

Summer Joint Board Meeting of NAFBAS & NFRBMEA (DRAFT) Beach House, Hilton Head Island, SC June 14, 2021

Those in attendance: Anthony Barrett (NE), Mike Harer (WI), John Jones (MI), Pauline Van Nurden (MN), Jennifer Smith (MN), Tina LeBrun (MN), Myron Oftedahl (MN), Jim McCabe (IL), Brett Goodwin (IL), Alex Medina (NE) Laura Powers (KY), Kevin Herbel (KS), Kent Vickre (IA), and Adam Kantrovich (SC). Deb Pike (MN), Kara Wulfekuhle (ND), and Curtis Mahnken (MN) attended virtually.

The meeting was called to order by Jim McCabe at 3:45 local time. The group introduced themselves around the table. Alex Medina was chosen to chair the meeting and Anthony Barrett was chosen to act as secretary. With no objections to those chosen, the meeting progressed.

Minutes from the prior were reviewed. Laura Powers made a motion to accept the minutes with noted name corrections. This was seconded by Brett Goodwin and motion carried.

Memorandum of understanding was reviewed. The number of NFRBMEA in attendance for recent conferences has dropped considerably. They know travel would be restricted for many in 2021 due to Covid and that came true. It was noted that cost to travel is always an issue and keeping the number of days for the conference is good. It was noted that keeping the conference location closer to the Midwest helps in travel costs for many attendees. The three days of virtual attendance seems to be overwhelming. We need to find way of promoting the conference to new people.

Annual Conferences: The 2021 conference is be tested with a virtual option. The early career conference is a good start test for this option as there are several attendees. The 2022 conference is carried over from 2020 that didn't happen. The dates are June 13-16, 2022, in Ft. Collins, CO. Curtis Mahnken is the lead on planning. They would like speakers lined up by the end of October and are looking for some additional members to help with planning.

2023 & 2024 conferences are exploring Michigan as a location. John Jones said possibilities of Grand Rapids or Schuss Mountain are on the table. Grand Rapids is the 2nd largest city in Michigan. Traffic is somewhat of an issue due to the city outgrowing the current infrastructure. John would prefer Schuss Mountain due to the quieter nature of the area. People could come into Traverse City and possibly even catch shuttles to the location. Myron wondered about 2024 being in Michigan since that would be a NAFBAS lead year. 2023 could maybe be Duluth, Fargo, or St. Louis.

The early career training is happening as we speak. Attendance is good. Current topics are being covered for tax and new legislation.

There were not scholarship opportunities explored this year due to the uncertain nature of Covid. We are still looking for a replacement for CHS that we lost a few years ago.

There are no requests for refunds this year that the boards need to approve.

It is encouraged that social media be used to spread word and info about the conference. Please be consistent in hashtag use etc. You can use the conference website to get conference material.

Participation with NC, West, Southern Ag Econ: Who else can we invite to participate in our conference? Curtis Mahnken can get the word out to these groups.

Participation in National Farm Income Tax Extension Committee: Adam Kantrovich is co-chair of this committee. This is a small group. Curtis stated it would be good to reach out to them sooner rather than later.

USDA Activities: Due to Covid there has not been much conversation. Bob Rhea has reached out to some contacts. NFRBMEA has not had much contact.

Fundraising/Sponsors: There is \$2,500 worth of sponsorship to date. Maybe one or two will still trickle in this week. The option of a commercial was given to sponsors and one has taken advantage of that. There is lots of room to improve in fundraising and sponsorships. This year was especially hard due to Covid. Conservis wants to sponsor but wants a speaking opportunity included with that. There question was raised about reaching out to Culvers again since they are widespread. If anyone has connections or contacts within potential sponsors let Tina LeBrun or Brett Goodwin know. Tina says they start reaching out in September every year for sponsors.

Professional Development Opportunities: The C-S corporation seminar was held two years ago with good attendance and response. The LLC & partnership basis seminar was held in 2020. A suggestion for new one is what happens with the death of a taxpayer. Another was how to unwind an operation or dissolve and entity. What other opportunities can we offer?

Farm Financial Standards Committee: We need a representative on this committee. Kevin Herbel will be attending the annual conference this year. He plans to be involved in the future. Pauline Van Nurden is on a subcommittee.

Joint Member Needs: Any additional joint programming we can do in the future is good and could maybe lead to more attendance at the annual conference.

Activities in New States: Pauline says some new states are receiving funds from USDA grants. We should maybe reach out to these states. South Carolina is new to the NAFBAS membership. Tennessee has a potential start to a new program in their state. Laura Powers wanted to know if we could reach out to these other states. We could invite them to get a feel for the conference and have a peer to meet with.

Board Member Topics: Will the fall meeting be held virtual or in person? Both groups indicated that virtual would be fine for cost, time, and Covid concerns. Jim will send out dates for input.

Kent Vickre asked about the future of the conference and being held in person, virtually, or a combination. He notes some issues of speakers not wanting to do virtual. It was agreed by all that more attendance in person is the best option. It is expected as of now that future conferences will be held in person but leave it up to the planning committee to determine if virtual is needed. It was noted that a hybrid conference involves more work and planning.

Kevin Herbel motioned to adjourn and with no opposition, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony L. Barrett
Appointed Secretary for Joint Board Meeting