

**Minutes**  
**NAAE Board of Directors Meeting**  
**February 1, 2, and 4, 2006**

The NAAE Board of Directors conducted a board meeting on February 1, 2, and 4, 2006 at the Hilton Downtown Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana. Members of the board who were present for the meeting included: Allan Sulser (UT), President; Lee James (MS), President Elect; Kevin Fochs (MT), Region I Vice President; Tom Hofmann (NE), Region III Vice President; Harold Eckler (MO), Region IV Vice President; Ray Nash (MS), Region V Vice President; and Sally Shomo (VA), Region VI Vice President; and Dr. Wm. Jay Jackman (KY), NAAE Executive Director. Kathy Conerly (LA), Region II Secretary, attended the board meeting filling in for Dr. Bill Hunter (KS), Region II Vice President. Samantha Alvis (KY), NAAE Associate Executive Director, also attended the meeting.

The minutes of the meeting are as follows:

**Wednesday, February 1, 2006**

1. **Call to Order** – President Allan Sulser called the board meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.
2. **Reflections and Pledge to the Flag** – Lee James presented reflections and Kevin Fochs led the group in the Pledge to the United States Flag.
3. **Approval of the Agenda** – Kevin Fochs moved, Lee James seconded, to approve the agenda with flexibility. The motion carried.
4. **Approval of Minutes** – Lee James moved, Tom Hofmann seconded, to approve the minutes from the 2005 NAAE Convention including the following sets of minutes: December 6, 2005 Pre-convention Board Meeting, December 7, 2005 Convention Board Meeting, December 10, 2005 Post-convention Board Meeting, and December 7 and 10, 2005 Convention Business Meeting.
5. **Board and Staff Reports** – Allan Sulser asked each board and staff member to present a brief report of their NAAE activities since the 2005 NAAE Convention in Kansas City.
6. **Membership Update** – Staff presented the current membership report. It was agreed to add state agricultural educator baseline data collection to the NAAE Professional State Association application (such as number of ag teachers per state).
7. **NAAE Employee Health Insurance Benefits** – As requested by the board at the December 10, 2005 Post-convention Board Meeting, Jay Jackman presented options for a health insurance benefit for full-time NAAE employees. Harold Eckler moved, Tom Hofmann seconded, beginning March 1, 2006 for NAAE to add a

health insurance benefit for full-time employees who choose one of the University of Kentucky health plan options equal to the “employee only” benefit offered to University of Kentucky employees. The motion carried. The current benefit amount per full-time employee per month will be \$332.

- 8. Summer 2006 NAAE Board Meeting** – Kevin Fochs moved, Ray Nash seconded, to hold the Summer 2006 NAAE Board Meeting in the Washington, DC metropolitan area during July 20-22, 2006 with July 19 and July 22, after 12:00 Noon, as travel dates. The motion carried.
- 9. Upper Division Scholarships** – Kevin Fochs moved, Lee James seconded, that NAAE offer fifteen (15) \$700 scholarships in 2006. The motion carried.
- 10. NAAE Member Relief Fund** – the board discussed possible ways to set-up the relief fund. The details were referred to the Member Services committee.
- 11. Finance Committee Meeting** – Harold Eckler, Board Finance Committee Chair, conducted the Finance Committee meeting. Justin Kliewer, Oklahoma, Full Finance Committee Chair, joined the meeting via conference call.
- 12. 2006 FFA Convention** – The board discussed plans for the 2006 FFA Convention. The NAAE board sleeping room block will be in the downtown Indianapolis area. The board did not suggest any changes in the NAAE activities at the convention.
- 13. 2006 NAAE Regional Conference Assignments** – Allan Sulser made the following assignments for 2006 regional conferences: Region I – Allan Sulser; Region II – Allan Sulser; Region III – Jay Jackman; Region IV – Lee James; Region V – Lee James; and Region VI – Allan Sulser.

*President Allan Sulser recessed the board meeting from 11:55 a.m. until 1:10 p.m. for a lunch break.*

- 14. Policy and Bylaws Committee Meeting** – Kathy Conerly, Acting Board Policy and Bylaws Committee Chair, conducted the Policy and Bylaws Committee meeting. Cherie Hofmann, Indiana, Full Policy and Bylaws Committee Chair, joined the meeting via conference call.
- 15. Executive Session** – Lee James moved, Harold Eckler seconded, to go into executive session. The motion carried. (The executive session was conducted from 1:40 p.m. until 2:10 p.m.)
- 16. Marketing Committee Meeting** – Sally Shomo, Board Marketing Committee Chair, conducted the Marketing Committee meeting.
- 17. Public Policy Committee Meeting** – Tom Hofmann, Board Public Policy Committee Chair, conducted the Public Policy Committee meeting. Bill Waldrep,

Georgia, Full Public Policy Committee Chair, joined the meeting via conference call.

18. **Republic of Georgia** – Jay Jackman reported on his upcoming travels (March 2006 following the ACTE National Policy Seminar) to the Republic of Georgia as part of a University of Kentucky College of Agriculture delegation that is working on developing agricultural education in that emerging democracy.
19. **2006 NAAE Convention Discussion** – The board began a discussion regarding the 2006 NAAE Convention. The discussion was delayed due to the committee meeting schedule.
20. **Member Services Committee Meeting** – Ray Nash, Board Member Services Committee Chair, conducted the Member Services Committee meeting. Kevin Kremer, Ohio, Full Member Services Committee Chair, joined the meeting via conference call.
21. **2006 NAAE Convention Discussion** (continued) – The board agreed to check on the possibilities of a Tuesday golf tournament if the Georgia Association can arrange and manage it. The pre-convention board meeting will be on Tuesday, even if a golf tournament is arranged. There will be no off-site tours on Tuesday.

