

## Summer Joint Board Meeting of NAFBAS & NFRBMEA Hilton, Harrisburg, PA June 10, 2018

Those in attendance: Anthony Barrett (NE), Bob Rhea (IL), Deb Pike (MN), Myron Oftedahl (MN), David Gillman (UT), Laura Powers (KY), Mark Wood (KS), John Jones (MI), Jim McCabe (IL), Michelle Seiffert (NE), Sarah Cornelisse (PA), Tina LeBrun (MN), Bruce Fowler (MO), Mike Harer (WI), Barry Kurtz (MN), Brad Sirianni (WI), Lori Tonak (SD), and Maria Graziani (PA).

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 pm. The group introduced themselves around the table. Bruce Fowler was chosen to chair the meeting and Anthony Barrett was chosen to act as secretary. With no objections to those chosen, the meeting progressed.

Minutes from the September meeting in Clive, IA were reviewed. Jim McCabe made a motion to accept the minutes. This was seconded by Brad Sirianni and motion carried.

It was noted that the MOA between the two boards is still perpetually ongoing until 2 years written notice by either party. No other discussion.

**Annual Conferences:** The 2018 conference budget was discussed. There are 82 attendees and 69 family. There are 4 vendors with John Deere being a new addition. We also have a \$500 credit from the hotel and have them as a vendor. The current budget is showing a \$408 loss to date. Overall, it looks like a breakeven conference at best. Low attendance numbers did not help. It looks to be an exciting conference and the agenda looks great. Tours are lined up and the soccer event with picnic should be a good time for all.

The 2019 conference is progressing. There is a list of presenters to contact. The conference will be held at the Blue Harbor Resort in Sheboygan, WI June 9-13, 2019. The rooms are \$135 per night and includes entrance into the water park. The area has a small community atmosphere and is very beautiful. There are lots of ideas for tours in this area.

The pre-conference training will be held again this year. The 0-2 years' experience group has 9 attendees and a couple of mentors attending. The 3-5 years' experience group has no attendees. The small groups are praised by allowing easy, open discussion that doesn't happen in larger groups. The format this year is Sunday afternoon with a couple hours of follow-up later in the week. This is different than the Saturday afternoon and Sunday mornings that happened in the past. This is to help in travel arrangements and some not having to come in on Saturday, thus saving a day and expense. The NAFBAS board voted in their meeting to continue to fund at \$1,500 the 0-2 year group every year and the 3-5 year group in even numbered years. This will hopefully encourage more attendance as they can attend the 0-2 in one year and follow-up with the 3-5 year in following years.

Jim McCabe stated that there was a new registration provider this year. The new provider offers lots of options and information. It did come with a few bugs but those got worked through. Jim would like to move up registration work and putting that together by December. This will help in the busy tax season that Jim can just kick it out since it is ready.

CHS did not sponsor the 2017 conference and did not provide any scholarships for the 2018 conference. There was not money available. There might be an opportunity to approach local Farm Credits to sponsor 1 or 2 scholarships if we have contacts. The goal for the fall meeting is to work this process out so see if we can move forward in attaining these scholarships.

It was brought to attention that Cody Stewart from IL had requested a refund of his spouse's registration due difficulties with her pregnancy. David Gillman made a motion to refund the registration. This was seconded by Brad Sirianni and motion carried.

Jim McCabe made a motion to set the maximum registration cost at \$450 for 2019. This only sets a maximum amount. If the final registration cost is lower, that is not a worry. Motion was seconded by Mark Wood and motion carried.

There is a conference logo. This us being used to "brand" the conference. Some tweets & FB post have been sent out.

There has been a 2020 site selection & committee appointed. 2020 sill be led by NFRBMEA. In 2017 there was talk of going to the Pacific Northwest. It was decided that 2019 and 2020 needed to focus on boosting attendance numbers. Does this mean we need to stay more local? Should a survey be sent out to ask what needs changed or added to get you more excited about attending? Michigan would be willing to look at hosting the 2022 conference. David Gillman, Jim McCabe, Laura Powers, & Bruce Fowler will work to try to get some survey ideas together by the fall joint meeting.

Ela from the Farm Viability Conference is here and someone will make contact with her.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**USDA:** The USDA committee will be Wednesday at lunch.

**Fundraising:** This group will meet Wednesday at breakfast.

**Professional Development Opportunities:** Roger McEowen held his conference the Thursday and Friday before the conference. Not many of our attendees went. We tried to coordinate with Roger to get it closer to our location. It didn't seem to help attendance.

**Farm Financial Standards Council:** The annual meeting will be held in Illinois in July 2018. They are still working on updating the sample farm. The family living expense is \$12,000 and only has corn and soybean enterprises.

**Joint Member Needs:** N/A

**Activities in New States:** There is some interest and work being done to add programs in Clemson, SC as well as Tennessee.

**Board Topics:** Jim McCabe asked if he could look into pricing new lanyards. These are the original ones bought for the 2008 conference. He will bring prices & options to the fall meeting.

Myron Oldehaft asked that the same logo be used on everything. It appears there could be a couple different ones floating around?

A motion was made by Jim McCabe and seconded by Myron Oldehaft to hold the fall joint board meeting on October 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> in Sheboygan, WI. Motion carried.

It was motioned by David Gillman and seconded by John Jones to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony L. Barrett  
Appointed Secretary for Joint Board Meeting