

**NFRBMEA Spring Board Meeting
Via Conference Call
March 21, 2012**

Meeting was called to order by President Jay D. Olsen at 8:07 a.m. CST

Those present were Jay Olsen, Doug Wertish, Jim McCuistion, Al Graner, Deb Pike, Wayne Pike, and Jim Kelm.

Minutes were posted on web site and no corrections were made. Al Graner made a motion to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Wayne Pike. Motion passed. Jim McCuistion commented that he needed to send out the request for the roll call of states in the near future.

Deb Pike, the Communications Director, reported that there are 111 members at this time compared to 140 at this time last year. There have been updates of Board minutes and Joint Board minutes to the web recently. Board members mention a couple of minor link problems on the web-site and Deb said she would look into them. Deb needs a couple of articles from the President and the Conference chair for the RTU before March 30th.

Jim Kelm suggested that a decision to stay involved in the National Council be analyzed by a group of past representatives, and these suggestions be brought before the membership to vote on at the Annual Membership meeting during Conference. President Jay will help organize this committee. A point brought forward is the matter of budgeting dues for the Council, because the budget runs from April 1st to March 30th.

Jim Kelm reported for Tom Weygandt on the IABME program. There is not much to report, but at the last meeting of the Board it was mentioned that CHS invited to have IABME members attend a special breakout session. Funding has gone into a 4th year and there was discussion of reestablishing or replacing the program with the same or new sponsor. This led to discussion on the growth and sustainability of programs and instructors for all the different states.

Jay Olsen reported on the FBM survey he conducted. The value stated farm market value of students under instruction could be 13.4 billion dollars. Wayne suggested that perhaps a need to resend the survey might be necessary.

On the agenda item of Industry Relations/Fund Raising the group was unsure of whom the leader of fundraising is, but John Hobert has previously done very much with this in the past. As was discussed at the fall meeting, an outline for a possible committee could be organized at the National Conference. Jim Kelm stated that he was not aware of any new national sponsors at this time and felt confident in acquiring enough sponsors for this year's Conference.

Nominations were made for two Distinguished Service recipients. Wayne Pike's nomination was seconded by Jim McCuistion, and Doug Wertish's nomination was seconded by Wayne.

Wayne Pike and Jim Kelm went over each line item on agenda of the Conference in Minneapolis, MN. The Conference fee is set at \$345 and motel rooms will be approximately \$127. Several items throughout the program are confirmed and there are several items left to confirm. The Board members appreciate the great effort these two individuals have put forth.

Al Graner addressed the items needed for the compilation of the Annual Report. He needs an Executive Summary from the President, a Roll Call of States from the Secretary, and perhaps a few other items. In order to organize and get ready to print, a deadline to turn these in will be May 10th.

Addressing the Conference planners, Doug Wertish again asked if there any other items the board will need to help with. Wayne and Jim feel that the progress of the Conference is going well.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 am

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McCuiston

NFRBMEA Secretary