

Minutes

Indiana Rural Safety & Health Council

October 28, 2005

Dennis Meredith opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. at the Farm Bureau Building in Indianapolis. Those in attendance were as follows:

Rick Ainsworth, Farm Bureau Insurance
Suzanne Bingham, Farm Bureau Insurance
Bill Field, Purdue University
Mac Legault, Indiana State University
Dennis Meredith
Bob Sunman, Indiana Department of Health
Sarah Yeager
Michelle Wallpe
Gene Wever

Mac Legault gave a treasurer's report in place of Ernie Sheldon who could not attend. The balances were as follows:

Checking	\$ 10,509.90
Savings	\$ 15,149.69
CD	\$ 8,500.00

The report included a summary of 2005 memberships which totaled 17.

Mac Legault reported that the Council sponsored a special event for safety and health students at Indiana State University. It was for members of ASSE.

An open discussion took place at the 2005 Ag Safety & Health Forum that was held at Indiana State University. It was attended by 51 individuals from across the state. Issues discussed were as follows:

1. Should we hold a forum for 2006? The consensus was "Yes".
2. When should the forum be held? The consensus was during or around National Farm Safety and Health Week (second week of September 2006). A tentative date of September 13, 2006 was set.
3. Where should the forum be held? Suggestions included:
 - Purdue (West Lafayette)
 - Rochester area
 - Shipshewana
 - Milford
 - Starlight

4. How do we get more people to attend? The following ideas were discussed:
 - Earlier notifications by post cards
 - More media exposure
 - Personal invitations to stakeholders
 - Using event to recognize contributions to ag safety and health
5. How do we pull together the stakeholders in order to involve them?
 - Invite Farm Safety 4 Just Kids to participate
 - Promote Progressive Farmer Safety Day Camps
 - Invite representatives from 4-H, FFA, Young Farmers
6. What topics should be addressed?
 - At Purdue we could have a visit by the new Dean of Agriculture
 - At Shipshewana we could focus on the safety efforts with the Amish
 - At Milford we might be able to arrange a tour of Brock Bins
 - Starlight we could focus on small fruit and vegetable operations

The 2006 State Fair exhibits were discussed so that time would be available to make needed changes. Topics to be addressed include:

- Farming with arthritis
- Flowing grain safety
- Meth lab residuals
- State map of past fatalities

Bill Field agreed to get a membership package in January of 2006. The goal would be to exceed the 17 paid members of 2005.

Sarah Yeager discussed ways to raise visibility with the new Department of Agriculture and the Office of Rural Development. There may be grant opportunities to enhance ag safety efforts.

The Council agreed to be a co-host of a workshop on preventing injuries within Amish communities scheduled for the Spring of 2006.

At the next meeting it was agreed to review and re-energize the Council's award's program.

The next meeting was scheduled for December 14, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. at the Farm Bureau Building in Indianapolis.

Submitted by,

W.E. Field
Secretary