Fair. There will be an established trail with a map. It would be a good idea to have one of our field days at the State Fair Grounds. This should also have a spot on our Web Page.



We have been paying our Treasurer \$500 a year, and Kevin made a motion to pay her \$750 a year, starting July 1, 2017. Al seconded, and the motion passed.

Tom made a motion to use \$50 to order more lanyards and pouches for name tags. Ed seconded and it passed.

The ByLaws Amendment will appear in the newsletter to show the extended fiscal year.

The door prizes for field days was discussed, but nothing was decided.

Ed made a motion to pay someone from the Board to attend field days wearing an IWQA shirt as advertisement and good will to other forestry groups. Someone needs to go to the October 12 Loess Hills event as a Public Relations person. Tom seconded, and it passed, with Ann, Al, and Bob opposing.

Our next Board meeting will be dinner Friday night, October 13, at 6:00 pm at the Iowa River Power Company in Iowa City, Iowa.

Bob made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 1:27 pm.

Ann Schneckloth, Secretary