

# Minutes

National Rural Education Association

Delegate Assembly

October 17, 2014

4:00 PM

**Point of Order:** 25 Delegates were certified by the Delegate Assembly Credentials Committee

- 1.1 Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 4:03 PM CT by President Gerald Thorne
- 1.2 President Thorne designated Jerry Cochran as the parliamentarian.
- 2.0 A motion to approve the agenda was made by Jimmy Cunningham and seconded by Don Rogers. The motion passed unanimously.
- 3.0 NREA Committee Reports
  - 3.1 Awards and Recognition Committee- Larry John reported the Awards Committee will focus on the Exemplary Practices and Outstanding Services awards next year.
  - 3.2 Convention Advisory/Selection Committee – The 2015 meeting will be held in St. Louis. Locations for 2016 and 2017 are still under consideration.
  - 3.3 Committee for Diversity –

1.0 2014 ANNUAL CONFERENCE - NEARLY 400  
PROFESSIONAL SESSIONS SCHEDULED DEAL WITH SOME  
SORT OF TOPIC WHICH INCLUDES DIVERSITY.

2.0

- 2.1 A. PANEL DISCUSSION - "COPING WITH A DIVERSE  
GROUP OF STUDENTS"  
(GERRI HAS AN IDEA FROM NEBRASKA'S EXAMINE)
- B. WEBINAR W/ PRESENTER ON DIVERSE WORK IN  
SMALL + RURAL SCHOOLS. INVITE NREA MEMBERS  
TO TAKE PART + SHARE WITH ~~OTHER~~ OTHERS
- C. DEMOGRAPHIC KEYNOTE W/ DEMOGRAPHIC CHALLENGES RURAL  
INTO A GREATER DIVERSE COMMUNITY - FOLLOW UP  
PANEL DISCUSSION ON HOW EXAMPLE DISTRICTS ARE  
CHALLENGING / COPING. DEMOGRAPHY - STEVE MURDOCK, RICE UNIV.

2.1 CONTINUED

- D. FIND + SEE HOW A VIDEO CREATED BY  
USDOE RURAL DROPOUT GRANT MIGHT BE  
SHARED. SPEAKER ON THIS TOPIC MIGHT  
BE MIKE ARNOLD (SEE GERRI @ CONTACT)

2.2

PHONE CONF:

FEB, 2015	FIRST	10:00 AM (CENTRAL)
MAY, 2015	FRIDAY	
SEPT, 2015		
NOV, 2015		

2.3

RECOMMEND CHANGE TO NREA (P. 5 IN CONF.  
BOOK)

"WE BELIEVE..... STATEMENTS

1<sup>ST</sup> ITEM - REMOVE: "SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUND"

REPLACE WITH: "SOCIAL, LINGUISTIC,

AND CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS .....

### 3.4 Editorial Advisory Committee

National Rural Education Association  
Editorial Advisory Board Minutes

October 16, 2014

San Antonio, Texas

The Editorial Advisory Board Meeting began at 1:00pm after the arrival of all Board Members. Representatives present from NREA and the Editorial Board included: Dr. John Hill, Executive Director, Jody Isernhagen, Chair of the Editorial Board, and Board Members: Mike Boone, Patti Chance, Scott Ferrin, Pat Hardre, Hobart Harmon, Shu Yuan Lin, and Sandra Watkins. Heather Duncan, Editor was unable to attend.

A welcome was provided by Jody Isernhagen, Chair. Additions to the agenda were requested and hearing none, Jody asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2014 Board Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. Hobart made a motion to approve the minutes and Scott seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Jody then shared that Heather Duncan, Editor of the Rural Educator, would be stepping down from her position after the next copy of the journal was completed in December and we would be in need of a new editor. The Editorial responsibilities were outlined. The committee was informed of a request for a new Editor and possible interested candidates were encouraged to notify the Chair of the Editorial Board as soon as possible of their interest. The Editorial requirements for the journal were discussed with the committee and Jody encouraged those that were interested to apply. Pat Hardre indicated that she may be interested and would talk to her Dean about the possibility. Jody indicated that they should have graduate assistant support, a possible contract with a publishing company, and support of their college to be awarded the contract with NREA.

