

National Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Association
Spring Webex Board Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2009 9:00 a.m. CDT

Call to order by Paul Gorman at 9:00 AM.

Members Present:	President	Paul Gorman
	President Elect	Wayne Pike
	Past President	John Hobert
	Treasurer	Doug Wertish
	Secretary	Jay D. Olsen
	Membership Secretary	Virgil Dagman
	Webmaster	Deb Pike
	Historian	Dan Hoffman
	IABME	Jay M. Olson, Tom Weygandt, Dr. Dick Joerger
	2009 Conference Planners	Jesse Schwanke, John Sponaugle
	2010 Conference Planners	Jay M. Olson, Rick Morgan

The agenda was presented by President Gorman and displayed on everyone's computer. Two items were added: a report of the Joint Committee and Dr. Dick Joerger under "Other Business".

Good News was reported by everyone. Families were part of everyone's reports which included new grandchildren, upcoming family events, and a member's son home from Afghanistan. Jay M and Virgil reported that flood waters were stable to decreasing in Fargo/Moorhead.

The Secretary's report was presented by Jay D. Olsen. He indicated that the minutes of the Fall Board and Joint Board meetings were posted on the Web last fall by Deb and hoped everyone had a chance to review them. Doug began the discussion that the minutes reminded him that there should be three checks for \$500 each, one from NFRBMEA, one from the Joint Conference, and the third from IAMBE to pay the Treasurer. To date, the checks have not been written. The board approved writing the check for the NFRBMEA part, and Wayne will get the approval from the IAMBE and the Joint Conference committees to write the other two checks.

Wayne Pike moved to accept the secretary's report and the minutes of the Fall Board meeting, seconded by Jay M, motion passed.

Doug Wertish gave the Treasurer's Report. He sent the financial statements to everyone by email the previous day. Doug reviewed the Balance Sheet, the Profit and Loss, Budget to Actual report and a Comparison Profit and Loss to the previous year. Doug indicated that he had moved funds into a C/D at Edward Jones which is federally insured. The Budget vs. Actual report shows that overall expenses came in \$3700 under budget. He also indicated that he made the decision to switch from Quicken to QuickBooks. Doug also indicated that he is tracking each registration in detail as registration monies are deposited. Dan Hoffman moved to approve the Treasurer's report, and the motion was seconded by Wayne Pike; motion passed.

Virgil Dagman gave the Membership Secretary's report. He thanked Doug and Deb for doing the work on tracking membership. Membership is down, possibly because with last year's conference being in California and conference attendance being less. The comment was made that it seems more difficult to get memberships following the conference although a couple did come through in Aug/Sept. There was

some discussion about raising dues but everyone agreed that it should stay the same because dues are coming in as conference registration is happening, and the amount is posted on the Website. But, a future discussion should occur about dues, especially if membership numbers decline. Dues that are being received with the conference registration will apply to the 2009-2010 year. Paul suggested that memberships be reviewed in October and an effort made to contact previous members and invite them to renew their membership. Deb reminded us that the Nuts & Bolts RTU goes to everyone, members and non-members. It was suggested that we go back to sending a separate "version" to non-members that would include a tickler to encourage them to renew their membership each time they receive the newsletter. A motion to accept the Membership report was made by Doug, seconded by Jay M. Motion passed.

Deb Pike gave the Webmaster's report. Deb sent out her report to everyone via email. She indicated that the conference Website is up and running and contains all the conference information received so far, as well as links to sites for other St. Louis activities, and the Conference Registration site. The approximate time to complete this project was 36 hours. She also reported that she completed development of the IAMBE Website, which took about 46 hours, and is updating it at the IABME Director's request. IAMBE has held its first Webex seminar. The site will offer links to all the seminars for enrolled participants to review past sessions. Presently, these are available to the participants only. She also indicated that she has been updating the NFRBMEA Website, with new information as she received it, as well as the Yahoo Discussion Group lists. Virgil Dagman made a motion to accept the Webmaster's report. Jay M seconded, and the motion passed.

