

NACAA

National Association of County Agricultural Agents



National Association of County Agricultural Agents Board of Directors Conference Call March 10, 2006

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Call to Order

President Mickey Cummings called the conference call meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. EST.

Members present were: Mickey Cummings, Chuck Otte, Fred Miller, Chuck Schwartau, Leon Church, Glenn Rogers, Jim Riddell, Stan Moore, Dave Myers, Sandy Macnab, and Gary Hall.

Scott was unable to attend as he had promised his son that he would take him to the state basketball tournament if the local high school team went. He felt sure it wouldn't happen but it did.

Donor Report

Chuck Otte, President-Elect had sent an email to us reporting what has been donated. Basically most of last year's donors are back on line. We are currently with cash and compensation at a total of \$91,900. More letters are out to contacts so we are still working to increase this total. There is a proposal out with Farm Bureau and one out with Tractor Supply. We are expecting to crack \$100,000. The Trimble folks say they are concerned with the number of requests and may not be able to do the County Agent contribution. Mickey suggests we recontact them and mention that states will not be contacting them, so this concern may not be valid.

Mickey would like to see something such as a presentation on Avian Influenza from the poultry industry. Fred Miller asked – is it ok to share this information with council chairs? The answer is yes. Glenn Rogers will share his calling card collection with Chuck and Fred for future reference. Chuck Schwartau -- Wells Fargo – he has visited with some of his local people, what kinds of things could they do? Mickey – suggested

Farm and Ranch Financial Management for Wells Fargo. Fred Miller– if money is looking for a home, Tom Benton has stated that a GIS program needs money and has no funding at this time.

Update of Facilities

Mickey Cummings– shared that he has an excel spread sheet from Brittany Edelson, Facilities Co-Chair, this is a listing of room needs. At this time we have, Communications Committee – 3 requests, 4-H Committee – 2 requests, Annual Banquet, Scholarship Committee has 3 requested rooms, Teaching Education Technology - 4, Gary Hall - Policy Committee, 1, Aquaculture Committee, Administrative Skills Committee, Neil Broadwater, and Voting Delegates Breakfast. Mickey will send this spread sheet to the board. Mickey asked that if you are responsible for requesting a room please make the contacts. The meals letter was sent out last week. The same goes for this request. Mickey – Hospitality rooms will be in the convention center. The Convention Center will not cost states hosting hospitality since we already have this facility booked. The Hotel suites are expensive plus the hotel will not allow alcohol to be brought in to these rooms. Specialty items can be brought in. Food items in sample sizes can also be brought by the hosting state. States may want to go together to host a cash bar, there will be charges for the bartender. We need to work with Chris Penrose who is in charge of hospitality. Scott Hawbaker has sent this information to state presidents. If there are questions in regards to the hospitality arrangements talk to Scott or Chris.

Update on Award and Committee Applications

Fred Miller – we need help, we are not getting committee applications in very rapidly. Most of the applications are coming in from the south; we need help from the other three regions. Very few have come in at this point. Fred and the Council Chairs will meet via conference call on April 2 to review applications and identify holes where applications are needed. Please encourage folks to make application. There was some confusion on the date whether March 10 or March 15. More applications may be coming after the 15th due to this confusion. The Professional Improvement Council Chair position, Tom Benton's current position, is open. We have two applications in for this position, Tom Benton, TX and Barry Foushee, NC. Fred asked the board to make the decision on this position, since he is from NC and Michael Heimer is from Texas, thus leaving only Neil Broadwater to make a recommendation. The board will make this decision at the Spring Board Meeting. Russell Duncan, Chair Agronomy Committee has expressed concern that there will not be much attendance at the agronomy CEU event, due to cost of attending which was set by the Board. He also asked not to have a formal time for the break on Tuesday afternoon; Mickey stated that there will not be a break so the workshops will end sooner. The plan is to end by 4:15 pm. This has been done to accommodate State's night out.