Scott Ferrin indicated that his institution considered, The Rural Educator, to be a Tier I Journal and this was an excellent opportunity for any institution that might be interested. Jody reiterated that currently we must maintain both a paper copy as libraries still desire a paper cover, however, the earlier discussion from the Advisory Board indicated that we wanted to move to an online journal format as soon as possible due to lower costs and easier accessibility.

There was discussion about the possibility of an Editor and associate editors working together from different institutions to help lighten the work load and ensure that the quality of the journal continued to be excellent. Jody indicated that first we need a new Editor and then we could try to recruit Associate Editors to work with the Editor to lighten the workload.

Following this discussion, the Board turned to examining a listing of suggested articles based on Dissertations and Thesis identified from the 2014 year by Scott Ferrin as well as topics discussed with Board members during the March, 2014 meeting in Phoenix. Each of the topics was examined.

### 3.5 Legislative committee

Those present: Ray Patrick, Jon Habben, Phil Gerik, Jason Bell, Jimmy Cunningham, Barb Havlicek, Gerald Thorne, Jerry White, Don Rogers, Scott Turney, and John Hill

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM ET by interim chairperson, Ray Patrick.
2. A motion to select Ray Patrick as chairperson was made by Jerry White and seconded by Don Rogers. The motion passed unanimously.
3. A motion to select Jimmy Cunningham as vice chairperson was made by Jerry White and seconded by Phil Gerik. The motion passed unanimously.
4. A motion to select John Hill as secretary was made by Jerry White and seconded by Scott turney. The motion passed unanimously.
5. A motion to adjourn was made by Jimmy Cunningham and seconded by Gerald Thorne. The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 PM ET

### 3.6 Membership Committee

Meeting called to order 4:00 pm

Bob Anderson

Jerry Cochran

Alicia Nye

1. Talked about cost to members
2. state Directors to be active
3. How members are recruited
4. How members are there total?
5. what do we have to offer
6. How can we increase National and local & state coverage.
7. Took unpaid members off Books.

3.7 Nominations and Elections Committee

3.7.1 Nomination for 2014-2015 Officers

3.7.1.1 Proposed Slate from the Nominations and Elections Committee

President –Elect Allison Nys

State Affiliate Representative- Jon Habben

At- Large Representative- Jason Bell

Teacher Representative – no candidate

3.7.1.2 There were no additional nominations from the floor

3.8 Partners committee





### 3.9 Procedures, Bylaws, and Resolutions Committee – The committee will begin its review of policies during the next year.

#### 3.10 Research/Higher Ed committee

1. Members in attendance: Patti Chance, Pat Hardre, Hobart Harmon, Sandra Watkins, Victoria Schaefer, Greg Montalvo (Board Liaison).
2. Guests in attendance: Jody Isernhagen (Editorial Review Board); Kathleen Alley; Devon Brenner; Stephanie Bennett
3. Patti agreed to write an e-mail to be sent to all Research Forum presenters. See attachment.
4. Committee Membership and Leadership: This past year, I stepped away from chairing/co-chairing this committee and Sue Scherz graciously agreed to take on the leadership this year. I understand from John that Sue may also need to step away from this leadership responsibility due to personal concerns. Thus, the committee is in need of volunteers to take on chairing and leadership of this committee. I have forwarded names to John Hill of folks who may be interested in taking on this leadership. John will follow up and advise the Committee and Executive Board regarding future leadership. In addition, there were several people who indicated interest in serving on this committee. I have also forwarded those names to John Hill for further action.
5. Advocacy for Rural Research: A very preliminary discussion was held regarding Sandra Watkins' suggestion regarding garnering grants/funding/collaboration for research needed in rural education. This item merits further discussion by committee. Relatedly, there was discussion regarding state of national and international research in rural education.
6. Inter-rater reliability regarding reviews for Research proposals, Dissertation award, and Dawson Award: Committee should consider developing more specific rubrics and following established protocols for submission for these various awards. Concern was voiced about lack of submissions for Brzenzski Award. This award is given for educational research, which addresses significant rural issues and makes notable contributions to the knowledge base of rural education
7. Hobart raised the issue of how proposals submitted for presentation at research forum session may not include findings and conclusions because the study is in progress. However, if presenters wish to submit their final paper for consideration of the Dawson award, paper must include complete findings and conclusions. It is not a fair comparison to review those with and those without findings and conclusions. The consensus of those present was that was the intent to be considered for award. Thus, future communications regarding the Dawson award should clarify this.
8. Feedback regarding San Antonio Conference and Research Forum: Committee members request that John Hill arrange a conference call in the next 4 weeks to provide additional time for committee members to discuss San Antonio conference—to provide positive feedback regarding Research sessions as well as providing feedback for improving sessions. I will work with John to arrange this follow up conference call.

