

NFRBMEA Pre-Conference Board Meeting

Sunday June 14, 2009 • Sheraton City Center, St. Louis, MO

Those in attendance: Paul Gorman, President; Wayne Pike, President Elect; John Hobert, Past President; Doug Wertish, Treasurer; Jay D. Olsen, Secretary; Virgil Dagman, Membership Secretary; Deb Pike, Webmaster and NUTS & BOLTS Co-editor; Jay M. Olson, National Council Rep; Tom Weygandt, National Institute Director; Jesse Schwanke, 2009 Conference Committee Chair. Absent: Dan Hoffman, Historian and NUTS & BOLTS Co-editor.

Paul called the meeting to order at 9:20 AM. Agenda changes and/or updates were made. The agenda items were covered in the following order as persons responsible became available to participate in the meeting:

#3 Good News: Everyone reported that their families are well, growing, with weddings and grandkids. Paul has enjoyed his time as President. Webex has worked well and saved cost. In addition, Jay D. Olsen said that Utah turkey growers are back in business after locking in most of their feed needs for 2009. Virgil indicated that things are good in North Dakota but with the cool spring, crops are late. Rick Morgan added that farmers in his area are behind in planting and crop growth. Jay M. Olson also indicated that because of the late spring, 75% to 80% of acreage is seeded and it's probably too late for seeding the remaining acres; some 2008 corn is still being combined but financially, farmers had a good year last year and this year is looking to be good. Jay M. Olson that his health is greatly improved and he feels good after a number of hospital visits this spring.

#7 Exchange of Ideas and First-Timers Report: Wayne said the Exchange of Ideas activity is set with five ideas to be presented. He indicated that the First-Timers meeting will be announced Sunday evening and at lunch on Monday.

#8 Secretary's Report: Jay D. Olsen presented the minutes of the spring Webex Board meeting. The NFRBMEA Annual Report was handed out and time was taken for board members to read the minutes. No additions or changes were made. Deb moved to approve the minutes, Jay M. Olson seconded the motion; motion passed.

#9 Roll Call of States Report: Jay D. reviewed the reports that were received and should be included in the conference notebooks; states will be asked to present their reports in the Tuesday business meeting. Also, any states represented at the business meeting and not having a written report will be invited to make an oral report.

#10 & 11 Treasurer's Report and Budget Review 2008-09 & 2009-10: Doug passed out the financial statements. These are also in the Annual Report, beginning on page 25. Doug indicated that the check for the conference registration from CFFM will be at Wayne's home and hopefully deposited tomorrow. There was a mix up with addresses between Doug's and Wayne's addresses resulting in the check being delayed from CFFM. The IABME budget is not included in NFRBMEA budget because IABME is self sustaining. Doug passed out the IABME Profit & Loss and reviewed their income and expenses. The next IABME Bremer Foundation money will be deposited in July, and will need to be preceded by an annual report to the Bremer Foundation of the past year's activities; Tom is preparing the report. Doug reviewed the process to request money from the fiscal agent, Lake Region Foundation, their administrative fee is \$3000.00 annually. The process to pay the fee and will need to be worked out-- do they just take it from account or does NFRBMEA request the money and then write a check to them? A discussion ensued about the fee, because the Lake Region Foundation is not individually writing checks or doing any of the financial reporting. It was suggested that their fee could be renegotiated. Jay M. Olson will ask how to handle getting their fee. The IABME committee will address how to approach the question of

renegotiating their fee. Jay M. Olson moved to approve the Treasurer's and Budget reports, Virgil Dagman seconded the motion; motion passed.

#12 Membership Secretary's Report: Virgil Dagman presented his report, found on page 5 of the Annual Report, which shows that membership was down for 2008-09. 2009-10 membership numbers will be calculated as the conference registration numbers come in. Conference registration and dues payment on the CFFM website was a problem for some conference registrants; those individuals who are registered for the conference but did not pay their dues will be contacted individually sometime between now and Thursday to ask for their membership. The problem will be worked on for next year eliminating the need to click on the recalculate button for the membership dues to be recalculated with the conference fee. Deb will send out reminders through NUTS & BOLTS for members who have not paid their dues.

#5 Industry Relations Report: John reviewed the report on page 97 of the Conference Notebook. The total of \$13,200 was actually received from sponsors, \$1,000 more than shown in the Conference Notebook report. John reviewed the donor and vendor list and their supporting donations including gifts, in-kind, and cash donations, which totaled \$19,500. John reviewed ongoing commitments and interest for future support from businesses for the next year. John would like to have someone begin working with him in the next year to develop contacts and relationships in preparation for turning industry relations over to him/her. Thanks to John for his great work!

