

Missouri State Envirothon Meeting
May 10, 2007
USDA Service Center, Jefferson City

Meeting called to order by Peggy Lemons at 10:50 a.m., in a conference room at the USDA Service Center in Jefferson City.

Those in attendance: Peggy Lemons, Cole County District Manager; Judy Stinson, SWCP DNR; DeDe Vest, NRCS; Theresa Dunlap, Secretary; Deneen Jenkins, Greene County; Bill Bohnert, Springfield; Linda Young, Central Region.

The November minutes were approved as written with a motion made by DeDe. Deneen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. No discussion. Judy made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Bill seconded. Motion carried.

Assistance to regions was discussed. Deneen reported that Southwest Region requests 2 trunks (the Envirothon committee will pay for 1); Central requests a trunk; and all other regions request the financial grant (one time grant \$1,000). Deneen can begin to distribute the funds. All regions are to report back to the committee by May 2008. The state committee will place an item on the November 2007 agenda to remind the regions that they must report back on the use of the grants.

The committee discussed the number of teams per school. The St. Louis Region has decided to limit the number of teams per school to 2, which will allow that region to have at least two schools represented at State. The committee discussed this, and decided to limit the state competition to 2 teams per school as well. Regions are encouraged to be consistent with the state rules, however if a region decides to allow more than 2 teams per school at their regional event – they need to be aware that only 2 teams from any one school will be allowed at state.

2007 State Competition Review:

Registration – Judy reported that some extra items made it into the oral presentation bags. Also, registration needs to be set up a little earlier.

Volunteers – Great comments were made concerning the volunteers. Plus all showed up!

Judges – Some discussion was held on judging. One judge seemed particularly tough. Peggy and Judy are to view tapes to see if he/she was consistent, and possibly to determine a reason for the low scores

Rotation Schedule – Oral judging rotations need to be looked at.

Talking during Lunch – Rotations need to be fixed so that teams from the same school have been at the same stations before lunch.

Appeals – There were three minor appeals. One team competed with only 4 members, and said that they were told that they could not bring an alternate. The other two issues involved test questions (one was a typo). In one case, all teams received the

points and in the other points listed on the question and the corresponding chart were different. The correct number of points was listed on the question and tests were graded according to that.

Evaluations – Many positive comments. However, the kids wanted cheese! Many students had trouble with the soils portion of the tests. They need more training in soils, especially reading the survey book – 50% of soils test come out of soil survey. Also, few students answered correctly the “percent/slope” question.

The students also want to know what the secchi dish is and how to use it.

There were some comments concerning the “grid” on the wildlife test.

Linda asked if the Central Region can use the Runge Conservation Center as their permanent competition site. Committee agreed that would be ok, as long as Central found a different location in the years that Runge fell into the state competition rotation.

Photos are being posted on the web page.

First aid items need to be at each station.

During future morning training for volunteers and team buddies, the committee will try to separate the groups for more specific orientation.

Cursing was overheard at one of the stations. Peggy will check to see if cursing is in the rules as an offense that could cause disqualification.

FFA Coordination – Members of the Kansas City Region spoke with an FFA advisor who is a member of a task force considering the Envirothon’s “wildlife portion” as the qualification for FFA. Bill White is to speak with the FFA task force. The committee discussed what this might mean for the Envirothon., including the fact that we would have more schools and more teams.

Possible Date Changes – It would mean that at least 4 of our regions would have to move up their spring regional competition dates, and the State competition would need to be moved up. Committee members are to discuss this with their regions. The committee will meet in August to decide.

Resource Material List – DeDe is locating sources. Official list will be posted on the web site. Peggy to e-mail regions when posted.

2007 Canon Update –

Team registration is \$800.

Advisor tours – DeDe made a motion to approve two tours for 2 registered advisors. Judy seconded, motion carried.

Health Insurance – Deneen made a motion to supply the team with basic health coverage (\$100 or less) and Linda seconded. Motion carried.

Polo Shirts – Judy reported that last year’s team did not wear the purple polos. Team wants t-shirts. Committee agreed to let the team pick from several choices. Logo to be

added. DeDe made a motion to allow the team to choose their shirts, not to exceed \$25. Theresa seconded. Motion carried.

Trade items – Collect! Send to Judy by mid-July

Hall of Fame Nomination – Canon chooses two recipients each year. Nomination form was distributed among committee members.

2008 State Competition Location – A few sites were discussed. Since '08 topic concerns Recreational Impact on Natural Resources, the committee agreed that a “well-used” state park might be best. Committee is considering Lake Ozark State Park.

Arizona has requested that each state/province send in two or three photos and a statement of what our most common problems are (horse trail riding, heavy boating, etc)

No other business.

The next meeting is August 21 at 10:30 a.m., at the service center in Jefferson City.