

Minnesota Rural Health Association
Board of Director's Meeting
Conference Call

November 9, 2010

Minutes

Attending: Tim Stratton, David Brenne, Mark Schoenbaum, Jill Myers, Jenny Schlagenhaft, Karla Weng, Marnie Moore, Duane Nelson, Allison Lunde, Darrell Carter, Judy Neppel

Excused: David Borgert, Ray Christensen, Maddy Forsberg, Jack Geller, Robin Weis, Jenni Lohse, Tiffany Yen, Jim Dregney

1. **Call to Order:** President Tim Stratton called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the October 12, 2009, meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve was made by Jenny Schlagenhaft. Seconded by David Brenne. Approved unanimously.
3. **Business from Minutes:** none
4. **Old Business:** none
5. **New Business:**
 - Update on Summit:
 - President Stratton discussed the quandary on the venue. The Sheraton has a capacity of 125 people while the Sioux Falls Convention Center has a much greater capacity. The Sheraton room rent is \$375 while the Convention Center minimums are \$750 room rent and a guarantee of \$7000 for food and refreshments. Given the unknowns about revenue, the SF Convention Center minimums are too great.
 - Keynoters: The invitation to Senator Durenburger was declined. The invitation to President Obama has not been responded to as of this date. The question was raised about considering Congressional representatives? Senator Tom Harkin, Iowa has recently assumed the responsibility of Chair of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pension Committee (HELP) and would be an excellent option.
 - The save-the-date card was reviewed. M Schoenbaum noted that the ORHPC has not been included as a co-sponsor. He will have it sent and it will be added.

K Weng noted that the second page (address side) of the postcard has only the Iowa logo. Both modifications will be made and returned to the Board for final consideration. J Myer pointed out that the MRHA website is not reflecting any of the Summit information but it is referenced on the card. J Neppel pointed out that when the card was finalized the website would reflect it. Additionally, it was suggested that a “press release” or some kind of narrative needed to be included in the distribution information.

- **Registration:** President Stratton discussed the registration process for the Summit. The Planning Committee is discussing a registration process and is considering outsourcing the registration, rather than making it an internal process. He asked if anyone had any experience with outsourcing registration. K Weng said that Stratis has done it both ways. She will get back to President Stratton or ED Judy Neppel with information on their experiences with both. President Stratton said the topic will be an ongoing conversation in the North Central Planning Committee.
- **Finance Report:** Treasurer Duane Nelson reviewed the finance report submitted to the Board including the Profit and Loss Statement for 10 months of 2009 ending on October 31, 2009, and the Balance Sheet for the same time period. The total assets are \$69,871.07. A motion to approve the report was made by KWeng and seconded by M Schoenbaum. It was unanimously approved.
- **Director’s Report:** Executive Director Judy Neppel reviewed the director’s report submitted to the Board. Issues discussed included the cyber conference scheduled for November 13 and the one planned for December 2, 2009. Topics for additional cyber conferences were listed as Goals of SHIPS, Purpose of NOSORH, Interpreter Services in MN, and the request was made for suggestions. She reported on the membership activities, the North Central Rural Health Summit planning, and the Rural Health Conference in Duluth scheduled for June 28-29, 2010. A motion to approve the report was made by D Carter and seconded by J Schlagenhaft. It was unanimously approved.
- **Day at the Capitol Agenda Development:** President Tim Stratton introduced the agenda item and asked M Schoenbaum and M Moore to suggest agenda items based on the current status of the legislative plan. They pointed out that the session would be short, that the deficit in the state budget grows daily, and that the topics for
- **Nominating Committee Report:** Chairman Jack Geller was not present. In his absence, ED Judy Neppel discussed the nomination of Larissa Stigen, Central AHEC Director, as an addition to the Board replacing K Huntley who’s resigned. The motion to approve was made by M Schoenbaum. Seconded by D Carter. It was unanimously approved.

6. Other:

- President Stratton thanked the Board for their willingness to volunteer for the MRHA committees and encouraged those who have not, to do so soon. The membership announcement will be forthcoming. It will then be sent to the membership for their inclusion. He said he'd be asking the committees to name their chairperson. He mentioned that he did not include the Past Presidents Council in the committee structure deliberately because he sees that group to be an internal committee to the Board.
- The next Board meeting agenda will include Committee Reports.
- Board Retreat Follow-up: President Stratton reviewed the decision to review the mission and develop a vision. He asked K Weng, J Myers, and D Borgert if they could complete their work on these products by the January Board meeting date. They agreed they could do so.

7. Motion to Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 12:48 PM

Respectfully submitted by Judith Neppel, Secretary