AM/PIC Update

Mickey Cummings – we have secured the services of Eric Horner for Sunday night. Eric a friend of Doug Wilson, is going to provide music that will include southern, gospel and patriotic. He will also be writing a song about the County Agents. Testimonials will be on the program with music in between testimonials. Focus of AM/PIC will be on the heritage of County Agents. Saxby Chambliss has been asked to speak, but will not commit until April. Wayne Dollar, President of Farm Bureau has been asked to be a

speaker. Farm Bureau has been a big supporter of NACAA for a long time. On Thursday, Frank McGill, will be the capstone speaker. Frank won the Service to American Agriculture Award when the meeting was in Georgia. He will speak about the past, present and future of extension. Mickey wants folks to leave our meeting feeling good about what they are doing and about their jobs. We have not secured all of the Trade Talk presentations as of yet. Chuck Schwartau suggests we ask all of the speakers to talk about the future; we don't want this to sound like a eulogy. Glenn Rogers asked about the Futuring Committee and what the situation might be. Mickey stated that he is to be given that report on the 23rd of March. Mickey will send this material out to the board so we have the information prior to spring board meeting. Most of the speakers are not going to cost us very much money. We are trying to get Orion Samuelsson to come to this year's AM/PIC and interview county agents. Glenn Rogers talked about his experience with Orion this past winter at the Outstanding Young Farmer Conference in Moline, IL. While at the conference Orion taped programs for his television show. Glenn discussed NACAA with Orion and thinks it would be a great idea if he would attend our AM/PIC. Glenn stated that OYF must have paid him; we will have to give him some money/expenses to get him to attend. It was strongly agreed that we should try to have Orion attend; Thursday would be the best day to attend the DSA Banquet and maybe interview the Hall of Fame Winners. Orion is a past winner of the Service to American Agriculture Award from NACAA. Mickey will contact Orion inviting him to attend the 2006 AM/PIC.

Hall of Fame Award Update

Mickey Cummings and Fred Miller have been in contact with Allan Galloway, Chair Awards and Recognition Committee. Fred thanks the board for their input on the awards/plagues; ultimately it is up to the Vice President to decide on what is the award. The Hall of Fame Award will be a bit of a hybrid of the retiring officer's plaques. This will be a shield type plaque, slightly smaller than the retiring officers, but a little larger than the DSA plaque. Cost of the plaques will be \$45 to \$50. Mickey Cummings promoted to all states and encouraged them to all have an application, during the recent Regional Workshops. It looks like we will receive applications from all regions.

Candidate Updates

Vice President – Arizona, is offering Rick Gibson and Washington is putting up Janet Schmidt. Mickey asked Sandy Macnab to approach candidates and have them send paper work in to Secretary as per policy, as soon as possible. Dues from states with a candidate who are not paid or are delinquent, what happens? It is up to the board as to whether they want to allow the candidates to go forward. Gary will look into this issue and email all with the results. This email will be attached to these minutes. We need to lean on the two states to have their dues in, since both Arizona and Washington are late this year. Sandy will contact these states to strongly encourage them to get there dues in by March 15.

Two candidates have expressed interest in the Treasurers position, candidates from Kansas and Missouri are strongly considering their run for the position.

Spring Board

Mickey Cummings will get with John Dorner to get started with WIKI by putting the agenda there for the board input. Mickey suggested that if you haven't purchased your

ticket to Denver get it and send Scott your arrival time. Mickey brought up travel vouchers – we need to be realistic and request what we spend, don't just put down \$30 for meals since that is what is allowed. Policy manual states that we reimburse for actual expenses. Let's be reasonable and keep the trust of our membership. It is understandable that some days we spend more than the \$30 and some days less than that. Let's make sure we do the right thing. A fiscal committee meeting will be held at spring board meeting. One item that that we need to discuss is the big increase will be travel expenses. Airline costs are going up for all locations; additionally we upped the mileage by 20% earlier this year. Stan Moore asked that if Mickey finds a problem with his vouchers please address me directly, I want to know up front. Mickey said he would. Mickey had talked to Jamie Jenkins and was expressing how he had saved NACAA money on the Saturday Night function. Jamie said he wasn't sure since the board would probably turn in their expenses anyway. Something we didn't think about. We may want to not turn in this expense in on our vouchers. This will be addressed later.

Mickey asked that we all please participate in the WIKI discussion on the agenda for spring board meeting next week. Scott Hawbaker and Leon will work with Denver Convention and Visitors Bureau to develop a spouse's tour.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon J. Church, Secretary
National Association of County Agricultural Agents