February 20, 2014

Elizabethtown Service Center

Elizabethtown, KY

MINUTES

KASCOE DIRECTORS’ MEETING

The KASCOE Board of Directors met on February 20, 2014 at 6:00 PM EST at the Elizabethtown Service Center in Elizabethtown, KY

Present: Coy Higdon, Micki Crider, Karen Evans, Dana McKinney, Runita Rice, Melanie Barnes, John Goff and Patti Karn.

The meeting was called to order by President Coy Higdon. President Higdon welcomed all Directors and ‘thanked’ them for getting out to the meeting despite the pending storms.

Patti Karn presented the Financial Report since the last meeting. Micki Crider made the motion to accept the report as submitted. Dana McKinney seconded the motion. All approved and the report passed with no corrections.

Patti Karn reviewed 2 sets of minutes for September 12, 2014 that had been submitted to Directors within the last few days. Micki Crider made the motion to accept the minutes as submitted with no additions or corrections. Karen Evans seconded the motion. All approved the minutes with no corrections.

Patti Karn presented the Membership Report since the last meeting. Dana McKinney made the motion to accept the report as submitted. John Goff seconded the motion and all approved the report as submitted.

There could possibly be a JUMP team in March to the same offices as last year.

Several Directors commented that county employees have praised KASCOE during the furlough for all the information that was available flowing during the furlough. Travis Chick and Lindsey New did a lot of the work on getting the information out.

A discussion was held on any ideas to increase membership of the organizations.

The deadline for Scholarship forms was today (02-20-2014) and the number of applications was unknown at this time. Kevin Whitaker, Scholarship Chairperson, was unavailable with the totals.

Coy Higdon discussed we need to promote more about the ‘Sick Leave Award’ and the ‘Extra Mile Award’ to our association. These are two awards that are not discussed much but there are many deserving employees that would qualify. Coy has a ‘booklet’ available that discusses the details for anyone that wants to review it. Coy also commented that Lindsey New is doing a ‘GREAT’ job on the website.

There was a brief discussion on the two FACT sheets that have been issued on the new Livestock programs under the new Farm Bill. The proposed signup start day is April 15, 2014.

Coy stated that the Southeast Area Rally is going to be in Little Rock, AR in April 2014. Coy stated that he was attending and asked if anyone else was attending and encouraged other to attend.

John Goff made a motion for KASCOE to donate $50.00 to the Hospitality Room for the Southeast Area Rally. Dana McKinney seconded the motion. All approved and the Treasurer will forward the donation prior to the Rally.

There was a discussion as to a KASCOE State Convention in the fall of 2014. Directors would like to see it in Western KY, if possible. Coy has checked with Anna Baker, Daviess County, for possible sites in Owensboro. Melanie Barnes and Dawn Gentry will be checking in and around Bowling Green. Most Directors preferred later part of September or first of October. Micki Crider stated she would forward her notes and ideas from the last convention to anyone that wanted the information. The Retirees Association and KACS want to join in with our Convention. All ideas and suggestions are welcome from anyone for the Convention. Micki Crider suggested that we establish a 1st and 2nd choice for location so when a designee is checking they will know approximate dates. John McCauley stated that he prefers the state convention to be early in the year prior to the National Convention.

John Goff made a motion that the 1st option to be October 10 – 11, 2014 and the 2nd option to be September 26 – 27, 2014 along with the first location to be Owensboro and the second location to be Bowling Green. Karen Evans seconded this motion. All Directors agreed and the motion passed.

John Goff also recommends that in planning we need to remember KY Lake and Barkley Lake areas and to check on availability.

Micki Crider made a few suggestions for the Committee that is currently making plans: check out cancellation policy, rooms availability, catering budget, cash bar, Wi-Fi status-is it free, business office available to make copies, audio-visual cost, charge for podium, parking is it comp out, entertainment. She would estimate that on the first night prior to start of convention to have 25 rooms and 50 rooms for the second night.

Coy stated that there currently is no Emblems Chairperson and no Programs Chairperson. Jeff Boone might take the Programs Chairperson, not sure at this point. Coy asked for any suggestions as to who could fill these positions. No suggestions were offered at this time.

Coy Higdon discussed NAFEC and updates relating to NAFEC. He wants a number of county offices that told the County Committee about NAFEC in January and how many persons joined from that meeting. He stated that in paying NAFEC fees that a life insurance policy is an automatic benefit. Members are also entitled to use services of J M Marketing and Dillard’s Financial. The payroll deductions are just $3.00/meeting or a total of $35.00/year. Members must meet the $35.00/year requirement every year. If the CED completes the paperwork then the Committee will join and pay the fees. Coy requested that all Directors contact their offices of the Committee’s response and notify him within the next 2 weeks.

Coy Higdon then reviewed a couple of memorandums that he had received recently. The memo from John Norris and one on the 2 & 20 rule. It was noted that the banquet at National Convention would work better if on Friday night instead of Saturday night-better attendance.

Coy Higdon stated that he had a member suggest that during upcoming Farm Bill trainings that KASCOE should be promoted. It was suggested that KASCOE have a table with ‘flyers’ or information on it about the organization and to provide light refreshments at the meetings. KASCOE needs to promote what the organization is ‘doing for their members’. John Goff stated we need to check if the meeting places will be providing any refreshments.

The NASCOE emblems are available thru the NASCOE website and concerns about KY not having an Emblem Chairperson were discussed. John Goff stated he may be able to get someone to be Chairperson. He will keep Directors notified.

John Goff made a motion for KASCOE to provide a booth with information and appropriate refreshments at all upcoming Farm Bill Training meetings across the state. Runita Rice seconded the motion and all approved the motion. This will be coordinated across the state and receipts will need to be provided to Patti Karn for reimbursement.

Coy Higdon stated that Murphy USA and BP Gas Stations have been submitted for members to receive discounts at all locations. No official word has been received, if they were approved.

The question was asked about the ‘proposed’ dress code that had been previously discussed with the State Committee. Coy stated that he would forward a memorandum to the State Committee from the KASCOE President as to what KASCOE Directors determined previously.

Open discussion of the following topics includes:

1. Status of advertising outside the agency?
2. Currently FLOT positions are the only critical needs positions.
3. There is now a ‘shorter’ window to apply for vacancies than previously.
4. Recently RD hired a gentlemen from Colorado and then he left within 2 months, which is a concern for many
5. Questions concerning a hiring freeze till the Farm Bill are only within the state of KY.
6. Why is KY only transferring employees from county to county-other states are not?
7. Inquiring about the status of back filing as an agency-going to check with Debbie Wakefield for an answer.
8. 3 counties in the state are scheduled to get new Printers soon and one office to get a new Copier/Printer. These machines will be required to insert your LincPass card to get your copy out and the agency will be paying cost per copy.

The Directors determined to have their next meeting on Thursday, May 22, 2014 in Elizabethtown Service Center in Elizabethtown, KY at 5 PM EST.

Coy Higdon made a motion to adjourn the meeting and John Goff seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 EST.

**Respectively Submitted:**

**Patti J. Karn**

**Secretary**