

National Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Association, Inc.

Spring Board Meeting Conference Call April 10, 2002

The Board of the National Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Association, Inc. (NFRBMEA) met April 10, 2002, via conference call. Present were: Ira Beckman, Tom Weygandt, Don Roberts, Jim Kelm, Laurie Morris, Al Graner, Larry Oraskovich, Doug Wertish, Wayne Pike, and Deb Pike. President Ira Beckman called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm Central.

Oraskovich moved that the Secretary's minutes be approved. Kelm seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer Don Roberts gave the Treasurer's report. NFRBMEA for the 2001-02 year showed a loss of \$753. It was noted that the Board at the last board meeting had approved budgeting \$3000 for Recruitment/Retention Taskforces. Roberts indicated that he would amend the budget to reflect that change. Kelm moved the Treasurer's report be approved with the change to the budget. Oraskovich seconded. Motion passed.

Membership Secretary Wayne Pike reported that there are currently 223 regular members, 15 associate members, and 2 lifetime members for a total of 240 members.

Webmaster Deb Pike reported that the last issue of *NUTS & BOLTS* was emailed to 210 addresses and only 31 printed and mailed. There is also a link on the NFRBMEA home page to *NUTS & BOLTS*. Although she didn't get a lot of response, all feedback was positive.

Webmaster Deb Pike reported that the web site has had 4562 visitors to date. She has added the Job Posting page and there are two listings now. She will post the current Board minutes on the web.

Historian Laurie Morris is working on the historical slide show for the conference. She is continuing to collect information and especially needs pictures of early conferences. Personal contact will be made with original members to see if they have materials. Morris will also produce a new CD of past Board minutes and documents by June. She is looking to include tips and suggestions from former conference hosts so that planning for upcoming conferences will go more smoothly.

Wayne Pike reported that he has written two articles for the National Crop Insurance magazine. The Board unanimously praised him for the quality of the articles. Weygandt said that he found the magazine informative and helpful and wondered if the regular membership could get the magazine. Morris will check with Dr. Crane.

Past President Lynn Schluckebier, absent for a funeral, reported via email that he is working on the Annual Report. He asked for suggestions as to the content and look of the

report. He also asked how many copies to print. The Board suggested that, depending on cost, he print 150 copies.

2002 Conference Chair Larry Oraskovich reported that the program for the conference remains unchanged from that mailed with the registration materials. The registration materials appear on the website. Next year Deb Pike plans to have the registration in .PDF file format.

Oraskovich reported that the Conference Committee added a \$95 registration for “Old Timers.” He has received 50 registrations so far and all the First Timers scholarships are filled at this time. He also reported that because of funding problems Pat Harrington will not be able to attend the conference. Dennis Jackson will stand in for Pat at the Story Tellers Breakfast.

Doug Wertish has received donations from 25 sponsors and has invoiced 3 more who haven't yet paid. He is working with 8 more sponsors and hopes to have them signed up soon. Almost all of the 350 tickets for the Tuesday program have been sold.

Oraskovich moved that the charge for a vendor's table and one attendant at the 2002 Conference be set at \$150, with a \$50 charge for each additional attendant. Roberts second. Motion passed.

Additional conference plans were discussed. The Board was pleased to hear that things are well under way and that a great summer conference is anticipated.

Al Graner, 2003 Conference Chairman, had little new to report on the 2003 Conference other than the tourism director of Minot, ND plans to be in attendance at Owatonna.

The Recruitment/Retention Taskforces reported on their progress to date. Kelm reported that Taskforce #1, Awareness, has been in contact with an advertising/promotional company, which would target Ag Ed grads and industry. He plans to have a mock-up of a brochure for the next board meeting. Morris, Taskforce #2, Familiarization, is compiling the experiences of the kinds of things FBM teachers do each day with the idea of letting interested recruits and new teachers know what to expect as a FBM teacher. Weygandt, Taskforce #3, Certification and Training, has created an outline of subjects that would need to be covered either on a certification test or as a certification class. Each Taskforce will share their efforts with other Board members via email for comment and revision so that these ideas can be addressed in detail at the Pre-Conference Board Meeting.

Beckman asked each Board member to prioritize the sixteen Organizational Goals identified at the spring Board Meeting and submit them to him via email. He would like each member to expand on their top 3 priorities with a description of what the member believes should be done and ideas as to how to accomplish the goal.

Beckman set the Pre-Conference Board Meeting for 10:00 am, June 9, 2002 at the hotel in Owatonna, MN.

Roberts moved to adjourn the meeting. Kelm second. Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm Central.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Weygandt, Secretary