

Missouri State Envirothon Meeting
October 26, 2016
Cole County USDA office

Attendance: Peggy Lemons, MASWCD; Andrea McKeown, NE Region; Dave Fry, KC Region; Audrey Rayl, Treasurer; Tina Dulaban, Central Region; Lena Sharp, NE Region; Jamie Henderson, Central Region; Heather Keith, NW Region; Stephanie Auffert, SW Region; Theresa Dunlap, St. Louis Region; and Judy Stinson, DNR.

The meeting was called to order at 1 p.m., at the Cole County USDA Service Center.

Minutes: Andrea made a motion to accept the May 19th, 2016 meeting minutes. Heather second and motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Audrey gave the Treasurer's Report. Peggy reminded committee members that purchases of any sort on Amazon can be linked through Amazon Smiles to an organization of the purchaser's choice, and one percent of the purchase will be donated to the organization (Mo State Envirothon). Stephanie made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Dave second and motion carried.

Important Dates: NE held their competition October 13 with 6 teams competing; SW (10 teams) and NW (10 teams) will have competitions Nov. 2 and 3 respectively. KC will hold theirs at Burr Oak Woods on April 4, Central at Runge on April 12, and St. Louis is working to secure a private farm for competition on April 6. The State event will be April 27 with location to be decided. The state oral presentation scenario will be posted Thursday April 13.

Regional training updates: KC has a training scheduled for March 2, 2017. St. Louis will hold soils and current issue training January 21 at Busch CA.

Rule Review: Committee discussed use of alternates at all levels of competition. Peggy explained the new national rule stating there may be only one alternate per team. Committee agreed to keep Mo State rule on alternates unchanged for this year's competitions; but will remove the last 2 lines of the rule for the next season. Those 2 lines are: "*The first alternate must be the one listed on the registration form. If two or more alternates are needed, it must be approved by the state committee.*" See Rule #6C.

Committee continued the discussion on alternates. Only one alternate would mean a team would have to compete with just 4 members if more than one regular member was unable to attend. No vote was taken at this time, but members agreed that following the national rule would be prudent.

Missouri Envirothon: April 27, 2017. Discussion was held on locations. Peggy and/or Judy will visit a few spots discussed. Possible sites include 4-H Center at Mexico; State Fair Grounds at Sedalia; and Missouri Valley College at Marshal.

NCF-Envirothon Update: Peggy and Andrea attended the Canadian competition, and gave a report on their experiences. Future competitions are as follows: 2017 Maryland; 2018 Idaho; 2019 North Carolina; 2020 Nebraska, 2021 Canada, and 2022 New York.

Peggy also said that the NCF policy is to return original tests to the teams.

Smithfield: Heather had 9 Smithfield employees at their regional event. Andrea and Dave both reported receiving 2 volunteers from Smithfield.

Teams from SE: As of Oct. 26, 2016, no SE teams have contacted the other regions to participate.

Next Envirothon Magazine: Judy has been speaking with former Envirothon students who had ideas for fundraising, including sending the magazine to Envirothon alumni and their families. To save money, the committee discussed sending donating districts an electronic copy, and mailing the hard copies to former students. Judy will provide a sign-up sheet for students and teachers at competition. The students also suggested a volunteer button on the website so former students can get involved with the program.

Theresa will ask Bunge or another possible donor to specifically support the publication of the magazine.

Mary Burt Scholarship Raffle – Judy will have the farm scene art at TanTarA to raffle in support of the scholarship. Theresa will bring a crocheted baby blanket as well.

Theresa made a motion to make all future scholarship checks payable directly to the students. Judy second and motion carried.

Budget and Fundraising: Committee agreed to continue the effort to raise funds for the program. The magazine continues to serve as a tool to share information about the program with potential donors. The goal is to raise enough funds each year to cover the competition that year.

Financial Grants: Requests were due Sept. 1. NE and NW declined. STL, KC and SW received their grants. Per discussion at the May meeting, the committee will discuss after the April state competition whether to reduce or eliminate the grants. (See May meeting minutes).

Other Business: Regions are reminded that plaques will be reimbursed up to \$60 for each region.

Next Meeting: Judy will send out dates for a February or March meeting.