

IASCOE DIRECTORS MINUTES

West Des Moines Marriott

West Des Moines, IA

January 29, 2011

1:00 P.M.

Officers Present: President, Cindy Mensen; Vice President, Jeff Davis and Secretary/Treasurer, Sue Beemer

Directors Present: Karen LaCour, Cindy Pistek, Tammy Pruin, Karen McNeil, Mary Lageschulte, John Landgraf, Devalyn Wilson, Jessica Yuska, Cindy Bebout, Kelly Cain, Judy Dameron and Dee Ann Lehn.

Alternate Directors: Lee Ann Davis

President Cindy Mensen called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M and Secretary Sue Beemer took roll call of the directors present.

SECRETARY REPORT

Sue Beemer presented the minutes of the October meeting. After review, Jeff Davis moved and Judy Dameron seconded the motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion carried by all directors present.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Sue also presented the financial report to the Director's for their review. Mary Lageschulte moved and Cindy Bebout seconded the financial report be accepted. Motion carried by all directors.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATES FOR 2011-2012

District 4

PT Director – Brenda Albright, Audubon Co.

Alternate PT Director – Mary Lageschulte, Ida Co.

CED Director – John Landgraf, Sac Co.

Alternate CED Director – Heidi Nickol, Ida Co.

District 6

PT Director – Jessica Yuska, Scott Co.

Alternate PT Director – Joni Birkhofer, Muscatine Co.

CED Director – Devalyn Wilson, Cedar Co.

Alternate CED Director – Randy Madsen, Muscatine-Scott Co.

District 8

PT Director – Julie Derby, Marion Co.

Alternate PT Director – Connie Bence, Madison Co.

CED Director – Kelly Cain, Madison Co.

Alternate CED Director – Joyce Frost, Wayne Co.

District 9

PT Director – Judy Dameron, Louisa Co.

Alternate PT Director – Dawn Stewart, Henry Co.

CED Director – Dee Ann Lehn, Keokuk Co.

Alternate CED Director – Gretchen McLain, Jefferson Co.

After the ballots were counted, the winners were announced and congratulations were offered to all winners. Jeff Davis moved and Judy Dameron seconded to accept the results and destroy the ballots. The motion carried by all directors present. Sue will send letters to the directors with the election results, inviting them to our Director meetings on March 24 and 25, 2011.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Awards – Chairperson Devalyn Wilson presented the report. She has a listing of sick leave recipients, but has not received any Distinguished Service Awards. She thinks at least two DSA awards will be submitted. Devalyn needs to receive them by February 1st. Award committee district chairpersons sent out reminders about sick leave and DSA awards. Distinguished Service Awards can be in the following categories.

1. Service to FSA – Agriculture
2. Service to IASCOE/NASCOE
3. Service to Community

We discussed handing out the Distinguished Service Awards on Friday afternoon so more people would attend the presentations.

Benefits and Legislation – Kelly Cain, chair of benefits, presented the report. The NASCOE web site has all the benefits listed. Everyone should check this out to update yourself on all the benefits we have access to. The Sam's Club offer might expire January 31 - it was originally thought to be a year round offer. Be sure to check out the Travel website for hotel and airfare accommodations. JM Marketing may be coming out with a new policy. Hopefully we will have more details by convention.

Chairperson of Legislation, Dee Ann Lehn, presented the report. There will be a legislative conference in WDC, March 7-10, 2011. Those representing IASCOE will be, Cindy Mensen, Curt Houk, Trice Smith, Tom Abbas, Greg Jobe and Tammy Eibey. Tammy will also be representing NASCOE during the conference. We need one more representative and a man would work out better because of the hotel rooms. We will ask two farmers who are FSA friendly and one FSA employee and then a decision will be made on who will attend. On March 7, the IASCOE representatives will fly out to WDC, on the 8th there will be training on presenting our positions, on the 9th everyone will go to the Hill meeting with our Senators and Congressmen, and on the 10th they will fly home. The FSA environment in WDC might not be as favorable to FSA as it once was. The above IASCOE representatives working along side NASCOE will be meeting with their respective Senator and Congressmen explaining our position on the budget cuts for the next several years. The pay freeze may go to a 5-year freeze along with other cuts. Our budget may be cut to 2008 levels and replacing one employee for every two employees lost. The Ag budget will be cut, resulting in several programs receiving no funding for the 2012 Farm Bill. We all need to pull together as an agency to address these issues.

