

Missouri State Envirothon Meeting  
Monday, November 30, 2009  
Training Conference, Tan-Tar-A

Attendance: Judy Stinson, DNR; Theresa Dunlap, St. Charles County SWCD (St. Louis Region); Audrey Rayl, Lewis County SWCD (Northeast Region); Bill Bohnert, Jackson County SWCD (Kansas City Region); and Travis Dinsdale, MDC (Northwest Region); Tina Hovendick (Central Region); Lena Sharp (Northeast Region); Paula Champion (Southwest Region); DeDe Vest, NRCS; Deneen Jenkins, Green County SWCD.

Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m., in a meeting room at Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach, Mo., during the Annual Training Conference.

**Minutes** from the September 10, 2009, meeting were reviewed and presented for approval. Lena made a motion to approve the minutes. Tina second. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** – Deneen presented the Treasurer's Report for review. Tina made a motion to approve the report as presented. Theresa second. Motion carried.

**Election of Officers** – Tina made a motion to retain the current officers. Lena second. Motion carried.

**Canon Envirothon Dues** – Paula made a motion to pay the Cannon dues. Tina second. Motion carried.

**Regional Survey Reports** – The committee noted that regions have spring events should send in their survey results after their competitions.

**Financial Grants** – 2010 Final Reports are due June 1. Reminders will be sent out in May. Deneen provided a report showing which regions requested and provided reports.

**MEEA** – Judy will ask Nancy for numbers on how many people attended the event.

**FFA Teams** – Northwest reported having one new FFA team. Southwest reported two new FFA teams. Bill reported that the KC Region is working on recruiting one new team. Tina reported one new team. Theresa distributed notes from her regional committee with their thoughts about the FFA/Envirothon pilot project.

**2010 Regional Competitions** – Travis reported having 12 teams (up 3 from last year) for the Northwest Region. Paula reported 21 teams participating in the Southwest Region. Audrey reported 11 teams in the Northeast Region.

Tina reported the Central Region will hold their competition March 24, and that they have a limit of 24 teams and will take the first 24 registered.

Theresa reported the St. Louis Region will hold their competition March 8 (with a rain date of March 11) at the August A. Busch Wildlife Center. They will take the first registered 22 teams.

Bill reported the KC Region competition will be April 1 at Burr Oaks.

Southeast will hold their competition March 4 at the Nature Center in Cape Girardeau, and will host 4 or 5 teams.

**Summary Sheet for Orals** – Committee was asked to consider allowing teams to provide judges with an 8½ by 11 summary of their oral presentations. This is not allowed at state. Discussion was held. Deneen made a motion to deny the use of a summary sheet. Paula second. Motion carried.

**Rule Change Discussion** – Rule 15g – Amended to state that each team will be “required to have a minimum of one, or a maximum of two, pieces of standard 22 x 28 inch poster board for the visual aid.” Tina made a motion to accept the rule change. Deneen second. Motion carried.

**Regional Oral Presentation Question** – The committee discussed the timing of the release of the regional oral presentation question. Since the various regions hold their events at different times of the year, the issue of fairness was discussed (some teams would have more time to work on the presentation) The committee decided that to be fair to all teams, the oral presentation question would be released to each region individually approximately three days prior to one month before that individual event. Committee chair would send the question via email to the state committee member and 2 or 3 other regional members of that region, and those regional reps would then make sure the question is sent to teachers/coaches. Paula made a motion to accept this method of release, Audrey second. Motion carried.

**Mo State Envirothon** – The state competition will be held April 13, 2010, at Runge. Committee members were asked to think about a possible advisor activity. Judy said she would talk to MDC to see if anyone had looked into the Fishin’ Magicians for the student activity.

The state problem for the oral presentations will be released April 6.

**2010 Canon Event** – Tina made a motion to send the Letter of Intent for Missouri to participate in the Canon Envirothon to be held in Fresno, Calif. Lena second. Motion carried.

**Midwest Event** – The committee discussed whether or not to hold a Canon Envirothon in Missouri in 2015. Arkansas and Oklahoma will jointly hold the 2013 event. The committee had serious discussion on the prospect of holding a national event because the Missouri Envirothon program will most likely run out of money unless Missouri holds a national event or the committee begins fundraising or looking for corporate sponsors. After much consideration, the committee decided not to host a Canon event in 2015, mostly because of the time factor, reduction in sponsorship amounts, and the lack of corporate support. Tina made a motion to pass on the 2015 bid for the Canon Envirothon in Missouri. Paula second. Motion carried.

**Background Checks** – A question of whether or not to require background checks for adult workers was brought before the committee. Discussion was held, and the committee decided not to require background checks.

**Presentation Materials** – Judy showed the window shade banner and asked members to send her photos that would be appropriate for the banner.

**Mary S. Burt Scholarship** – A committee was formed to develop the criteria for the Mary S. Burt Scholarship which has been established in Mary's memory by her sisters. Committee includes Theresa, Bill and Deneen. They are to come up with some preliminary criteria for the scholarship and report back to the state committee in March.

**Testing** – Once again the committee visited the 55% rule, in which teams must score at least 55% in order to move on to state. Some regions have had difficulty with teams scoring high enough to qualify. Committee discussed testing and test difficulty. Standardized tests were discussed. The committee agreed to retain the 55% rule, and not to offer standardized tests. Test writers can receive help by looking on the Missouri Envirothon website at test samples.

A March meeting date will be decided and announced via email.  
Tina made a motion to adjourn. Deneen second. Meeting adjourned.