

National Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Association, Inc.

Pre-Conference Board Meeting June 9, 2002

President Ira Beckman called the Pre-Conference Board Meeting of the National Farm & Ranch Business Management Education Association, Inc. (NFRBMEA) to order at 10:20 am Central. The meeting was held in the Board Room of the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Owatonna, MN. Attending were: Ira Beckman, Jim Kelm, Tom Weygandt, Don Roberts, Lynn Schluckebier, Larry Oraskovich, Laurie Morris, Al Graner, and Chuck Stranburg. Wayne and Deb Pike were absent due to a family funeral.

Jim Kelm moved that the agenda be modified to include discussion on liability insurance coverage, conference call costs, and the proposed extended budget. Don Roberts seconded. Motion passed.

Kelm moved that the Secretary's minutes as present by Tom Weygandt be accepted. Roberts seconded. Motion passed.

Weygandt reported that he had received 10 state reports for the Roll Call of States. He intends to keep the Roll Call brief during the Annual Meeting as requested by the Board so that the meeting can move on promptly.

Roberts present the Treasurer's report including 03/30/2002 and 06/06/2002 balance sheets and a detailed journal of the year's business. He also reported that the records had been submitted to Vic Richardson for audit. Weygandt moved the Treasurer's report be accepted. Lynn Schluckebier seconded. Motion passed.

Beckman reviewed the agenda for the Annual Meeting with the Board and indicated about how much he wanted to cover then first day. The Board also scanned the membership list to offer officer suggestions to the Past Presidents Committee.

Due to the absence of Wayne & Deb Pike no reports were given for the Membership Secretary, *NUTS & BOLTS*, or the web site. Kelm indicated that he'd like to promote use of the web site among the members and perhaps be able to include curriculum on the Teacher's Lounge page. Laurie Morris would like to see other pages to which we link have links on their pages back to ours.

Larry Oraskovich reported that the Conference was in place and ready to go. He expects 96-100 teacher registrations along with 5-6 one-day registrations. The fund raising headed up by Doug Wertish has been very successful with most of the money already collected. Ten booths have been sold for vendor displays. Liability insurance coverage for the conference has really increased this year. After Board discussion via email earlier Oraskovich had gone ahead and purchased the insurance. Beckman directed Oraskovich to get more information from the insurance agent and together with Weygandt form a risk management assessment and plan.

Kelm reported that he has several entries for the Exchange of Ideas. He moved that the Exchange materials be provided via the website if technically possible. Oraskovich seconded. Motion passed.

Beckman along with Chuck Stranberg presented the question: Does NFRBMEA want to be a member of Team Ag-Ed? They felt that there are many benefits to us in such an affiliation including increased visibility and more identity within NAAE. Such an affiliation would not change anything within NFRBMEA but offer us more benefits than cost. Kelm moved that NFRBMEA develop strategies to become affiliated with Team Ag-Ed. Schluckebier seconded. Motion passed.

Al Graner gave the 2003 Conference update. The conference committee is working on getting the keynoter and have the tours nailed down at this point. The Board discussed ways to get more members to attend the conference.

Schluckebier presented the Annual Report. The Board congratulated him on a job well done.

After some discussion Roberts moved that the annual budgets for 2002-03 and 2003-04 be approved. Schluckebier seconded. Motion passed.

The remainder of the meeting the Board discussed the strategic planning goals as prioritized by the Board. It was agreed that the Board needs to continue working on the Recruitment / Retention Taskforces. In addition Beckman will be creating new committees to work on: industry connections and alliances; curriculum; and membership development. It is felt that when a good idea is put forth that the Past Presidents, Pat Harrington – Chairman, will be able to raise funds for its implementation.

The Recruitment / Retention Taskforces gave committee reports: Kelm has with the help of a private firm developed a color brochure for advertising a career in farm business management education. Morris and Roberts presented an outline describing their efforts to advise interested individuals on the day-to-day activities of a farm business management instructor. Weygandt and Schluckebier presented an outline of the minimum knowledge needed by a beginning teacher and said that they needed to work towards a standard test. This along with teacher training should allow NFRBMEA to certify teachers in Farm Business Management.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Weygandt, Secretary