On the last CAPWIZ alert only 89 people from Iowa responded. As IASCOE directors, we can send an email out to our counties that an alert has been posted and members need to check their HOME computers and respond to it. We are also hoping to increase the PAC membership. There is currently a promotion going on if you start deducting \$3.00 a pay period or increase your amount by \$3.00 you will be entered into a drawing to win one of five \$100.00. The goal of the PAC is to keep senators and congressional representatives in office that are sympathetic to FSA. If you are interested in contributing to the PAC, you can sign up through your Employee Personal Page.

Emblems – Chris Grieder, emblem chairperson was not present. Cindy Mensen had an update from Chris. If we want to have emblems for sale at the convention, we need to make an order in advance. Chris would like to have ideas from the directors on what they would like to have displayed at the convention. All directors need to email Chris with their suggestions. Might be able to collect orders from all employees and consolidate into one order to be received before convention. If we did this, there would be only one shipping charge, instead of on each individual order.

Scholarships – Tammy Pruin gave the report. Tammy has received seven applications and hopes for 2-3 more. The applications must be postmarked by January 31. The Directors need to make sure they get the scholarship information out to all the members in their districts. The Scholarship Review Team will review each scholarship and decide on the winners. There will be four winners and each winner and their families will be invited to the convention in March. IASCOE will pay for their breakfast. Remember we also have the NASCOE Members' Continuing Education Scholarship Program. This program is an excellent opportunity for members to receive financial assistance to help continue their education. Currently we have not received any scholarships in this category. A member scholarship can go directly to the NASCOE Scholarship Chairperson.

Membership – Mary Lageschulte presented the report. She handed out a listing of retirees. The directors need to help Mary keep track of all the retirements. Directors need to send an email to each county and see who has retired in 2010. RASCOE would like to have names, addresses and emails of all retirees. Would like to have a committee to talk to new COTs telling them of the IASCOE benefits. Jeff Davis and John Landgraf volunteered for this committee. There will be new COTs coming on board in a couple of weeks.

We discussed raising associate dues from \$25.00 to \$30.00. Associate dues are for non-county office employees such as STO employees and retirees. NASCOE charges IASCOE \$25.00 for each associate member, so currently IASCOE makes nothing on associate members. Karen LaCour moved and Tammy Pruin seconded to have a resolution brought before the membership committee to increase the associate dues. Motion passed by all directors present. Jeff Davis will write up the resolution.

Publicity – Cindy Pistek, chairperson gave the report. There will only be a national publicity contest – no area one. The categories remain the same as in past years. They are: Best Overall Newsletter, Best Single Issue, Best Feature Story Human Interest and Best Feature Story Humor and Best Website. Cindy has sent in the following entries electronically, which will save money on postage:

Best Web site – Brian Beach, Webmaster (www.iascoe.org)

Best Single Issue – December 2010; Cindy Pistek, Editor

Best Feature Story – Human Interest

Extreme Makeover Home Edition by Jessica Yuska-Scott County PT

December 2010 Issue (page 23 and 24)

Best Feature Story – Humorous

The Tradition of Cutting Down a Christmas Tree by Barry Terhark-Cerro Gordo County CED

December 2010 Issue (page 30)

Articles need to be submitted by February 12 for the March newsletter. Cindy has an idea called Travel Iowa for the newsletter. This would be something you could write about from your area, promoting that interest.

The associate membership resolution needs to be published in the March newsletter. We also discussed an article about donated leave from a person who has actually experienced the benefits of this program.

