

Minutes

Indiana Rural Safety & Health Council

December 4, 2003

President Roger Tormoehlen opened the meeting at 3:00 p.m. on December 4, 2003 with the following individuals present:

Rick Ainsworth, Farm Bureau Insurance
Bill Field, Purdue University
Mac Legault, Indiana State University
Dennis Meredith, Precision Soya
Ernie Sheldon, Indiana State University
Roger Tormoehlen, Purdue University
Patty Wood, Retired Farmer

Minutes were approved as distributed. Dennis Meredith asked about the report on the highway signs for alerting motorists of slow moving vehicles. Mac Legault reviewed activities to date.

Ernie Sheldon provided a partial treasurer's report. A copy of the annual report is attached. The motion was accepted as presented.

Roger Tormoehlen appointed Rick Ainsworth and Mac Legault to serve as an audit committee to review the financial situation and report back to the next meeting. Ernie and the committee will meet as a group to review the records.

Bill Field reported on the Farm Progress Show safety exhibits that were incorporated into the Illinois farm safety exhibit area. He reported that some of the displays were damaged and will have to be rebuilt.

There was no report on National Farm Safety and Health Week. There was few resources available at the national level. Purdue did some news releases and alerted Extension Educators to the dates.

It was decided that the Council would present to the ICARD Legislative Hearing on December 17, 2003. Bill Field will help prepare a handout and Dennis Meredith would make the presentation.

Bill reported on the coloring book status. Reprinting efforts are underway.

A membership mailing will be done after the first of the year. A decision was made to leave the dues structure alone.

Ernie and Mac will have the road sign display at the Farm Bureau Convention in Indianapolis on December 13th. The display will also be available for the Indiana/Illinois Machinery Show in Indianapolis.

A discussion on the evaluation effort of the road signs to determine which would be most effective. Ernie and Mac will be summarizing the data. Rick suggested the need to gather data from non-farm audiences.

Rick Ainsworth brought up the proposed video project which has received support from both Farm Bureau Insurance and Farm Bureau, Inc. A committee will be formed to work on a video outline. One possibility is to focus on young workers.

An open discussion took place on the efforts to remove the present exemption for operators of trucks, SUV's, etc. from having to wear seat belts. The general consensus was that all motorists should use seat belts, including those operating pick-up trucks. In addition, there was a general consensus that children being transported on public roads in the back of a pick-up truck was an unacceptable risk.

Roger and Ernie will try to resolve the issue of the access to the Council's web site, which has been closed off.

Election of officers took place for the coming two years. The results were as follows:

President – Dennis Meredith
Vice President – Mac Legault
Treasurer – Ernie Sheldon
Secretary – Bill Field

Positions will take effect January 1, 2004.

It was decided that Council membership dues would remain at the same level for the coming year.

The next meeting was scheduled for February 9, 2004 at 9:30 a.m. at the Farm Bureau Insurance Building in Indianapolis

Meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Submitted by

W.E. Field
Treasurer