Minutes
NAAE Board of Directors
Meeting
May 21, 2025

The NAAE Board of Directors conducted a board of directors meeting virtually on May 21, 2025. Board members in attendance included: Bill Newsom (TN), President; Cameron Dale (OK), President-Elect; Kyle Stapleton (ID), Region I Vice President; Lauren Emerson (LA), Region II Vice President; Paul Aarsvold (MN), Region III Vice President; John Hammond (KY), Region IV Vice President; Nelson McCracken (GA), Region V Vice President; Aaron Geiman (MD), Region VI Vice President; and Alissa Smith (KY), NAAE Chief Executive Officer.

The minutes of the meeting are as follows:

1. **Call to Order** –President Bill Newsom called the board meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21, 2025.

2. **Approve Meeting Agenda –** Kyle Stapleton moved, Paul Aarsvold seconded, to approve the meeting agenda with flexibility. Motion carried.

3. **NAAE Membership Report** – Alissa Smith provided an unofficial membership report and will provide an official report at the July Board meeting at the end of the month. Alissa reported that we have surpassed over 10,000 members but still have several states who have not submitted all of their membership for the year. The membership year ends June 30, 2025.

4. **CEO Update** – Alissa Smith provided a report on the staff and the most recent All-In Meeting with staff as well as FFA Foundation meetings and upcoming professional development institutes and regional meetings this summer.

5. **NAAE Financial Report** – Alissa Smith reported on the 2024 Independent NAAE Audit report and provided the Board the official report. Alissa also provided an overview of the final end of the year financial compilations. The reports are both available to members on our NAAE website under the Resource section.

6. **NAAE Dues Increase Proposal** – John Hammond updated the Board on the work of the NAAE Financial Review committee. John shared that the committee felt very comfortable with at the minimum of $25 but felt that more may be needed to sustain the organization. The $25 increase would just get us to where we can operate in accordance with our programs right now. Kyle Stapleton shared that Region I discussed the proposal in length at the Region I conference and felt that the organization needed to increase the professional liability and job protection benefits for its members. Kyle reported that Region I teachers felt that an increase of $55 that would include $1 million dollars in professional liability and job protection benefits. The $30 would cover the professional liability and job

protection benefits and $25 would go to the organization. The NAAE Board agreed to have each region discuss the two possibilities to see what the members felt at the regional meetings this summer and come back in September to make a final decision.

7. **Regional Conference Date** – Kyle Stapleton and Aaron Geiman gave a quick update from there 2025 conferences and the remaining Regional Vice Presidents were given the opportunity to ask question or finalize items.

8. **Old/New Business –** Alissa discussed award application submission issues had been worked through so all members were able to submit their award and be eligible.

9. **Adjournment** – With no further business to be transacted at this time, Nelson McCracken moved, Lauren Emerson seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m. Eastern time.