

# Board Update

submitted by Tim Landgraf, Board President

December Board Meeting, December 10, 2008:

At the December meeting, the Board reviewed the financial results for PFI for fiscal year 2008. Thanks to the outstanding work of Teresa and the PFI Staff, we ended the fiscal year with a net balance of \$90,417. This balance stemmed from 4 main sources:

- A significant increase in unrestricted giving

- An increase in Annual Conference and Field Day Sponsorships

- An increase in PFI membership

- A decrease in Staff related expenses

A huge "Thank You" goes out to the Staff and friends of PFI that made this possible. The majority of the surplus was set aside by the Board in the PFI "Rainy Day" fund. Teresa was asked to carry \$10,000 into the fiscal year 2009 budget, and use the rest to boost the benefit package offered to the PFI Staff, and for year end bonuses for the Staff.

Angela Tedesco and John Pesek were extended a Big "Thank You" for their service to PFI. The December meeting was the final Board meeting that they would attend. The Board addressed several issues related to the upcoming 2009 Annual Conference, held Jan. 9-10, 2009. The final action was to review the latest draft of the new Strategic Plan, to which several suggestions were made. The new Strategic Plan was presented to the PFI membership at the Annual Conference.

# Board Update

The PFI Board of Directors met on August 25th at the Iowa Arboretum to discuss the various issues at hand for PFI. Discussion included a preview for 2009, a review of the annual conference schedule and work on Strategic Plan 2009-2012.

At this time, it appears this coming year will be a very busy year (2009) for PFI with many opportunities to help farmers with various endeavors. Funding has been secured to help with grass-based livestock production, fruit and vegetable production, new farmers and the next generation farmers among other areas. The annual conference, being held in Marshalltown this year, has been pretty well finalized. This should be one more great annual conference with something for everyone and plenty of opportunity to connect with farmers conducting similar ventures on their farms. The board also continued work on the update of the Strategic Plan 2009-2012. We should be able to finalize the new plan by the annual conference in January.

Eric Franzenburg  
President, Board of Directors

## Board Update

PFI Board Meeting

June 30, 2008

We had a very busy meeting with many things to discuss since our last meeting in March. Several items of interest to the membership included: discussion of policy issues and how to react to various requests by other organizations, analysis of the PFI membership conducted by Cedar and discussion on helping the staff weigh their priorities as they think about programming needs for the future. Currently, the organization is on firm ground financially and we hope to maintain this through the remainder of 2008.

Respectfully,

Eric Franzenburg

Board President

## PFI Board Meeting Summary

March 11, 2008

The 2008 board retreat consisted of strategic planning on March 10 and a board meeting on March 11. The strategic planning process went well with good input from all members of the board. We will now summarize the results and begin to finalize the strategic plan for PFI during the June board meeting. Other exciting news includes the change in location of PFI's offices to 137 Lynn St. in Ames (just east of campustown). The move will occur in April. Stop by and say hello when you are in the neighborhood.

Respectfully,

Eric Franzenburg

PFI District 3

## PFI Board Meeting

February 7, 2008

The Board of Directors met before the cooperator's meeting to discuss several areas of business.

Discussion on an increase in annual membership was considered as a way to help raise

unrestricted funds for PFI. It was voted by the board to increase annual membership by \$10.00 for the individual and family/farm categories and \$25.00 for organizations/businesses. The student category will remain the same. These changes will go into effect this fall. Teresa provided the board with a review from the 2008 annual conference. As a whole, the conference was a success with increased attendance and overall satisfaction with programming. A list of potential speakers for 2009 was generated; if you have any suggestions please call the office and let them know.

Respectfully,

Eric Franzenburg  
PFI District 3

## Summary of Board of Directors Meeting

January 12, 2008

An abbreviated meeting of the board of directors was held immediately after the conference. We took a few minutes to make introductions and welcome the new members of the board who were elected during the conference. They include:

Jeff Klinge – Northeast district  
Ann Cromwell – Southeast district  
Heather Johnson – Northwest district

We also elected the 2008 Executive Committee which is as follows:

Eric Franzenburg – President  
Nina Biensen - Vice-President  
Tim Landgraf – Secretary  
Verlyn VanWyk – Treasurer

Other discussion focused on the just finished annual conference. Attendance was up again this year and there was a general feeling of a very successful conference. Many ideas were given for next year's conference. If you have ideas for next year's conference please pass them on to the PFI office.

Respectfully,

Eric Franzenburg  
District 3