

NFRBMEA Spring Board Meeting

April 24, 2013 • Conducted via Conference Call

The meeting was called to order by President Doug Wertish at 8:30 am CDT. Those present for the meeting were Doug Wertish, Jay Olsen, Myron Oftedahl, Jim McCuistion, Deb Pike, Jim Kelm, Jennifer Smith, and Mark Holkup.

Minutes were reviewed as posted on the website. The only minutes not posted at this time were for the combined NFRBMEA-NAFBAS board meeting from the fall of 2012. These were submitted by Anthony Barrett recently so Deb Pike read them aloud for the meeting and she will post them shortly. The minutes were approved.

The Treasurer's report was given by Myron Oftedahl. He reported that the current balance is a -\$872.14 for NFRBMEA and a positive \$10,298.54 for the IABME funds. Myron moved some savings account money to Ameriprise Financial in order to improve the interest rate on those funds. The financials of the organization were sent to the board members by email. Myron reported that he is scheduled to see Don Nitchie to complete the NFRBMEA tax return and audit.

Deb Pike reported that she emailed the Communication Director's report to the board. Membership tends to increase slightly when the conference is held in Minnesota. The Real-Time Update has been sent out three times this year: 10/15, 4/5 and 4/29. She has pruned out members who have been inactive for a period of 5 years from the membership list.

Jim Kelm joined the discussion for the IABME Committee. There is still \$10,298 left from that grant and other revenues associated with the program. Discussion centered on where we go from here. Minnesota has had problems in replacing retiring instructors due to lack of funds. Other states like ND, CO and UT have been stable but there are still fewer positions in those states to replace. There is still a need to train new instructors but the program will have to be able to move around the country to be put in place where the need arises. Jim Kelm and Doug Wertish will visit with William Nelson from CHS to inquire about their interest in funding a program of this nature. It was decided that the remaining IABME funds should be used in educating instructors as in the original intent of the funds. Jay Olsen moved and Mark Holkup seconded a motion to provide \$4000 to the 2013 National Farm Management Conference to sponsor a speaker. Motion passed.

Jennifer Smith reported on the present status of sponsors and vendors for the 2013 Conference. BASE has donated \$400, CHS \$3000, and from the motion above, IABME \$4000, for a total of \$7400. She said that John Deere is a possible substantial sponsor that might come in later. Several of the previous sponsors were discussed for consideration and Doug mentioned that we need more connections for national sponsors.

The Distinguished Service Awards and retiring office plaques for the 2013 Conference were discussed. Jay moved and Mark seconded the motion to accept all selections made by the Board. Motion was passed.

Officer nominations were brought up by Doug Wertish and several names were mentioned by all of those present. The main concern was the President-Elect position. These nominations can be worked on, up to the Annual meeting in June.

Jay D. Olsen gave a report on the progress being made for the 2014 Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, slated for June 8-12 at the Radisson Hotel. Rooms will be \$119 but the meals for activities have been reduced. The Utah group is working on tours around the Salt Lake area and Jay mentioned the possibility of an early tour, before the conference, at a large ranching operation if there is interest. They are taking suggestions for the keynote speakers that might be contacted. There is good local support for the Conference according to Jay.

Other items: Myron mentioned needing to transfer some money to the checking account, and Deb is wondering about updating the brochure that is available. A question was raised about whether anyone is using it now. She will bring up the brochure at the Pre-conference Board meeting in June.

Mark moved and Jay seconded to adjourn. It was passed at 9:46 a.m. CDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McCuiston
NFRBMEA Secretary