

Minutes of the Annual Fall Board Meeting *(DRAFT)*

September 8, 2022 • Conducted via Zoom

Tina LeBrun called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

Members present were Tina LeBrun, Ron Dvergsten, Myron Oftedahl, Denise Reeser, Jennifer Smith, Deron Erickson, Debra Pike

Motion to approve the agenda made by Deron Erickson, second by Ron Dvergsten. Motion passed.

Introductions and updates were given by all members present.

Secretary's report given by Jennifer Smith was that the pre-conference and annual conference board meeting minutes were finished, but the post-conference minutes were still in process. These will be revisited at the next meeting to be held Sept 12 at 9am in St. Cloud.

Deb Pike gave the Communications Director's report. Membership is up compared with last year at this time. Dunning letters were mailed out. There are more membership checks to get to the treasurer by this next week. The NFRBMEA website is currently down. Deb is looking at different host possibilities. The new host could have two separate sites – one for the conference and one for NFRBMEA. Each site would then be charged to the correct group. Currently, NFRBMEA has been paying costs for hosting both sites.

Summer Nuts & Bolts went out on July 22, 2022. Sending emails out to people with Gmail accounts causing many bounce backs unless sent in smaller batches. Job opportunities have been posted to the website. Membership lists will be current on the new website.

Motion to approve made by Denise Reeser, second by Deron Erickson. Motion passed.

Deron Erickson gave the National Council report. The council focus since Dr. Woodard resigned from the National FFA Advisor job last May, has been on updating that position description and filling that job. There are 5 applicants for the position, 4 will be interviewed, and Deron will be flying out Oct. 2-5 for a meeting and final interviews. Melissa Redig was hired as Director of the National Council. Deron has met with her and explained what NFRBMEA is about. The hope is to go back to more in person meetings with the council. Items to share with the new hire would be to share the importance of legislative items that impact FBM and that could potentially bring back more FBM instructors in states across the nation that have had reductions. Also, discussion about the goal of Ag Centric to become a national training center for FBM. The Farm Bill and importance and connections to FBM was brought up as a discussion item also.

Motion to approve the National Council Report made by Myron Oftedahl, second by Ron Dvergsten, Motion passed.

Denise Reeser shared Conference Sponsorship update. Denise has been learning from Tina and working on a letter to the past, present, and future potential sponsors. Checking to be sure to have the correct conference website address to direct sponsors to. The goal is to look for more National Sponsors as well as the local sponsors. Anyone who has contacts please share with Denise as it helps tremendously to have a contact person.

Motion to approve made by Deron Erickson, second by Myron Oftedahl. Motion Passed.

Recruitment to NFRBMEA is going to have a booth at the State Fall FBM Conference in St. Cloud. Goal is to recruit more members, and find out from members how to get them to attend the national conference. There will be a form at the booth for new members to fill out, and can pay dues right there to our treasurer, Jeff Schultz. Tina will present where the conference will be held this June, explain the hotel and location. Discussed how group payments are a way to get more membership dues paid.

Denise Reeser made motion to approve recruitment report, second by Myron Oftedahl. Motion passed.

General update by Tina LeBrun on why having a meeting today to be prepped for our meeting to be held on the 12th of September. Goal is to plan for the booth and for meeting with William Nelson on Monday at the meeting. Tina explained who William Nelson is, and why we are meeting with him.

MOU discussion was held with NAFBAS on July 15, 2022. People at the meeting were from NFRBMEA, Jeff Schultz, Myron Oftedahl, Tina LeBrun, and from NAFBAS, Jim McCabe, Chelsea Plummer, and Laura. It seemed like a positive meeting, with both sides having a good open discussion. It was discussed about the revenue from conference as the 50/50 split and why it has been that way. The behind the scenes work and costs that NFRBMEA contribute factor into the split. A new proposal for a revenue split is 25% NFRBMEA, 25% NAFBAS, and 50% split based on membership attendance from each group.

In the MOU discussion, the conference planning committee, communication gaps, pathway tracks for conference planning template, and setting up a job description for the registration paid position were discussed. Myron has requested a draft copy of the MOU from Jim McCabe but has not received it yet.

The location for 2023 conference is to be determined yet, but the room rates, location, and dates for 2022 conference are set.

Motion to approve MOU report made by Deron Erickson, second by Myron Oftedahl.

2022 conference report given by Myron Oftedahl. He is working on treasurer transfer. He did finally receive a detailed billing from Hilton Head Conference in 2021. Have not seen survey results from the membership at the end of the conference yet from 2022. It is very important to have a conference treasurer to double check billing and watch for errors as they occur.

Motion to approve by Ron Dvergsten, second by Deron Erickson. Motion passed.

Professional development series- Tina's goal is to have a handout by Monday on the series, but that may not happen. Only concrete date we have is Oct. 26th at 11am for ARM to present about interest rates. Other possible topics and speakers brought up were Lee Hanson on transition, Tax planning, and working with NDSU on sharing webinar series that Ron & Josh have connections with. A discussion was had about bringing back a document library. There used to be one, but it was gotten rid of because no one wanted to contribute to it.

Submitted by

Jennifer Smith, NFRBMEA Secretary