

The Board of Directors of White County Farm Bureau Inc. met on June 8, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Insurance Office for their regular monthly meeting. Those present were Marla Storm, Brian and Rachel Pilotte, Bob Dolick, Darlene Horton, Gary Brownlee, Norb Pilotte, Vince Winkler, Doug Morehouse, Andy Stoll, Lynn Teel, Janice Deno, and Kendall Culp.

The Board was pleased to welcome new member Vince Winkler to the Board. Vince farms in both White and Tippecanoe counties and is a dealer for Beck's Hybrids. He will be representing Prairie Township.

The minutes from the February 2009 meeting were accepted by common consent.

A sign up sheet for working the Fair Booth was passed around, those not present will be contacted by email. Fair Booth set up will be Friday July 17th at 4:00 p.m. We will have 1 jar each of corn, popcorn, and soybeans at the booth this year. Visitors to the booth will be able to try to guess the number of kernels in each one. At the end of the Fair the persons with the closest guess will win a prize. There is a good possibility that the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) will have a presence at our Fair. We need to be prepared to counter their attacks on animal agriculture. We will be developing questions for the wheel that are County specific. Lynn Teel will be getting the popcorn supplies.

Gary reported that the insurance company is seeing an increase of around 7% for homeowners insurance. This is compared to a 20-25% increase from some competitors. He is optimistic this may lead to some new business. The insurance agency has hired a new agent, Brent Hickman.

Kendall reminded everyone of the District 3 Summer Meeting on the Madame Carroll Monday June 15th please RSVP by Wednesday June 10. D.J. Miller will be providing the entertainment. Kendall reported that HSUS has a strong presence in Ohio and plans to target animal agriculture. Commodity groups in Indiana have hired a PR firm to develop a united message to support agriculture and counter HSUS. HSUS is a major threat to agriculture and it is very important that all Ag groups in the state united to fight them. Each county needs to do things locally to educate the public on this issue. The District Fall Meeting will be August 31st at the Cass County Fair Grounds. The State organization has adopted 12 year term limits for officers as well as allowing directors to serve 4 terms rather than 3. The 2009 Delegate Session will be August 29th. There will be a meeting January 23, 2010 for leadership training and membership kickoff.

Janice reported that there will be training this summer focused on using current technology (face book, etc.) To communicate the Ag message. We need to sign 5 new primary members between July 1 and September 30. We will be trying to set up a meeting with our County and State officials as well a Katrina Hall with IFB. This meeting will be for legislative wrap up and to discuss property tax issues. There will be a Cabinet Meeting July 28th. There will be a meeting on September 2nd at Prophetstown State Park to promote the Agriculture Programs at IVY Tech. Renewal cards should come out in July. Janice also passed out pamphlets for the upcoming Candidate School and the Rolling up Our Sleeves program.

The scholarship winners were Frontier: Carly Westner, Tri County: Kerry Firkins, Twin Lakes: Danielle Blackburn, and North White:?

Marla's Report

From Feb. 4- April 1, Marla attended the Leadership White County program. This was an in-depth leadership development program designed to develop leadership capacity by providing both personal and community leadership topics. This program included 37 local business and civic leaders.

On Feb. 13th Marla along with Doug and Brian attended the Regional Farm Bill Meeting at the White County Fair Grounds. This meeting covered changes to the 2009 Farm Bill. On Feb. 19th Marla and Kandy Teel attended the Benton County Annual Meeting. The speaker was Benton Central senior, Miles Sparenberg.

Food Check Out Week was Feb. 20, it was a huge success. Marla wishes to thank all those who helped at the stores. On March 2nd Marla attended the Tippecanoe County Annual Meeting. The speakers were IFB Vice President Randy Kron and our District Director Kendall Culp. On March 6-7th Marla along with Berdi Dolick, Kandy Teel, Darlene Horton, and Marla's daughter Annette attended the Spring Conference in Indianapolis. There were many very informative speakers that covered new ways to promote the Ag message.

March 9 was our Annual Meeting, it was a great success and Marla wishes to thank all who were involved. On March 13th Marla and Kandy participated in Farming in the Classroom in Cass County. The help educate around 300 children. On March 16 Marla attended the Carroll County Annual Meeting; the speaker was IFB staff attorney Justin Schnieder who spoke about eminent domain. On March 19th Marla and Kandy presented the Ag in the Classroom program on where pizza comes from to 24 students at Eastlawn Elementary. On March 19 Marla and Kandy attended the Newton County Annual Meeting.

On March 27-28th Marla along with Larry and Darlene Horton attended the FB to DC training in Indianapolis. They came away with renewed respect for the work our legislators do. On April 1st Marla and Kandy helped with the annual Ag Day program to educate school children. Jim and Phyllis Hallar and Rebecca Clothier helped serve the food. On April 2nd Marla and Kandy attended the Cass County Annual Meeting the speaker was Ann Hazlett.

For a complete copy of Marla's report please contact her or the secretary.

Hearing no other business is agreed by common consent to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Pilotte, President

Andy Stoll, Secretary