

Missouri State Envirothon Meeting
Tuesday, October 25, 2011
USDA Service Center
Jefferson City, Mo.

Attendance: Katie Hall, Central Region; Theresa Dunlap, St. Louis Region; T.J. Peacher, NW Region; Adam Brandsgaard, NW Region; Kevin Lohraff, MDC; Paula Champion, SW Region; Audrey Rayl, NE Region; Lena Sharp, NE Region; Rachel Griffin, SE Region; Peggy Lemons, MASWCD; Judy Stinson, DNR; DeDe Vest, NRCS; Dave Fry, KC Region; Jeremy Soucy, KC Region

Peggy called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., in the conference room of the USDA Service Center in Jefferson City.

1. Minutes from the May 4, 2011, meeting were reviewed and presented for approval. Judy made a motion to approve the minutes. Rachel second. Motion carried.

2. Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer's Report was presented. Paula made a motion to approve the report. Audrey second and motion was unanimous.

3. Financial Grants – Reports are due back to Deneen by the end of May, but regions do not have to wait, and can send them in after their competitions.

4. Fundraising – Judy and Theresa met to discuss fundraising ideas. So far, eight people have volunteered to be on the State Envirothon Fundraising Committee. Judy asked that each region try to have two people join the committee.

Peggy informed the group about the financial situation at the International level. In the past, Canon gave \$700,000 to the program, and it takes approximately \$800,000 to \$900,000 per year to run the program. Canon now gives \$348,000. The International committee requested a 20% increase on that amount, but was recently told there will only be a 5% increase. That committee is discussing ways to balance the budget, which may include eliminating grants to states, logo grants and other things. All of this makes raising funds in Missouri critical to the success of the program.

Possible fundraising ideas include: EPA grant, Corporate and Private Foundations and an Envirothon Association w/membership dues. The next meeting will be after Jan 1.

5. Rule Changes – The committee reviewed proposed rule changes as previously discussed. Additional discussions were held on some of the changes.

#2c – remove this rule. Regions make decision on number of teams from each school they will send to state.

#3a – add cell phone contacts for advisors

#6 – this rule was made clearer. Committee decided to break into two rules. Also to add “during the event” and also add a line about giving a warning to a student for the first incidence of foul language.

#7 – add a line making advisors responsible for making sure students understand the rules.

#12a – add words “not provided by the Envirothon Executive Committee or the testing committee.”

#12b – add words specifying electronic items

#13e – add “A 10 minute, 5 minute, and 1 minute warning will be given at all testing stations.”

#13f – add words clarifying station monitors duty to say STOP when time is up.

#13g. – concerning test copies/secrecy

#19 – clarifying appeal submission timing.

#23 – add “point reduction or”

With no further discussion, Paula made a motion to approve the rules as discussed, Lena second, and the rule changes were approved.

6. FFA Update – There have been 2 years in which State Envirothon has coordinated with FFA to allow them to use the Wildlife score. Motivation was to grow Envirothon competition. Regions were asked if they had increased FFA participation:

SW – no new FFA teams this year

NE – two new FFA teams

SE – one new team last year

NW – not sure

St. Louis – no new FFA teams

KC – no new FFA teams

Peggy will speak with Keith at FFA to see if there has been a visible benefit for them.

7. Survey – 2011 report discussed. Regions are asked to fill out every blank on the page. Also count trainings – including all students who participate in trainings at the schools.

8. Fall Competitions:

Audrey – had 8 teams signed up, 6 competed. All were new students and the scores were low. Audrey asked the committee to grant a waiver on the minimum score rule so that her region could send some teams to state. Paula made a motion to grant the waiver, Judy second and the motion carried.

Paula – Competition was a week away. They have 8 schools, 14 teams signed up to compete.

Adam and T.J. – Lost a couple teams. Scheduled for Nov. 3, with 7 teams

9. Regional Test Writer Workshop – Committee discussed holding another test writing workshop. DeDe would make plans and provide instruction. Committee agreed to hold workshop and DeDe will look into dates/locations.

10. Spring Competitions - Katie – Competition is March 21st at Runge

Theresa – Competition is March 1st at Busch. Training is Jan 28 at Busch

11. 2012 State Competition – Columbia area – Thursday April 12

12. New Registration Forms – Use new forms for teams coming to state. Fill out # of years participated.

13. Advisor Activity – Committee is to think of “free” activity ideas.

14. Student Activity during scoring – Committee is to think of “free” activity ideas

15. 2012 Dues to Canon Envirothon – Judy made a motion to pay the dues, Rachel second and motion carried.

16. Letter of Intent 2012 Canon Envirothon – Paula made a motion to send a letter of intent to participate, Judy second, and motion carried.

17. Missouri Envirothon Scholarship Fund – Theresa reported that a quilt and a hand-carved glass plate (made by Mary Burt’s sister) will be raffled at Tan Tar A to help fund the scholarship. Theresa asked that the quilter receive \$100 and be paid from the scholarship fund – with that money returned after the raffle. Paula made a motion to approve this payment, Judy second, and the motion carried.

Committee plans to award the scholarship at the State Competition. Applications need to be sent to Theresa by mid-March. Theresa is to send reminder to regional chairs.

18. Next meeting – Mid-march – Peggy/Judy will send out dates.

Kati made a motion to adjourn. Rachel second. Meeting adjourned.