Dan Hoffman presented the Historian's Report. He reported that Laurie Morris sent a large amount of historical information to him and he'll keep it safe until someone decides what to do with all the historical information in it. Dan will be taking pictures during the conference and conference tours and will prepare a slideshow to present on the last day of the conference. He invited everyone to take pictures and get them to him, and he also suggested that each tour bus have a designated photographer to record the tours in pictures. Dan expressed thanks to Deb for taking the lead in requesting items and articles for the newsletter and Real-Time Update. A motion to accept the Historian's report was made by Deb and seconded by Wayne; motion passed.

Dan Hoffman and Deb Pike gave a joint Editor/Co-editor report. Dan invited discussion about the title of Managing Editor and Co-editor. Wayne indicated that the job descriptions were sent out to the board for review. The job descriptions need to be reworked in the next year, and that may address these roles. Deb reported that she sent out invoices to the advertisers, and invited them to update their ads. All but one advertiser renewed their advertising this year. She indicated that it's time for another Real-Time Update, the next issue coming out around May 1. She suggested including the President's Message, conference registration info, an invitation for submitting Exchange of Ideas and an update on the National Council. Jay M. Olson moved to accept their report. Wayne seconded, and the motion passed.

Deb Pike gave the Resource Committee report. There has been no activity within the committee, and nothing new has been added to the Library since last year's Conference. It's difficult to get individuals to make submissions. The committee meets with the NAFBAS' Technology Committee during the conference, but they don't seem to progress beyond introductions and there has been no communication with them between conferences. Paul suggested we either concentrate on getting things happening or bury it. All agreed that the discussion should continue in St Louis and it will be an item on the Preconference Board Meeting agenda. Motion to accept the Resource Committee report was by Doug Wertish and seconded by Jay M. Olson. Motion passed.

The St. Louis 2009 Conference Update was given by Jesse Schwanke and John Sponaugle. Jesse reported that the Conference Website and is up and running and that Norm worked with CFFM to get the Registration Website functioning. Jesse made the point that the \$50 registration for extra guests is a family rate and not an individual rate. He also reported that agenda is close to being finalized, and Early Bird registration and hotel registration deadlines are set. He indicated that there is a link on the Conference Website for the St. Louis Cardinals for attendees interested in purchasing tickets for a game.

The conference notebooks are being handled by Rob Holcomb from NAFBAS. He would like all notebook contributions/reports in by early May. Rob will take all of NAFBAS reports/contributions and he would like Paul to collect NFRBMEA reports and pass them on to Rob.

The next conference planning meeting will be April 28 with the goal of finalizing the last one or two conference details.

John Sponaugle suggested putting information about the Metro as a convenient method of transportation from the airport to the Sheraton on the conference Webpage. He will send a paragraph to Deb to be added to the Website.

John also made the suggestion about a break-out session for new instructors with a panel discussion and provide networking. Paul suggested that it be handled in the conference planning meeting on April 28. Tom indicated that this was probably also being addressed during the IAMBE workshop.

Paul will send an email to Bob Rhea and Mike Schmitz inviting them to participate in the next conference planning Webex.

There seems to be some confusion on the Conference Registration Website for NFRBMEA members registering for the conference and paying their dues at the same time. John Sponaugle will check with Norm and Dale Nordquist to clarify on the Conference Registration site that the \$290 includes NFRBMEA dues. Someone will have to contact those that have already registered at the \$260 conference rate to let them know that additional \$30 will need to be paid for NFRBMEA annual dues. John Hobert moved to accept the Conference Committee report. Seconded by Deb, motion passed.

John Hobert gave the Fundraising report. He went through the donor list, and highlighted the concerns. CNH has a new contact person and the company has had a poor year financially.

To date, John has \$5000 committed from various donors and the rest of the donors will let him know about what dollar level they will contribute. John will contact Caterpillar, National Corn Growers, and United Soybean Board but would like contact information for an individual within each company. He invited anyone with contact information for these companies or any other to forward the information to him.

John said that things will begin to be finalized in the next 15-20 days with all the donors/sponsors. Over all, the sponsorship is about where John would expect it to be with today's economy. A motion to accept the Fundraising report was made by Dan Hoffman and seconded by Jesse Schwanke. Motion passed.

