

Minutes

Indiana Rural Safety & Health Council

May 9, 2005

The meeting was called to order with the following individuals present:

Rick Ainsworth, Farm Bureau Insurance
Suzanne Bingman, Farm Bureau Insurance
Lisa Chaudion, Indiana Young Farmers
Bill Field, Purdue University
Mac Legault, Indiana State University
Dennis Meredith
Ernie Sheldon, Indiana State University
Bob Sunman, Indiana Department of Health
Michelle Waupe
Gene Wever

Ernie Sheldon will provide a treasurer's report after the meeting.

A discussion took place on the upcoming State Fair safety exhibits. The flowing grain display will remain in the Young Farmer Building. Bill Field indicated that in the Farm Bureau Building there will be an arthritis display and the flowing grain tug-a-war. It was suggested that some attention be given to the NH₃/methamphetamine problem at the fair.

Bob Sunman discussed the new Health Commissioner, Judith Monroe, who has a strong interest in rural health. Dennis suggested that we need to develop a good relationship with the new administration. He suggested that we should meet in their area and brief members of the administration on the role of the Council. Bob will explore scheduling a date. Contact has also been made with Lt. Governor Becky Skilman about a meeting with the Council.

Bill Field addressed the recently completed summary of 2004 farm-related fatalities and injuries. A copy of the summary will be attached to the minutes of the meeting. He encouraged assistance in helping identify farm-related injuries for inclusion in the 2005 report.

Mac Legault discussed the details for the upcoming Agricultural Safety and Health Forum. A location on the ISU Campus has been selected and a lunch for about \$9.00/per person is planned. The date is September 14th.

The agenda for the forum was discussed with possible speakers identified. Topics that might be included were identified as follows:

- The impact of the Meth/NH₃ usage on farm families.
- The growing problem of highway crashes involving farm equipment.
- Panel of farmers who have been impacted by injury.
- Summary of farm injury problems.
- Air quality issues/respiratory protection.

Gene Wever discussed the new Fire Marshall's (Roger Johnson) mission to focus on training and fire fighter safety. He is hoping that attention will be given to farm rescue training.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 21st at 9:30 a.m. at Farm Bureau.

Submitted by,

W.E. Field
Secretary