

IWOA MEETING MINUTES -- HELD AT AMANA 12/3/2025

The meeting was called to order by president Phil McCune at 10:00 A.M. Other board members in attendance were Tim Meyer, Steve Meyer, Paul Millice, Ruth McAndrews, Craig Semler with both Ed Kocal and Linda Haugen via Zoom. Also attending was newly elected board member Jim White.

Minutes from the 10/15/2025 Grinnell meeting- motion by Millice/ 2nd T. Meyer to approve. Carried

Financial report - motion by S. Meyer/ 2nd T. Meyer to approve. Carried.

Board member election by general membership--votes were tallied and as a result Steve Meyer, Ed Kocal and Jim White were chosen. Motion to approve as elected members made by T. Meyer/ 2nd Semler-- Motion carried.

Officer election - Motion by Semler/ 2nd Millice to elect S. Meyer as president, T. Meyer vice president and Ruth McAndrews secretary. Motion carried.

Consideration was given to have a booth at the Practical Farmers meeting but the opinion was that it would not be cost effective. However, consideration will be given in the future.

Iowa Deer Classic is scheduled for March 6-8, 2026 in Des Moines. Millice has already reserved a small booth at no cost. This will be good for IWOA exposure and a way to discuss the Forest Reserve with those attending.

Tree Day on the Hill is scheduled for 02/25/2026.

Legislation--Forest Reserve SF633 will most likely go to the House for consideration at the start of the next session in 2026. Water quality should be one of the main topics of discussion.

McCune offered to contact Neil Harrison about the possibility of him getting together with the IWOA board to share his expertise.

Free One-year membership--motion by S. Meyer/ 2nd Haugen to offer a free one-year electronic (email subscription) membership to interested non-members with the hope that these new members would continue as paying members. This would be offered by board members or district foresters. Carried.

501c3 tax exempt status-- McAndrews and Semler agreed to pursue this further.

S. Meyer expressed his concern for the dramatically decreased federal funding affecting agricultural, forestry and environmental related programs.

Publicist-- motion by T. Meyer/ 2nd Kocal to authorize S. Meyer to spend up to \$450 (which would be two press releases) for a mass press release with the topic at his discretion. Carried.

Field Day on a Saturday--district foresters are not typically available for a Saturday field day, so the alternative might be an informal Saturday mentoring program.

IWOA Scholarship--McAndrews and Haugen will get this up and running again.

The general consensus was to establish five standing committees:1) legislation 2) membership 3) special events 4) communications 5) scholarship

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

Craig Semler, secretary