

National Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Association
Spring Conference Call
April 23, 2003

President Jim Kelm called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM via conference call on Wednesday, April 23, 2003. Members present on the conference call were Jim Kelm, Al Graner, Jay Olson, Laurie Morris, Debra Pike, Wayne Pike, Tom Weygandt, Ira Beckman and Rich Baumann. Edmund Ruff was not present.

Ira Beckman moved to approve the minutes of the Fall Board meeting. Tom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Rich Baumann reported that we have a Checking balance of \$785.94 and a Money Market balance of \$16,461.07, in addition to an asset of \$1,000.00 seed money to North Dakota for a total of \$18,247.01. This is an increase of \$3,805.80 over last year's balance. No seed money has been sent to Wisconsin at this time. Dues receipts have been down with an increase in advertising income. The primary reason for the increase has been the more than \$4,000 reduction in expenditures than was budgeted. The 2003-04 budget was approved last summer. Rich will send out copies of the 2002-03 and 2003-04 budgets to the board.

Wayne Pike reported that there are presently 176 regular members, 19 associate members, and 1 lifetime member, for a total of 196 members. This compared to a total of 241 members last year. Membership should continue to increase during the year. Wayne will continue to follow up on membership. Dues collection or billing on a group basis through states was discussed. Wayne and Deb Pike reported on the feasibility of credit card payment of dues. No action was recommended at this time.

Wayne reported that the deadline for the *Nuts & Bolts* is now. Deb reported that 294 copies of the Winter issue of *Nuts & Bolts* had been sent out. Deb is attempting to make sure that all dues paying members will receive a copy, either electronic or paper. Deb also reported that there had been 6,616 web site hits. Deb will send a bill to Rich to reimburse her for payment of annual hosting fees. An e-mail will be sent including travel discounts and registration materials for the Minot conference.

Laurie Morris reported that a PowerPoint and CD would be ready for the conference in Minot.

Ira Beckman reported that the Annual Report, which ended April 1, is almost ready and that he will print 150 copies to be available at the conference. A copy will be included in each registration packet.

Al Graner reported on the updated conference agenda with no major changes. Al reported that the Governor of North Dakota was not able to attend but that both United States Senators from North Dakota will, hopefully, be able attend. Daryl Ray will be the featured speaker. Sponsorships were discussed with a goal of \$15,000 for the conference. Wells Fargo has not yet contributed as a sponsor. Monsanto is still possible sponsor. May 10 is the deadline to get materials in the conference proceedings. Jay Olson reported that he will be getting the Roll Call of States out and completed, to be included in the conference proceedings. Al also reported that liability insurance for the conference would be taken care of.

Wayne Pike reported that the Tuesday morning Business Meeting might be used for election of officers. An evening Post Conference Meeting prior to the end of the conference may then be planned.

Tom Weygandt encouraged application for First Timer's Scholarships.

Dr. Dick Joerger joined the conference call at 2:15 PM. The graduate course offering for the conference was discussed. Dr. Joerger will send a course syllabus to Al Graner that has been used in the past. Dr. Joerger reported on the Farm Business Management National Institute and a Professional Development Profile for Pre-Service and In-Service Needs Assessment. An attempt will be made to send out an Instructor Needs Assessment questionnaire prior to the conference, possibly with registration materials, to include those not in attendance at the conference.

Ira Beckman moved to provide up to \$500 to reimburse Dr. Joerger for an Instructor Needs Instrument to be sent out prior to the conference. Tom Weygandt seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A National Institute was discussed. Dr. Joerger indicated that enrollment minimums might be a problem. What Dr. Joerger called "Differentiated Instruction" might be envisioned for in-service instruction including partnerships with financial groups as well as other farm management groups. Laurie Morris suggested that the website or the *Nuts & Bolts* might be possible instruments.

Tom Weygandt has not yet received any Exchange of Ideas applications. Further Ideas are being solicited.

Al reported that a couple of First Timer Scholarships have been submitted. The First Timer's meeting will be on Tuesday. Tom will send out an e-mail on the First Timer's Scholarship.

A memorial plaque is being investigated. Eligible recipients may be former members that have made a significant contribution to the organization. This will be discussed further at the Pre-Conference Board meeting.

Distinguished Service Awards were discussed. Ira Beckman nominated an individual for the Distinguished Service Award. Tom Weygandt seconded the motion. The motion was carried. The conference committee will prepare the plaque for this award as well as officer plaques. The Treasurer is responsible for conference host plaques.

Deb Pike reported that duties of each board member are spelled out in some detail on the website.

Tom Weygandt reported that a letter was being sent to committee members that detailed some of the decisions that were made at the Fall Board meeting. Tom also reported that John Caster and the Industry Relations Committee have developed a Strategic Action Plan that will be distributed to the rest of the board. Some time will be set aside for Ira Beckman and the Past Presidents to review this at the conference in Minot. There was no report from the Membership or Resources Committees.

Rich Baumann reported that the Recruitment and Retention brochure is being prepared for print. There was a tentative budget of \$3,000 set aside for this brochure. A bid has been received from his technical college for about \$2,500 for printing 10,000 copies. Further work needs to be done on layout, pictures, and other details of the brochure. Jim Kelm will set up a time for interested persons to meet and work out some of these details and hopefully, will have a working document for the conference in Minot.

Jim Kelm reported that he has visited with Jay Jackman, executive director of NAAE, about membership on the National Council for Agricultural Education. A membership contribution of about \$1,500 may be necessary. Further discussion will be taken up in June.

Registration materials for the National NAFBAS conference have been received from James Christensen, national NAFBAS president. This year's conference will be on June 9-12 in Duluth, Minnesota. Coordination of future activities with NAFBAS is still being pursued.

Vic Richardson will complete the tax filing requirements.

The Pre-Conference Board Meeting has been set for Sunday June 8, 2003 at 9:30 AM in Minot.

Rich Baumann moved to adjourn the meeting. Ira Beckman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM on April 23, 2003.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay M. Olson, Secretary