#13 NUTS & BOLTS Co-editors' Report: Deb presented the report, found on page 95 of the Conference Notebook. Four issues of NUTS & BOLTS were published this year and are available on the website. Deb indicated that they are always looking for articles and items of interest for each issue. She will go back to including a "splash page" reminder for membership dues when she emails out the next issue.

#15 Website Report: Deb reported that she has enjoyed the time spent developing the new NFRBMEA Conference and IABME websites. It has given her a chance to make use of her educational skills and to be creative.

#16 Resource Committee Report: Deb has added counters to the Resource Library and is tracking the number of visits to each resource area. She would like links submitted for Links page of the Resource Library—currently there are none. Wayne asked about the benefit of passing out a small survey during the Tuesday business meeting asking for responses on what resources are being used and feedback on the need to continue the Resource Library. Paul suggested that efforts be made this coming year to re-energize it. Wayne will prepare a survey and rally speech for the Tuesday business meeting.

#6 IABME Report: Tom Weygandt presented his report, found on page 8 of the Annual Report. Nine people participated in the Webex online training workshops this past year. Tom is in the process of writing the report for the Bremer Foundation. He has polled the nine participants to account for the number of farms and individuals that have benefitted from the IABME training to the FBM instructors as the instructors are working with their clients/students. The final workshop will occur this week immediately following the conference. Plans for mentoring, phase 2 of IABME training, are in place and will begin, following completion of the workshop for Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota. IABME committee discussion has centered on beginning the next year with area meetings to meet new participants face to face before they meet, for the online Webex seminars. Tom will work to find time during future conferences to get together during the conference and eliminate the need to extend the conference another day for the participants. IABME provided FFSC CDs for participants, and headsets were donated, which was less money than having an 800 number for calling in on to participate in the Webex seminars.

#4 Conference Update: Jesse Schwanke reported that things are set, registration numbers are over budget, and overall the conference should come in at budget. With sponsorships being down, conference revenue will probably be down from last year but should still end in the black. Tour numbers are still out of balance but at registration Jesse the “Tour Czar” will make requests for conference attendees to change tours. Door prizes will be handled on Thursday and will be based on attendees turning in their nametags. Refunds issued to Jamie Yeager, Vic Richardson, and Everet Wollenberg were approved with motions and seconds for refunding each individual.

#17 2010 Fargo-Moorhead Conference Update: Rick Morgan reported that page 71 of the Conference Notebook has information and a tentative agenda. At the NCFMEC request, discussion is being considered for inviting the Western Farm Management Economists group to participate in the conference, which could put conference numbers at over 200. The conference planners will meet on Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM. A possible conference theme is “Food, Fuel & Energy”.

#18 National Council Report: Jay M. Olson presented his report, which appears on page 7 of the Annual Report. The Council represents all aspects of agriculture education, including FFA and FBM. They are working on a directory of agriculture education by state with funding from AgrowKnowledge to publish the directory. Jay’s term is up December 31, 2010. By next year’s conference another person should be selected for the next three-year term, which begins on January 1, 2011. The Council’s Monday Morning Monitor email news should have items from NFRBMEA programs and conferences submitted for inclusion in the weekly MMM newsletter.

#20 Retiring Officer Plaques & Conference Host Gifts: Wayne and Doug have taken care of plaques and gifts to be given out on Thursday morning during the last session.

#21 Officer Candidates: John Hobert reported on the current officer slate: Wayne Pike, President; Al Graner, President Elect; Doug is already in as Treasurer for the second year of his two-year term; Virgil Dagman is willing to continue as Membership Secretary; Dan Hoffman and Jay D. Olsen are willing to continue as Historian and Secretary, respectively. John will present candidate names at the first business meeting, Tuesday, and will accept nominations from the floor at Thursday’s business meeting prior to voting.

#22 Other Business:

- Paul reviewed the agenda for Tuesday’s business meeting; Item 14A- Resource Committee will be included with the Webmaster’s and NUTS & BOLTS Co-editor’s report and covered on Tuesday, Wayne will give his rally speech for submitting resources and distribute the survey he prepared.
- John reviewed the Past Presidents agenda and items for their meeting in room City View A.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jay D. Olsen, NFRBMEA Secretary