

Annual Fall Board Meeting Notes

September 28, 2020 • Conducted via Zoom

The meeting began at 1 pm. Members present: Lori Tonak, Myron Oftedahl, Deb Pike, Tina LeBrun, and Pauline Van Nurden; Jennifer Smith joined later. Absent: Kara Wulfekuhle and Brad Sirianni. Items discussed:

National Council: What would we like The Council to address for FBM/adult ag education? Suggestions were “Technology – what’s available, what can be used best for our work?”; “Profit maps – facilitate FBM work, potential work with FBN”.

Treasurer’s report: Kara and Myron haven’t had a chance to connect and get things switched over yet. The current DDA balance \$3,291.09. The 2020 conference profit to our organization - \$3,242.20. (1/2 of total). When the Ameriprise account renews in December – Myron suggests taking \$5,000 out to make sure there are enough funds.

Communications Director’s report: 59 dunning letters were mailed on September 11, and they were sent to individuals who have been a member in one or both of the previous two years but have not yet paid this year’s dues.

Membership numbers are behind this time last year. Currently, there are 49 Active and 6 Affiliate members, for a total of 55 members. This corresponds with 65 Active and 8 Affiliate members, for a total of 73 members in 2019-20.

Question from retired member about dues rates. Maybe confusion over “definition” of Active v. Affiliate membership resulting from the wording on membership form? \$60 (USD) Active (Current/Former FBM Educator)- has voting rights at Annual Meeting; \$30 (USD) Affiliate (NFRBMEA Supporter)- does not have voting rights. Usually, a retired member will just decide to start sending Affiliate dues on their own, which is fine. Many will continue to pay full Active dues after retirement.

The 2019-20 Annual Report was completed and emailed out mid-July. It is available on our website at www.nfrbmea.org/about_us_p4.htm. The Summer issue of *NUTS & BOLTS* was sent out towards the end of July. Deb is working on updating membership lists as dues come in. Currently 4 job positions listed on website, all for K-State.

She started development of 2021 Conference website, www.nfbm-conference.org/2021/index.html, to replace current boilerplate site, and will also start filling out a new boilerplate site for 2022 Conference as info becomes available.

Deb has been having some periodic problems with her NFRBMEA email address. The Board can also use Deb’s Gmail account to connect with her.

Sponsorship report: The 2021 planning committee has reached out to Tina; there is a new potential sponsor – Conservis. Other possibilities: Farmer’s Business Network, Farm Bureau – Tina needs contacts for a successful connection.

Conference Planning: For the 2021 Conference, there will be two tracks to the breakouts: tax and FBM. The 2022 Conference will be a triennial conference with Extension joining us. Extension will take the lead on planning for this conference. We were happy with 2020 Conference attendance. There’s a call for a virtual component to future conferences.

Other Items: Pauline will reach to state leaders on making an NFRBMEA membership pitch, the proposed schedule for newsletters is good, and goals will remain for the coming year. Myron will reach out to Dr. Wendong Zhang to try and schedule a member-only event for later this fall.

Submitted by
Pauline Van Nurden