Rick Morgan and Jay M. Olson gave an update on the 2010 Conference. The committee met March 25 and will meet on again on Wednesday night of the conference. Between now and then, the local instructors will meet and prepare for the presentation to show in St Louis. All the conference committees are organized and beginning to work on conference items. NFRBMEA , NAFBAS and the Northwest

extension groups have all participated in the Webinars up to this point. Paul indicated that we don't need a motion to accept this report.

Jay M. Olson reported on the National Council. He attended the spring meeting in March where a change in the national FFA leadership was announced. A Post-secondary and Adult Education directory is continuing to be developed and will be available sometime, but the progress seems slow. Jay D. Olsen moved that the report be accepted. Wayne Pike seconded and the motion passed.

Wayne Pike reported on the Exchange of Ideas and First Timer's Scholarships, and he said that invitations to submit items for the Exchange of Ideas will be sent and will be mentioned again in the next Real-Time Update.

Wayne thought that the First Timer's Scholarships have been overshadowed by IABME, and proposed the idea of concentrating the First Timer's scholarship, \$500, to First Timers that are outside of the Bremer grant area to help cover the cost of the IABME workshop and training. Jay M. Olson made a motion that \$500 for First Timer's Scholarship money be split as determined by the IABME committee between First Timers that are non stipend IABME participants. The motion was seconded by Virgil Dagman, motion passed.

Wayne reported that the Joint Conference committee met and decided that a joint conference entity is not needed and they recommend that the committee be dissolved. The point was made that this needs to be addressed during the Pre-conference Joint Board meeting in St Louis, because the committee was established by both the NAFBAS and NFRBMEA Boards.

Wayne has worked on the job descriptions for NFRBMEA board members and that they need a massive overhaul. He sent an email containing the job descriptions and asked that each board member read their job description and compare it to what they are doing, what they think they should be doing, and be prepared to revise them in St. Louis. This will need to be included on the Pre-conference agenda.

Tom Weygandt gave the IABME report. The first Webinar on Monday went well. Eight are signed up, with one more signing up shortly. The Webinar was recorded and participants can access it on the IABME Website. Tom indicated that all but one of the trainees are in the MN and WI area where they qualify for the stipend. Jay M. asked if anyone from ND participated in the first Webinar, and Tom said there were none.

Jay M. said that there are a number of new instructors in ND. Virgil asked if it was too late to get the new instructors involved in the training. Tom said that new participants could be added at any time; the first session is recorded and available and if there is a need, he will rerun the session.

It was recognized that the stipend of \$750 for the IABME workshop does not cover the all conference expenses. Jay M suggested that maybe the stipend be raised to \$1250. Tom will propose to the IABME committee to increase the stipend to \$1250. Jay M suggested that the IABME workshop time be adjusted to try to get the participants out of St Louis on Thursday afternoon. This could be done by conducting some if the workshop on Sunday afternoon or evening. Tom reviewed the IABME workshop agenda for the Post- conference IABME sessions and will consider the shifting some training to other times.

Tom asked about getting the mentoring part of the training started. He will begin working with participants and current instructors to get the mentoring going.

Tom will be coordinating with the 2010 planners for rooms and meeting rooms in Fargo.

Virgil Dagman moved to approve the IAMBE report. The motion was seconded by Doug Wertish; motion passed.

Paul Gorman requested nominations for the Distinguished Service Award- Member and Distinguished Service Award- Friend. A list of previous recipients appears on our website. Paul asked for nominations to be emailed to him by May 15. Wayne said that plaques can be order no later than May 20. The Pikes will continue to order the plaques for the Board.

Retiring Office Plaques & Conference Host Gifts- money for Conference Planning/host gifts money for plaques come from conference funds, John will contact board members to see who will consider running again, and who will be retiring from an office. The Pikes will also order these plaques and will need the information by May 20.

John Hobert will make the contacts for officer candidates for the board member positions that are up for election this year.

Other Business: Dr. Joerger started to speak, but his cell phone went out of range.

Jay M. Olson moved to adjourn. Second by Deb; motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 CDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay D. Olsen, NFRBMEA Secretary