

NFRBMEA Board Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2020 via Zoom

Attendees: Myron Oftedahl, Lori Tonak, Tina LeBrun, Deb Pike, Pauline Van Nurden

Notes:

- It was moved by Lori and seconded by Myron to approve the minutes from the 4.13.20 Board meeting that Jen previous sent. Motion passed.
- Myron recapped the joint meeting with NAFBAS from last week. He has shared a potential budget and schedule of speakers. Consensus was received from NAFBAS on planning efforts for a virtual event.
- Dates: June 17 & 18. 9 am and 2 pm sessions over the two days.
- Speakers –
 - The hope is to include another “big name” type speaker to help build drive participation. Suggestions have ranged from Farm Bureau (John Newton), to USDA (Sonny Perdue, Greg Doude (Chief Ag Negotiator), Jim Monk), ERS (Rob Johansson), a Fed rep, or other ideas. Jackson Takach (Farmer Mac) and Joe Santos (SDSU) were also suggested. Everyone is to get Myron names/contact information.
 - Hemp presentation was agreeable to all.
 - Other speakers can be finalized based on the above, with Dr. Kohl as well.
 - We will consider a fall presentation at a later date. This may be open to all. We will see how this first event goes.
- Registration fee for the virtual conference – determined \$100 was an appropriate amount to charge for the multi-session event.
- Sponsorship – Tina has sent notices out to our traditional annual sponsors. She has offered them to do a short presentation at the meetings. Deb will stand up a Sponsor page on the conference website. Sponsor logos/ads can used on presentations, in advertising, etc.
- Webinar host – AgCentric (MN Northern FBM Center) has agreed to host the event. There will be no cost. They are versed in hosting sessions like this.
 - Providing the webinar link and password after payment is the plan for attendees.
 - Sessions will be recorded. Viewing sessions also carries the same registration fee.
- Conference theme update. A suggestion from Myron, “Venture into the Unknown”.
- NFRBMEA Annual Meeting – consensus is to hold this after Dr. Kohl’s session on Thursday morning. We feel the most members will be present at that session.
 - Details to follow.
 - Lori will invite Bob Woodard (The Council Executive Director) to join our meeting. He was hoping to attend our annual conference.
 - Annual Report – everyone can begin working on their pieces of the annual report and get them to Deb. This is a recap of the year. Pieces needed for inclusion:
 - Executive Summary – Pauline
 - Financials – Myron
 - Minutes – Jen (Deb can pull these from the Web)
 - Council Update – Lori
- Speaker gifts – Myron will look at options. He plans to check out the chocolates that were given in Des Moines a few years back.
- Spring Nuts & Bolts Newsletter – feel free to send Deb articles. We will publish when the schedule is finalized for the virtual conference.

Respectfully Submitted – Pauline Van Nurden