

NFRBMEA Spring Board Meeting

April 21, 2015--via conference call

Attendance: Jim McCuistion, Will Walter, Mark Holkup, Myron Oftedahl, Rodney Armstrong, Deb Pike

The meeting was called to order by President Jim McCuistion at 8 AM.

Adjustments to the agenda were approved. Reports were emailed to board members prior to the meeting.

Secretary's Report—Minutes from the fall board meeting and the fall NFRBMEA/NAFBAS joint meeting were reviewed. After minor corrections it was moved and seconded to approve the minutes and the secretary's report. Motion carried

Treasurer's Report—Myron presented the following reports: March 31 balance sheet, April 30 balance sheet, 2014-15 fiscal year income statement. After discussion it was moved and seconded to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Communications Director Report—Deb reported on the following:

Membership—The status of membership classes is still unclear. Since the bylaws provide for active and affiliate membership the motion from our last annual meeting to have one class of membership is likely invalid. The board will look further into resolving this matter.

Website—Updates include minutes, sponsors, an interactive calendar with important dates and conference links. It was brought up that the NAFBAS link is not working.

Nuts & Bolts—One issue was put out last fall. Deb emphasized that instructors need to submit articles if we are to continue with worthwhile quarterly issues. Real Time Updates (RTUs) will be put out as needed.

Annual Report—Deb volunteered to set up the annual report again. There was discussion on alternate printing sites.

National Council Report—Josh's report was emailed to board members.

CHS Scholarship Grant Report—Mark Holkup reported that the request for \$15,000 was approved by CHS. There have been seven applications for the scholarships to attend the national conference. One applicant has withdrawn and one will only be able to participate on a limited basis. The budgeted cost is \$1500-\$1600 per individual depending on travel costs. Late applicants are still being accepted. There is a link to the application on the website. Mark will serve as host for the group. A meeting with the scholarship group will be held on the Monday of national conference with a few other instructors to inform them about what the job of farm business management instructor involves. There was discussion on how to register them online. They will be reimbursed at the conference if requested.

2015 Conference Planning Report (Rochester, NY)—Mark Holkup—NAFBAS will be handling registration differently this year but can still be accessed online through the website. The registration page should be available in a few days. An updated agenda is needed for our website. Myron has received about \$8000 so far from conference sponsors.

2016 Conference Planning Report (Sioux Falls, SD)—Will Walter—Some delay in communications with the North Central Extension Educators group for planning. Sheraton is the first site choice. Bob Rhea

will help with negotiating. Hope to have commitments within a month. Myron reminded to check on getting a sales tax exemption from South Dakota.

Distinguished Service Award—Jim asked for nominations. A list of past award winners can be found on the website under FAQ.

Wayne Pike joined the meeting to answer any questions on his activities as conference sponsorship coordinator. His report was also emailed to the board earlier.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Our next meeting will be in Rochester, NY on June 14.

Respectfully submitted,
Rodney Armstrong, Secretary