

# Northwest Illinois Forestry Association

Minutes of January 11, 2005

President, Tom Arnold called the regular meeting of the Northwest Illinois Forestry Association to order at 7:08 pm at the IDNR meeting room in Mt. Carroll.

Dick Pouzar wished to correct the December minutes by changing the tour date for John Eisbach from September 10<sup>th</sup> to September 17<sup>th</sup>. Carol McPhillips moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Keith Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## TREASURERS REPORT

Treasurer, Keith Arnold, reported the current balance for all NIFA accounts as \$7,632.87.

## OLD BUSINESS

Ralph Eads asked the group if they were still willing to help financially support the purchase of a GPS unit for his office. Ralph stated that the Wild Turkey Federation pledged \$150.00 towards the purchase of the GPS. Questions were raised from the group as to how the GPS would be used and how much it would cost. Ralph explained the uses and said he would get a cost estimate for the next meeting. No further action was taken on this issue.

Dick Pouzar stated that the new Consumer Guide to Northwest Illinois Forest Products & Services is complete but he wants someone to proof read the Guide before publishing. Jerry Misek volunteered to do the proof reading.

President Arnold quickly went through the 2005 NIFA agenda.

Feb 8<sup>th</sup>--- Darrell Mills will discuss conservation easements.

Mar 12<sup>th</sup>--- Tri State Forestry Conference at Sinsinawa Mound.

Mar 26<sup>th</sup>--- Natural Area Guardian Burn School at Galena Territory (control of invasive species).

Mar 29<sup>th</sup>--- Annual Dinner meeting at Church of God in Mt. Carroll with Brian Endress from the University of Illinois to discuss landowner liabilities.

Apr 2<sup>nd</sup>--- Advanced chain saw safety session at Camp Far Horizons near Hanover with Ken Lallemond as instructor.

May 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup>--- Root grafting session at Oscar Gustus Tree Farm near Apple Canyon Lake.

June and July---Ralph Eads will hold session on tree identification and/or Timber Stand Improvement and a visit to the Project House at the Forest Products Lab in Madison. The dates have not been finalized for either of these sessions yet.

Sept 9-10<sup>th</sup>--- Quad Cities Forestry Expo.

Sept 17<sup>th</sup>--- Tour John Eisbach operation near Galena.

Oct---Possible tour of invasive species controls.

Nov 8<sup>th</sup>--- Regular business meeting in Mt. Carroll.

Dec 13<sup>th</sup>--- Regular business meeting and election of officers and directors at Mt. Carroll.

## NEW BUSINESS

Jerry Misek brought in a request from the Northern Illinois Land Use Council Envirothon Committee asking for financial assistance to help support the April 2005 Envirothon competition. The competition is open to high school teams in the 6 county area (same as NIFA boundaries). The teams compete in 5 subject areas, which are: soils, forestry, wildlife, aquatics, and environmental issues. Winning teams go on to state and international competition. In 2004, 35 high school teams from our 6 county area competed in the local Envirothon event.

After the group discussed the proposal, Dick Pouzar moved to provide \$100 for each county competing in the event from our 6 county area. Carol McPhillips seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Bill Hawes brought up the question of having lifetime dues for NIFA. Several suggestions were made. President Arnold asked that people with ideas should contact Keith Arnold or Bill Hawes. Keith and Bill will meet before the

February meeting to evaluate the ideas and bring them to the group.

Dick Pouzar asked if there are any more people who could receive NIFA information by email to lower mailing costs. Please contact President Arnold with your email address.

President Arnold called for a motion to end the business meeting and proceed on with the program for the night. Carol McPhillips so moved. Dick Pouzar seconded the motion. Motion carried. The business meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Tom and Janis Sleeter from the Financial Network presented a program on financial planning with emphasis on keeping forest tracts from being split up. Items covered included; timber valuations, income tax with emphasis on Form T, estate planning, gift taxes, insurance policies, and other assets.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jerry Misek

NIFA Secretary