Programs – Jessica presented the report. There were 11 negotiation items and 13 program items submitted from Iowa. We were the highest state in the Midwest Area. You do not have to go through Jessica to submit items. You can go to the web site and do it directly. If you prefer you can submit them to Jessica and she will format them the way NASCOE wants. She encouraged all employees to submit suggestions.

Karen LaCour moved and Tammy Pruin seconded to approve all the committee reports as presented. All Directors present approved the motion.

OLD BUSINESS

2011 Iowa Convention – Steve Kennedy is working on the Past Presidents luncheon. All attendees pay for their own lunch. The order of speakers will just depend on who is able to attend. JM Marketing will be furnishing the bags for our goody bag items. All Directors need to start asking business and accumulating some items so we can have some great goody bags. We are hoping for new attendees at the convention. Cindy Pistek moved and Cindy Bebout seconded to offer paid lodging to two individuals who pre-register for the IASCOE Convention. Directors and Committee Members are not eligible. Motion passed by all directors present. We discussed the registration fee and decided on \$30 for pre-registration, \$35 at the door and \$20 for a guest. The registration will include the Friday night snacks and taco bar, performance by the Sheltered Reality group, dance and Saturday morning breakfast. DJ Ray has been booked for Friday night. For breakfast and lunch on Friday, everyone is on their own. There will be a free will donation basket during the hospitality hour to help cover expenses. Devalyn Wilson will be in charge of the food plan, Judy Dameron will organize the goody bags, Cindy Bebout will take the breakfast tickets and we will ask Patsy Bence if she will oversee the Silent Auction. There are two DD's retiring this spring and they will be honored at the Friday evening festivities. The room rent will be \$69.00 plus tax, the taco bar will cost IASCOE around \$9.00 per person and the breakfast on Saturday will be in the ballroom. JM Marketing will give a donation toward the

breakfast. They will also discuss some retirement plans and review some of their insurance plans. The committee meetings will start at 10:30 AM Friday with the Benefits and Legislative Committee at 1:00 PM Friday afternoon. We would like to have a STO panel for a question and answer session. We discussed a theme for the convention and thought it might center on entertainment. Jeff will also do the yearbook for the convention after Sue gets all information to him.

We discussed the proposal for Iowa to host a future (2013 or beyond) National Convention. Jeff put out inquiries and only received two responses. Iowa has not had a National Convention since 1965. We discussed asking adjoining states if they would be interested in having a joint National Convention, but could see several problems arising from this situation. If we decided to do this, we would need to put together a presentation to be given at the National Convention in Texas. This entire process might cost \$6000.00 and then another state might be awarded the honor of hosting the convention. We decided to table this proposal at this time.

Cindy Mensen brought some of the Texas cookbooks with her and sold all of them to the directors. The books are very nice. We purchased 20 cookbooks from Texas for \$15.00 a piece and we are selling them for \$20.00, which leaves us with a \$5.00 profit on each cookbook. We decided to order 20 more, which we will have in time for the convention.

NEW BUSINESS

Delegates for the Midwest Area Rally will be Jeff Davis, Judy Dameron with Karen LaCour as alternate.

We need to invite retirees to the convention and make sure they receive the free year of RASCOE membership. RASCOE would like to have all retiree email addresses.

OTHER ITEMS

Dates to remember:

- Legislative Conference in WDC – March 7-10, 2011
- MWA Rally – Springfield, Illinois – March 11-12, 2011
- Iowa Convention, West Des Moines Marriott – March 24-26, 2011
- IN, OH, KY Joint Convention in Indiana – April 1-2, 2011
- MI Convention – April 29-30, 2011
- National 2010 NASCOE Convention @ Corpus Christi, TX – August 11-13, 2011

ADJOURNMENT

Dee Ann Lehn moved and Mary Lageschulte seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion passed by all directors present. President Mensen adjourned the meeting at 5:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted
Sue Beemer
Secretary