

The Board of Directors of White County Farm Bureau Inc. met for their monthly meeting on Monday November 8, 2010 at 7:00p.m. in the conference room of the insurance office. Those present were Brian Pilotte, Doug Morehouse, Marla Storm, Lynn Teel, Darin Griesey, Bob Dolick, Darlene Horton, Annette Park Miller, Vince and Julia Winkler, Craig Byroad, David Allen, Janice Deno, and Kendell Culp. Also present was a guest, IFB President Don Villwock.

Lynn led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Andy opened the meeting with prayer. No checkbook balance was available. There was no insurance report due to Gary being ill.

Kendell discussed the IFB Strategic plan. He also discussed the need to meet with our legislators as soon as possible. After some discussion it was moved by Marla and seconded by Lynn to try to have a breakfast meeting with our legislators on December 13<sup>th</sup>. The time and location is to be announced.

Marla introduced our guest IFB President Don Villwock. He shared that the recent strategic plan survey showed a lack of information among board members concerning what the State Officers and the rest of the Indianapolis office actually does. The officers then decided that they needed to get out to Board meetings and let folks ask questions in order to learn what the duties of the Indianapolis staff are. Don shared some general information about his farming operation and his schedule and duties as IFB President. Beginning with the coming year Don will be the Midwest representative on the AFBF Executive Committee. The IFB President is a full time position. Don spends most weeks either in Indianapolis or on the road doing IFB work and returning home to Edwardsport on weekends. He does take some vacation time to assist with planting and harvest on his farm. Don spends about 80% of his time on IFB Inc. matters and about 20% on insurance matters. Vice President Randy Kron works part time for IFB and spends 110-125 days per year in the Indianapolis office. Second Vice President Isabella Chisolm also works part time for IFB and spends 90-100 days in the Indianapolis Office.

Don also discussed the IFB Strategic Plan and the steps being taken to implement the plan. IFB has recently hired a new outreach coordinator who will work with the State and County Fairs and with other similar organizations. IFB will soon hire a new Electronic Communication Specialist to take full advantage of all the different electronic communications formats available. The Hoosier Farmer has been reformatted into a newspaper type format to and will deal mainly with ag related issues. It will go out only to voting members. A new magazine has been produced called My Indiana Home this will go out to all members and replace the Hoosier Farmer for non- voting members.

Don also discussed some top issues for AFBF. The top issue right now is estate taxes. Don encouraged members to send postcards to their legislators encouraging them to fix the estate tax situation. Don thought there was about a 60% chance to fix it before the end of the year. He also discussed the recent executive order by President Obama to make the Chesapeake Bay a National Treasure and give the EPA authority over that watershed. Due to the precedent that it could set AFBF lists this as their most threatening issue to date. The Board thanks President Villwock for taking the time to meet with us.

The Board then discussed meal tickets and hotel reservations for the upcoming State Convention. The Christmas Party will be on December 13<sup>th</sup> in the evening. The committee will advise the exact time and location. The 2011 Annual Meeting will be the second Monday in March. Details for the Annual Meeting will be discussed at the regular meeting in January. There is a possibility that we may be able to have IFB Vice President Randy Kron speak at the Annual Meeting. The 2011 budget and committee signups will also be covered at the January meeting. Ag day will be March 30<sup>th</sup> the bad weather date is April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Marla's Report:

Sept. 21, 2010 How to talk to Strangers Social Media 101 Session

Debbie Denton and I went to this session. It was a session to help PR Directors put a face on agriculture one stranger at a time. Chris Goode talked about using Facebook, Twitter and Blogger to reach different audiences to educate them on the truth about agriculture. This session was just the beginning and will be followed up with more sessions.

Oct. 22, 2010 Picked up signs to put out for election

I went over to Brian's house and picked up some signs to put around on main roads and polling places for the Nov. 2 election. The signs read "Stop Unfair Taxation vote NO on question 1." I also tried to get the paper to run an article explaining that the 1-2-3 caps were unfair to agriculture and should be tried out before they were made permanent.

Nov. 1, 2010 Dick Lugar Essay Winners

The essay theme was "Agriculture: Then and Now" They were consider the many ways Hoosier Farmers impact their daily life. They were also to describe the significance of agricultural heritage, the state of agriculture today, and its importance to our future. We had 22 entries and the winners are Shelbi Perry from Chalmers, parents Brian and Christi Perry and Dakota Burghardt from Monticello, parents Jason and Michel Burghardt. Both winners are from Frontier Jr. High teacher Mrs. Billy Wallman.

Doug reported that we gained a few new members but we also lost a few members. He indicated that we will need to work hard to keep above 600 voting members to keep all three of our delegates.

Janice submitted a written report and gave us the following important dates. November 29<sup>th</sup> Fall District Meeting, March 21<sup>st</sup> Spring District Meeting, June 23 District meeting on the Madame Carroll.

Hearing no other business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Pilotte, President

Andy Stoll, Secretary