#### 3.11 Teacher Activities Committee

Teacher Activities Committee - October 16 - 2014

2.0 Business Items

2.1 & 2.2 Essay Contest - Changes

- Grades 3-5 will remain with the 250 word written essay contest - same prize money
- Grades 6-8 will remain with the 50 word written essay contest - same prize money
- Grades 9-12 will change to a multi media project (power point, video, etc.) the video will be approximately 3-5 minutes in length. We will also look at how we can use the winning video at the NREA conference. Prize money will remain the same as the previous written essay contest.

New prompt will be created to match the different type of project.

2.3 Mini Grants

The person who we have dealt with in the rural electric cooperative has since left the cooperative. John was just recently contacted by someone else about the grants and he will continue to build up the program again.

2.4 no review needed of policies at this time

We were joined by the members of the Awards committee! It was nice to have multiple points of view during our discussion.

### 3.12 Teacher of the Year selection Committee

Teacher of the Year Committee

Attendees:

Jason Bell, Maria Montalvo, Allison Nys

1.0 - Selection Process

Changes to process?

Take advantage of electronic submissions - How can we get people to submit their applications electronically - Can we use Google Drive to do this?

Rubric - Add more to the rubric, add some type of electronic video of the teacher?

Timing - When should we have the teachers submitted? Getting them at the first part of the school year was tough to get scored - time constraints were tough! The transition to a new person leading this committee was hard and we feel like this next year might be easier!

How many finalists are there every year? Are all states that are affiliates of NREA sending applications for Teacher of the Year? (Which states are sending teachers?)

We would like to find a way to get more states to send more applicants in for Teacher of the Year. This may change with making possible changes to the application process.

Each committee member will look through the application and make suggested changes to it. Jason will then organize a phone conference of the members to talk about possible changes. We will then submit these changes to John for suggestion and approval. (Possible due date change? adding electronic versions. etc.)

Phone meeting will be held on November 19th -9:30 am mtn - 10:30 am ctrl - 11:30 am est. Jason will send information out for conference call with a calendar invite.

### 3.13 Technology/Telecommunications Committee

NREA Technology Committee Meeting

October 16, 2014

San Antonio, Texas

The NREA 2014 Technology Committee consists of: Pamela Joy Buffington, Jamie Burns, Ryan Goodman, John Hill, Barbara Newhouse, Bill Tarleton, Jules Waber

Members Present: Bill Tarleton, Jules Waber

The Technology Committee Member present convened at 4:05.

Business items included:

1. Ideas for Change: No major changes were recommended at this time. However, changes have been taking place over the past year, as the Technology Committee is very active, meets monthly through conferencing, and the website has greatly improved throughout this process. We are continually open to changes, and we encourage your suggestions throughout the year.
2. Selling Ads on the website and NREA Update – Defer to Dr. Hill on this topic, as he has been working on this process.
3. Review Committee Policies and suggest changes, if needed: Jules suggested that we look into ways that the technology committee can assist other NREA committees, such as having a communication tool for Committee Members use, on the website.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40.

