

NAAE Region VI Conference
Business Meeting Minutes
6/26/08

The NAAE Region VI Conference Business Meeting was called to order by Region VI Vice-President Ken Couture at 10:40AM at Jefferson High School in Shenandoah Junction, WV

Joe Linthicum (MD) moved to adopt the agenda with flexibility. Seconded by Aaron Geiman, (MD). Motion passed.

Rick Martineau (NH) moved to adopt the NAAE National Convention Region VI Business Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Krista Pontius (PA). Motion passed.

Ken Couture welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked the West Virginia Association of Vocational Agriculture Educators for hosting the conference.

Next, Ken discussed how important it is for members to complete the Letter of Appreciation forms. Also, Ken urged all state leaders to submit the dates of their conference to him as quickly as possible.

Ken introduced Dr. Jay Jackman, NAAE Executive Director.

Dr. Jackman brought greeting on behalf of the NAAE Board. He identified 3 areas the Board is focusing on this year. The 3 areas are;

- 1) Teacher recruitment and retention
- 2) Agricultural Education Advocacy Strategy
- 3) Professional Development

Dr. Jackman encouraged members to visit the NAAE website and register for the Community of Practice. He also identified the Legal Action link as a powerful tool to use in promoting local Ag programs.

Dr. Jackman introduced Ms. Cindy Green as his summer Ag Education Advocacy intern.

Ken introduced Mr. David Miller, Eastern Region National FFA Alumni Vice-President.

Mr. Miller addressed the issue of starting a FFA Alumni chapter. He said Alumni chapters serve an important role in supporting local FFA chapters.

Ken then moved to Issues and Concerns.

First, Ken asked for members to serve on Regional Committees at the National Convention. Anyone interested in serving need to contact Ken as soon as possible.

Next, Ken introduced Mr. Kevin Keith, National FFA LPS Specialist.

Kevin gave us an update on the “10x15” Long Range Goal for Agricultural Education initiative. He explained that the National Quality Program Standards for Secondary Agricultural Education were released recently. Also the Content Standards should be released this fall. Kevin said the FFA In-Service next year will be run by “The Council”. Kevin reported that the price of an FFA jacket will be going up in September and changes have been made to the requirements to earn National FFA degree.

Ken announced that the NAAE budget sheets can be found in the member’s conference folders. He also reported that any member interested in running for Regional Secretary must fill out the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) form. The forms are to be submitted to the NAAE office.

State President Reports

West Virginia – Jeremy Greene thanked everyone for coming to the conference.

Virginia – Darryl Holland reported that their summer conference will be held July 14-17 at Virginia Tech.

Maryland – Mike Harrington reported that a new Ag Ed. Program has been established at the University of Maryland College Park campus. Also the MD Ag Teachers conference will be held July 8-11 in Hagerstown, MD.

New Jersey – Frank Yesalavich reported they have elected new officers. Frank announced the State Agriculture Department was saved. A Professional Development Day has been scheduled for August.

New Hampshire – Rick Martineau reported they have new officers and an increase in membership.

Connecticut – Patrick Keefe reported that they will have a teachers meeting in August.

Pennsylvania – Gretchen Dingman reported that their summer conference will be held July 14-17.

Ken reminded the members about the early bird registration special for the National NAAE Convention. This year’s convention will be in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Next year’s Region VI Conference will be held in Plymouth, MA. The dates being considered are 6/21-23 and 6/28-30/09.

Ken announced the following award winners for Region VI;

Ideas Unlimited – Aaron Geiman (MD)

Outstanding Service Citation- Gerald W. Reickard (PA)

Outstanding Cooperation Award – Dr. John Hillison (VA)

Lifetime Achievement Award – O. Beverly Roller (VA)

Committee Reports

Member Services Committee – Gretchen Dingman reported the members of the committee discussed what to do with the money saved from the discontinued production of the pocket diaries. The committee members suggested two possible proposals; 1) use the money to reduce new member’s dues, and 2) use the money to assist award winners in traveling to the national convention.

All other committees reported support for the strategies identified by the NAAE Committees.

Ken said these reports will be sent to the NAAE Board. The Board will meet in July.

There was no new business to discuss.

Again Ken thanked the West Virginia teachers for their outstanding efforts in organizing the conference.

Joe Linthicum (MD) moved to adjourn. Seconded by Frank Yesalavich. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Harrington
NAAE Region VI Secretary