



Minutes of July 9, 2015 General Membership meeting

- 1) Call to Order -Alan Heatherwick
President Alan Heatherwick called the meeting to order at 7:02PM.

- 2) Pledge of Allegiance -Alan Heatherwick

- 3) Roll Call -Alan Heatherwick
11 directors present with 26 members and guests in attendance.

- 4) Secretary's Report -Joe Martin
No comments or corrections to the minutes as presented. Lane Heatherwick moved to accept the minutes. Ron Schubbe seconded the motion. All present were in favor and the motion passed.

- 5) Treasure's Report -Fred Lestina
Income highlights for the past month include \$2100 in banner sales, \$50 in dues, \$350 for farm banners, \$80 flea market, \$25 magnets, and \$58 of cash donations. Expenses included \$250 for buttons, \$602 for T-shirts, \$213 for magnets, \$86.32 trailer expenses, and \$80 for tractor tags. Our bank balance stands at 2,434.81. Russ Hossback moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented and seconded by Pat Noonan. Motion passed with all present in approval.

- 6) All business – new and old

Due to the unfortunate turn of events that our 2015 show has been cancelled because of the weather, Al Heatherwick apologized in advance for a somewhat disjointed meeting.

Advertising update

- Erin Gallagher

Erin gave an overview of sponsorship successes and requested that since the show was cancelled that we publicly thank all of our donors and urge all members to look for opportunities to repay them with our business for their support. Erin said that if we were willing to pay the hard costs of her efforts, she would donate all of her services this year. Her recap included \$738 of expenses, \$1700 new income, and \$418 of in-kind donations.

Showgrounds update

-Alan Heatherwick

Al notified the members present that all directors had been called for a special meeting at the showgrounds prior to the membership meeting and unanimously agreed that they would recommend cancelling the show due to recent and anticipated weather concerns and extremely wet ground conditions. An added consideration is that the wheat is too wet to harvest. There could be heard many sighs of disappointment but after some discussion, Alan requested a motion to cancel the show. Ron Crawford stepped up to present the motion which was seconded by John Kestel. Alan asked if there were any remaining concerns. Everyone was in agreement that the show should be cancelled and voted to pass the motion.

Cancellation procedure

Jim Robbins said that Al had already given him advance notice that there may need to be an alternate plan for the tractor ride. He said that it will be based out of the Wilton Center Town Hall instead of our show grounds. Erin is setting up radio stations to notify the public about the cancellation. Kim Schaefer will handle notifying the flea market vendors about the cancellation and Fred will send out refund checks per our contract with the vendors. Kim also said that their service fee will be waived this year but we will need to pay her for hard expenses that have been incurred. John Walencik will send back the 3 flea market vendor checks that he received. Ron Junior will send back sponsorship monies that he collected. Al will contact the Farm Bureau to cancel the pedal pull. Al also remarked that at the directors' special meeting, the directors were all given tasks to disengage the gears of show preparation to ensure that this process of cancellation would be as smooth and as comfortable as possible.

Sandwich show update

-Brad Eike

Brad said that the Sandwich show was lucky to enjoy great weather. Unfortunately, there were about half the tractors displayed from last year but attendance was up. 206 pedal tractor tickets were sold with the help of Fred Lestina.

Plow day

-Lane Heatherwick

Even though the show has been cancelled the wheat still needs to be combined and the ground needs to be plowed. Dennis Christiansen, Dan Tordai, Jim Jecha, and Brian Schubbe have all offered to bring their vintage combines to harvest the wheat. Lane will organize a plow day in late summer or early fall to which all members will be invited to participate. Lane suggested contacting the FFA to set up a lunch stand. Ron Jr. said that he will negotiate for free pork chops on the plow day. Wally Rauch offered a motion to proceed, seconded by Ron Schubbe. All present voted to approve the motion.

(Note: Since this meeting I have been informed that September 19 has been set aside for the plow day starting at 9AM. Contact Lane Heatherwick for details.)

Rain insurance

A member asked if rain insurance was considered to which Al responded that it had. He said that it would have only applied to the days of the show. Weather conditions leading up to the show would not have been a determining factor. We would need to be rained out at the show not before the show as is the situation we face now. Not only that, it would have been measured at the nearest recording station which would not necessarily be representative of our show location. And the price was high - \$1000 premium for \$10,00 of coverage. This was not the kind of protection that we were hoping for.

9) Brad's Remark's

Like the Cubs say "There's always next year." Plan to attend next year for the 54th Annual show from July 21-24, 2016 at the Charles Kestel Farm on Rt 45 in Frankfort. 53rd Show collectors' memorabilia will still be for sale. Ron Sr interjected that the entire Crawford family feels bad about the turn of events. The family feels honored to have been a part of this segment of WCTA show history. Brad pointed out that two of our senior members were celebrities. Russ Hossbach had been on the most recent Honor Flight to Washington, DC. This trip is organized to recognize the service of our citizens who protected our freedom in World War II. Russ had been an Army cook. (Sidenote: Now we know where he acquired the skill to make such delicious stuffing in such large quantity for our Christmas party.) Our second celebrity is John Cronyn. He has received the Susan H. Wood Hall of Fame Award from Joliet Junior College. Selection criteria included:

- Must have served Joliet Junior College in an exceptional way.**
 - Must be active in professional and community organizations.**
 - Must be a dedicated, caring, compassionate and accomplished professional.**
- I think you can agree that John deserved this recognition and was to have been our parade marshal this year as well. Congratulations to both of these accomplished members.**

9) Open forum

Joe Martin made note that many members renewed their memberships at the show. He said that he will be carrying the registration sheets to verify your information and membership cards so you can pay your dues at the meetings.

10) Adjourn Meeting

There being no additional business, President Al Heatherwick requested a motion to adjourn which was presented by Pat Noonan. After being seconded by Butch Brueggart, the membership voted their approval and the motion passed. The July meeting of the Will County Threshermen's Association was adjourned at 7:44PM.

Upcoming activities:

**July 16-19 - Will County Threshermen's Association Annual Show
CANCELLED DUE TO POOR CONDITIONS AND WEATHER**

August 6, 2015 – 7:00 PM Membership meeting

September 19 – 9:00 AM Plow day at the Crawford farm show grounds.

September 20, 2015 – 1PM WCTA Picnic & Election– Dellwood Park, Lockport

October 8, 2015 – 7:00 PM Membership meeting

November 12, 2015 – 7:00 PM Membership meeting

December 10, 2015 – 7:00 PM Membership meeting

January 17, 2016 – 1:00 PM Christmas party at Wilton Center town hall

Note: Christmas party will be scheduled for January 2016 to eliminate scheduling challenges for members and allow for greater attendance.

Membership meetings are held in the lower level of the First Bank of Manhattan, 55 W North St., Manhattan, IL. Please be prompt because the doors are tended until 7:15 and then locked per agreement with bank officials.