3.14 Ways and Means Committee

The Ways and Means committee approved the following budget:

<b>Projected Income</b>	
<b>7/01/14 to 06/30/15</b>	
<b>Membership</b>	60,000.00
<b>Convention Registration</b>	40,000.00
<b>Convention Exhibitors</b>	1,800.00
<b>Convention Ads</b>	600.00
<b>Sponsors</b>	30,000.00
<b>NREA/FLF</b>	
<b>Grants</b>	
<b>Interest</b>	200.00
<b>Transfers (Isenburg Fund)</b>	
<b>Other</b>	1,000.00
<b>Reserve Transfer</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>133,600.00</b>

<b>Projected Expenditures</b>	
<b>7/01/14 to 06/30/15</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>	
Executive Director	
Withholdings	
Payroll and Fringes	
Salary Other	
Purdue Contract	61000
Grants and Awards	5000
Convention	30000
Printing	1000
Office Expenses	4000
Postage	2000
Publications	15500
Dues	3000
Meetings and Registrations	0
Telephone	100
Travel EX Committee	2000
Travel Staff	10000
Refunds	

Other  
TOTAL

133,600.00

### 3.15NREA Foundation Report

- A. Call to Order  
The Meeting was called to order by Secretary, Scott Turney, in the absence of President, Mary Lou Gammon and Vice President, Cindy McIntee.  
Board members present were: Jon Habben, Jimmy Cunningham, Dan Rask, Scott Turney  
Guests were: Jules Waber, Don Rogers
- B. Additions to the Agenda  
There were no additions or changes to the Agenda
- C. Approval of Minutes from 2013 Annual Meeting, October 19, 2013  
The minutes of the 2013 Annual Board Meeting were presented by Scott Turney for approval.  
Dan Rask made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Jimmy Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion carried - unanimous
- D. Financial Report  
Treasurer, Jon Habben, presented a financial report:  
With changes to Jon as Treasurer, the paperwork has been adjusted in order that Jon is the signatory for writing checks. There are no other signatories on record at this time.  
Finances were reported as:
- a. Checking Account # 1087 (in and out account for funds)

Beginning Balance (10/25/2013):	\$1,402.96
Current Balance (9/30/2014):	\$2,159.70

Expected Expenditures is:  
Check to John Sullivan – Honorarium for Auctioneer during Foundation Auction  
Expected Income is:  
Receipts from Foundation Auction during NREA Conference
  - b. Yield Pledge Money Market Fund #1314

Beginning Balance (10/28/2013)	\$16,484.46
Current Balance (9/30/2014)	\$16,584.46
  - c. Yield Pledge CD Business (Chance Scholarship Fund): #65-1

Beginning Balance (11/13/2013)	\$10,444.01
Current Balance (9/30/2014)	\$10,504.99
  - d. Yield Pledge CD Business: #82-1

Beginning Balance (11/13/2013)	\$22,391.38
Current Balance (9/30/2014)	\$22,524.98
- It was reported that there are no longer funds in the Joe Newlin Scholarship fund. All funds have been disbursed.  
A motion was made by Jimmy Cunningham and seconded by Dan Rask to accept the Financial Report as presented. The motion carried - Unanimous
- E. Approval of Expenditures for 2014 Meeting  
A discussion was held on expenditures needed..  
Jimmy Cunningham made a motion to approve the following expenditures:
- a. Essay Contest winners – No Essay Contest has been completed, no expenditures for awards.
  - b. Ed Chance Dissertation Award - \$500 for award winner (Can be paid this from Foundation funds with reimbursement, when the CD comes due)
  - c. \$500 stipend for John Sullivan, auctioneer
- Dan Rask seconded the motion. The motion carried - unanimous

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- F. National Rural Hall of Fame Winner announcement  
Nominees – There were no Nominees for the NREA Hall of Fame Presented
- G. Board Membership—Terms of Service and Nominations—Rotation Attached  
Terms Ending:  
Scott Turney - Completing 2<sup>nd</sup> 2-Year Term