*President Allan Sulser recessed the board meeting for the day at 5:00 p.m.*

#### **Thursday, February 2, 2006**

1. **Call to Order** – President Allan Sulser called the board meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. **Reflections and Pledge to the Flag** – Tom Hofmann presented reflections and Allan Sulser led the group in the Pledge to the United States Flag.
3. **2006 NAAE Convention Theme** – The board discussed ideas for a theme for the 2006 convention. One suggestion was “NAAE – The Next Step.”
4. **Agricultural Education’s Growth Goal and Discussion of Teacher Education in Agriculture** – The board had a discussion about the goal to have 10,000 quality agricultural education programs in the United States by the year 2015. It was agreed that teacher education will play a very important role in achieving this goal.
5. **Professional Growth Committee Meeting** – Kevin Fochs, Board Professional Growth Committee Chair, conducted the Professional Growth Committee meeting. Micah Bristow, Missouri, Full Professional Growth Committee Chair, joined the meeting via conference call.

6. **Public Policy Committee Report** – Tom Hofmann presented the Public Policy Committee report. Kevin Fochs moved, Sally Shomo seconded, to adopt the Public Policy Committee report as presented. The motion carried.
7. **Member Services Committee Report** – Ray Nash presented the Member Services Committee report. Lee James moved, Tom Hofmann seconded, to adopt the Member Services Committee report as presented. The motion carried.
8. **Professional Growth Committee Report** – Kevin Fochs presented the Professional Growth Committee report. Tom Hofmann moved, Sally Shomo seconded, to adopt the Professional Growth Committee report as presented. The motion carried.
9. **Strategic Planning Committee Meeting** – Lee James, Board Strategic Planning Committee Chair, conducted the Strategic Planning Committee meeting. Ann Ronning, Montana, Full Strategic Planning Committee Chair, was present for the meeting.

*President Allan Sulser recessed the board meeting from 12:00 p.m. until 5:35 p.m. for a lunch break and the opening session of the National Agricultural Education Inservice.*

10. **Strategic Planning Committee Report** – Lee James presented the Strategic Planning Committee report. Ray Nash moved, Kevin Fochs seconded, to adopt the Strategic Planning Committee report as presented. The motion carried.
11. **Marketing Committee Report** – Sally Shomo presented the Marketing Committee report. Lee James moved, Tom Hofmann seconded, to adopt the Marketing Committee report as presented. The motion carried.
12. **Finance Committee Report** – Harold Eckler presented the Finance Committee report. Kevin Fochs moved, Tom Hofmann seconded, to adopt the Finance Committee report as presented. The motion carried.
13. **Policy and Bylaws Committee Report** – Kathy Conerly presented the Policy and Bylaws Committee report. Ray Nash moved, Sally Shomo seconded, to adopt the Policy and Bylaws Committee report as presented. The motion carried.
14. **Executive Session** – Kevin Fochs moved, Harold Eckler seconded, to go into executive session. The motion carried. (The executive session was conducted from 5:58 p.m. until 6:22 p.m.)
15. **Executive Director Contract** – Harold Eckler moved, Lee James seconded, to offer to rehire Jay Jackman as NAAE Executive Director with a three percent increase in base salary. The motion carried.

*President Allan Sulser recessed the board meeting for the day at 6:25 p.m.*

**Saturday, February 4, 2006**

1. **Call to Order**—NAAE President Allan Sulser called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.
2. **Discussion Regarding Lieutenant General Russel Honore’s Interest in Agricultural Education**—Jeri Omernik has interviewed LTG Honore, a 1971 aged graduate of Southern University and A&M College, and the commander of the military clean-up operation in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina. The board agreed to continue the conversation with General Honore to see how we can involve him with school-based agricultural education.
3. **NAAE’s Adopt a Program Initiative**—The NAAE board expressed its desire to continue the Adopt a Program initiative to provide the opportunity for aged programs to continue to assist aged programs that were adversely impacted by the hurricanes of 2005 in the Gulf Coast region.
4. **Member Services Committee**—The Member Services Committee Meeting was opened again for the purpose of reconsidering the action taken earlier regarding the NAAE Crisis Fund. The actions taken, recorded in the Member Services Committee Report, were to bring the NAAE Crisis Fund more in line with the intentions of the Member Service Committee members’ intentions from the 2005 NAAE Convention in Kansas City.
5. **Kentucky Unemployment Commission Registration** – Not-for-profit organizations that are designated by the Internal Revenue Service as 501(c)(3) organizations, such as NAAE, have the option to be “reimbursable” organizations for unemployment claims, meaning that they do not have to pay quarterly premiums to the unemployment commission and that they simply reimburse the unemployment commission for legitimate unemployment payment claims. A former NAAE employee has filed an unemployment claim. To register with the unemployment commission and respond to this claim, NAAE must either begin to pay quarterly unemployment premiums or elect to become a “reimbursable” organization for unemployment claims. Since NAAE is an organization with a small staff and unemployment claims are extremely rare, the NAAE accountant has recommended that NAAE elect to become a reimbursable organization with the unemployment commission. Kathy Conerly moved, Harold Eckler seconded, for NAAE to become a reimbursable organization with the unemployment commission. The motion carried.
6. **Adjournment** – With no further business to be transacted at this NAAE Board of Directors meeting, Ray Nash moved, Tom Hofmann seconded, to adjourn this meeting. The motion carried. This meeting of the NAAE Board of Directors was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.