

Board Minutes
NFRBMEA 2003 Post-Conference Meeting
International Inn, Minot, ND
June 12, 2003

Members present: Tom Weygandt, president; Jim Kelm, past-president; Ron Dvergstien, president-elect; Charles Duell, secretary; Rich Baumann, treasurer; Laurie Morris, historian; Wayne Pike, *NUTS & BOLTS* co-editor, membership secretary; Debra Pike, *N & B* co-editor, webmaster; Ed Ruff, 2004 conference chair; Tom Ackerman, 2005 conference chair as *ex officio* member.

President Tom Weygandt called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

Order of Business:

1. Post Conference Report by Al Graner – Al reported that the North Dakota instructors would be closing the books at their summer meeting, and would have a final report for the fall meeting.
2. *NUTS & BOLTS* / Web Page Report and Agreement – Pres. Tom asked Wayne to update the board on the newsletter and Web page efforts. Wayne reported that in the past year Deb has been paid \$2,000 for the administration and update of the web page and that Wayne has been paid \$1,000 for the Nuts and Bolts newsletter. Wayne stated that there had been no additional costs incurred, and that by going to the emailed version of the newsletter that costs had been held down. Deb mentioned that the change to Front Page had been done and she did not anticipate any needed software upgrades. Jim Kelm moved to continue to contract with Wayne and Deb for the newsletter for \$1,000 and \$2000 for web page maintenance. Ron seconded the motion; motion carried.
3. Fall Board Meeting at Wisconsin Dells – After discussion about the date the group reached consensus to hold the fall meeting on Thursday, November 6th and conclude on Saturday the 8th. Ed will make reservations for 9 rooms. Jim Kelm mentioned that NAFBAS wants to have a representative there, we may need more time.
4. National Pork Board Meeting – National Pork Board educators meeting in Des Moines September 17- 19. Historically NFRBMEA board members have used this gathering as an unofficial meeting. Representatives of NAFBAS will be attending. Those who can attend are invited to attend the conference on Wednesday, September 17th.
5. Discussion of NAFBAS - Tom mentioned the conference call earlier in the morning and that work on the relationship between NFRBMEA and NAFBAS needs to be addressed by the board, after having been given the go-ahead by the NFRBMEA membership in the conference business meeting. Tom asked Jim to head up the effort. Jim mentioned that from indications from the conference call earlier in the morning that they must be in a critical time in their organization, but cautioned that there may not be a lot of progress at the September 17 meeting in Des Moines. Jim is optimistic that the timing is right, and was surprised that NAFBAS was already asking about the number of rooms, etc, for the 2006 joint meeting in Omaha that was agreed to in the business meeting.

Tom mentioned two concerns about future joint meetings with NAFBAS:

- A)The Omaha meeting is already scheduled, and was not bid for by the Nebraska

instructors; but we still need a conference planner as the various states have done in the past.

B)The conference has been the major money-maker for the organization and we will need to deal with finances.

Jim mentioned some of the topics that had been discussed in the conference call and elsewhere included Web maintenance and Tom mentioned that NAFBAS clearly was interested in an Institute for training their membership. Jim reiterated that it will be a learning process and that it is not the board's intent to merge the two organizations, but to explore what similarities and differences there are and how both organizations can benefit from closer association with each other.

Jim asked that the following people be considered the core group: John Castor, Jay Olsen, Rich Baumann, Ed Ruff, Tom Weygandt, Wayne Pike, Jim Kelm, and Laurie Morris. Ron mentioned that we need to send an email to our membership that did not attend our meeting making them aware of the discussion. Tom Ackerman suggested that as president elect, Ron Dvergsten should also be added to the core group.

Tom suggested using the October *NUTS & BOLTS* for getting more information to the membership.

Tom concluded the discussion by saying it didn't look like there was any specific action the board needs to take at this time, other than to note that we have arranged the meeting for Wednesday September 17 to talk further with NAFBAS.

6. NAAE / participation on The Council – Jim reported that the next step with NAAE is a formal letter asking for participation at the table. Jim suggests a 50%-50% chance that we will succeed. Tom reiterated that he would need Jim and Gary's guidance on this subject. Jim Kelm and Gary Thome will draft a letter to NAAE and Tom will sign as president of NFRBMEA.

Tom asked for discussion of the various committee reports:

7. Brochure Committee – Distribution of the brochures. Electronic format.
8. Instruction Standards – On hold until we hear from Dr. Joerger on what he has found out from the survey.
9. Industry Alliances – we need to forward names of industry contacts to the committee. John Caster is the chair of the committee.
10. Membership Committee – Suggestion for free student membership. Discussion centered on the whether the bylaws allowed for free student membership without a change in the bylaws. Jim suggested that college ag-ed departments become affiliate members of the organization as a way to maintain contact with NFRBMEA. Tom reiterated that membership is defined in the bylaws, we couldn't offer free membership without a change to bylaws. Current bylaws allow students or organizations affiliate membership for \$10.00, but all interested parties can have *NUTS & BOLTS* for no charge. Jim will go back to the committee with this info. Also mentioned was the idea of student teachers in the local communities spending a day with NFRBMEA members.

11. National Institute – Where are we going from here: Dr. Joerger's survey needs to be completed to assess needs. The board discussed several aspects, including assessment of needs, delivery method, and course layout. We are still in the very early, conceptual stages and need to see what Dr. Joerger's survey tells us. Laurie mentioned scanning a copy of Dr. Persons study for those board members that do not already have a copy of his study. Committee membership is Jim Kelm, Wayne Pike, Rich Baumann, Ira Beckman, Dr. Joerger, Ron Dvergsten. Mention again made of Dr. Persons report.
12. Resources Committee – Charles asked about the resources committee idea for a library of resources. Specific concerns were copyright, availability of the library page to internet searches, and whether it would be housed on the existing server or at another site. Tom mentioned that it would make sense to house it locally with Charles and have a link to this site from the main NFRBMEA site. Site backup and alternate access to the web sites was also discussed. Charles mentioned the possibility of backing up the content to CDROM. Wayne and Jim mentioned the need for the Resource committee to get together with Deb and coordinate things. Laurie mentioned the exchange of ideas and having difficulty getting them gathered to a CDROM.
13. 2004 Conference preview – Ron asked Ed Ruff for a brief synopsis of the 2004 conference planning. Ed replied that the topic is environment and there will be some information on wind power...probably one day devoted to energy. Discovery farm...environmental awareness...Aldo Leopold...NRCS.

Announcements: Deb asked for bios from the new officers, and wanted to get everyone together for group and individual picture for the new members.

Ron moved to adjourn and Jim seconded. Motion passed and Tom adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charles Duell