

Northwest Illinois Forestry Association

Minutes of February 11, 2003

President Tom Arnold called the regular meeting of the Northwest Illinois Forestry Association to order at 7:20 pm at the IDNR meeting room in Mt. Carroll.

Dick Pouzar moved to approve the minutes as mailed. Ralph Eads seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurer, Keith Arnold reported the current balance of \$7,145.16 for all NIFA accounts.

OLD BUSINESS

President Arnold is getting e-mail addresses from NIFA members. Sending meeting minutes and tour announcements by e-mail is faster, cheaper, and easier to do. If you can receive e-mail, please contact Tom Arnold at: arnoldfarm@juno.com

Keith Arnold informed the group that the NIFA's copy machine was inspected by a technician and it will cost about \$700 to repair. He asked for a consensus as to repair or dispose of the copy machine. It was agreed that disposal was the right way to go.

Dick Pouzar reported on the Jan.30th committee meeting for developing a member's services and products directory. Mark Maidak, Christine Polo, and Dave Dornbusch were at the meeting to advise on the route to take. The Jo Daviess Farm Bureau developed a Jo Daviess County products booklet last year that listed agricultural products produced in Jo Daviess County. 2500 copies of the booklet were printed for \$900. The group agreed to follow the Farm Bureau format but add black and white digital photos showing the products or services the members have to offer.

Then Dick passed around two questionnaires to the group. One was for member products and the other was for services. It was agreed to incorporate them into one sheet, front and back, and eliminate any duplicate information requested. These questionnaires will be ready to hand out at the Annual Dinner meeting.

Ralph Eads stated that the Church of God meal preparers wanted a one weeks notice of how many people to plan for. Keith and Gayle Arnold will take the dinner reservations. Tickets are \$10.00 and can be reserved by calling Arnold Wood Products at 815-947-2941 by March 3rd.

Ralph also reported that he had not made connections with Dick Lawfer to get a price for converting Walter Peaslee's old corn planter to a nut planter. He will keep trying. President Arnold mentioned that Walter's sister had contacted him about using funds from Walter's memorial to set up the planter. All agreed that would be a good idea.

NEW BUSINESS

Jerry Misek reported that he had received the annual notice from the State of Illinois for registering NIFA as a not for profit group. The registration fee is \$5.00. It was agreed to pay the fee and send in the report.

President Arnold then introduced IDNR Forester, Ralph Eads, as the featured speaker.

Ralph delivered a presentation on forest management. He handed out a packet of information that would guide a landowner in preparing a forest management plan for his own land. Ralph stated that he does not have much time to prepare forest management plans anymore, but consulting foresters are willing to do the plans. However, Ralph still needs to approve all plans for the owner to receive tax reductions through the Forest Development Act. Ralph continued that these are not just paper plans, they will need to be followed for the owner to retain his tax benefits. Ralph's presentation involved much meaningful discussion by the group.

A motion by Ralph Eads and seconded by Dick Pouzar to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.
Meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Misek

NIFA Secretary