Jack Sanders - Completing 2<sup>nd</sup> 2-Year Term  
 Nomination from Delegate Committee – Trustee Action Needed  
 Begin Serving in 2015

Jules Waber - 1<sup>st</sup> Term Ends 2017  
 Don Rogers - 1<sup>st</sup> Term Ends 2017

New Terms for Current Board Members on their First Term:  
 Jon Habben - 2<sup>nd</sup> Term Ends 2017

Jimmy Cunningham made the motion to appoint new members and renew Jon Habben’s appointment to the board. Dan Rask seconded the motion. The motion carried – unanimous

H. Election of Officers

Nominations from the Board for Officers on a motion by Dan Rask were:

Current:

2014 - 2015

President – Mary Lou Gammon	President -	Mary Lou Gammon
Vice President – Cindy McIntee	V-President	Dan Rask
Secretary – Scott Turney	Secretary	Scott Turney*/Cindy McIntee
Treasurer – Jon Habben	Treasurer	Jon Habben

\*Scott is a special appointment until the status of Cindy McIntee is determined

Jimmy Cunningham Seconded the motion for Officers. The motion carried – unanimous  
 New members to the board were congratulated.

I. New Sponsorships and Board Projects

Discussion on the new project of providing additional funds to support the Monsanto Rural Teacher of the Year program was held. It was agreed that the Foundation would like to support recognition for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place runner-up teachers in this program as well as promoting attendance of state teachers of the year at the NREA conference.

The following are the projects and expenditures which the Foundation would like to support following the 2014 NREA Annual Conference:

Essay Contest -	Elementary Winner	\$ 250	
	Elementary Runner-Up		\$ 100
	Middle/Jr. High Winner		\$ 400
	Middle/Jr High Runner-Up	\$ 200	
	High School Winner	\$ 400	
	High School Runner-Up		\$ 200
NREA Foundation Auction – Honorarium for Auctioneer		\$ 500	
Ed Chance Award -		\$ 500	
Paid from Foundation Funds when/if the funds drop below \$10,000			
NREA Rural Teacher of the Year program –			
NREA Conference Registration for top 3			
Candidates: Winner and 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up			
up to \$300 each X 3			
		\$ 900	
Honorarium for 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> place Runner-Up			

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\$500 each X 2	\$1000
Total expected annual costs:	\$4450

A motion was made by Jimmy Cunningham to accept the planned expenses with the added items for the NREA Rural Teacher of the Year program. The motion was seconded by Don Rogers. The motion carried - unanimous

J. Other Business to come before the Board

A discussion on a need to review the By Laws of the foundation and to consider a change in term limits. Consideration needs to be given to term limits and if they should be deleted or possibly changed to longer terms.

A review should be conducted prior to the next board meeting and the topic should be an agenda item for the next Annual Board Meeting to be held in 2015.

K. Adjournment

The next meeting of the NREA Foundation Board will be scheduled during the 2015 NREA Annual Conference. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned with a motion by Dan Rask and seconded by Jimmy Cunningham. The motion carried – unanimous

3.16 Executive Director Report

The executive director conducted the following activities during the past year:

- Made presentations in Michigan, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Texas, Arkansas, Indiana, and Missouri.
- participated in interviews with Education Week, Hechinger Report, Discovery Ed Blog, Washington Post, authors of article for the School Administrator
- arranged for webinars from School Reach and Discovery Education
- represented rural educators at the national Bullying Summit, National Rural Forum, GOA Expert panel on competitive grants, a rural broadband task force in Indiana

Finances remain steady. The budget for next year is the same as this year.

Membership is down. All those who have not paid for three years have been purged.

Future activities include:

- Promoting the development of new state affiliates
  - bring back first timers
  - replace the editorial staff of the Rural Educator
  - continue efforts to coordinate efforts with other rural groups
  - build sponsorships
- Begin process of selecting a new executive director

4.0 Adjourn the Delegate Assembly to the Annual Membership Meeting – a motion to adjourn to the membership meeting was made by Jules Waber and seconded by Don Rogers. The motion passed.