



MINNESOTA RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION
Board of Director's Meeting
June 28, 2011
Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center Board Room
Minutes

Attending: Ray Christensen, Tim Stratton, Allison O'Connor, Laurissa Stigen, Mark Schoenbaum, Jenny Schalgenschaft, Karla Weng, Jack Geller, Tiffany Yen, Darrell Carter and Marnie Moore (conference call) and Judy Neppel

Excused: Jenni Lohse, Liz Quam, David Brenne, David Borgert, Robin Weis, Jill Myer

Guest: Duane Nelson

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** President Ray Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:30AM
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** The minutes were mailed with the agenda. Motion to approve was made by Tim Stratton. Seconded by Karla Weng. The motion was approved unanimously.
3. **Introduction of Brock Slabach, Sr. Vice President of NRHA.** Mr. Slabach was unable to attend the meeting
4. **Business Arising from Minutes:** none

5. **Old Business**

Committee Reports

Membership Committee: Jenny Schalgenschaft reported that the committee prepared a membership survey which is on the MRHA website. It was sent twice to the membership and there have been 37 responses. She discussed some of the preliminary data and said she'd sent that to the Board for their review and further discussion. She asked the Executive Director to send the survey email to the membership another time.

Education Committee: Karla Weng reported that the committee has met several times over the past year to establish the cyber conference topics and to seek suggestions for presenters. See the list of cyber conferences in the Executive Director's report. She discussed the regional conference and asked the Board to think about cyber conference topics and presenters for next year and to send suggestions to her or to the Executive Director.

Advocacy Committee: Marnie Moore reported that the legislative work is at a wait and see stage. There is yet a significant difference between what the Governor and the Legislature that may result in a state shut down at the end of the week (June 30, 2011). There was a discussion that ensued and the MRHA letter of May 11th outlining our support for programs critical to rural was shared.

- 6. Finance Report:** David Brenne, Treasurer, could not attend the Board meeting. There wasn't a finance report to share. Tim Stratton made a motion to grant the Executive Director a \$1500 stipend for 2011. The motion was seconded by Karla Weng. The motion was approved unanimously.
- 7. Executive Director's Report:** Judy Neppel reviewed her written report.
- 8. Nominating Committee Report:** Tim Stratton thanked Mark Schoenbaum for participating in the rural health forum panel and said he thought the forum was one of the best ones yet. He then proposed a slate of officers as follows: Laurissa Stigen as President Elect, David Brenne as Treasurer, Judy Neppel as Secretary, and Jenny Schlagenhaft as Vice President. A motion to approve the full slate of officers was made by Karla Weng and seconded by Allison O'Connor. The motion was approved unanimously. Dr. Stratton stated that the committee is not proposing any new Board members as the membership numbers are greater than the bylaws designate.
- 9. Transfer of Presidential Office –** President Ray Christensen shared the biography of Allison O'Connor and turned the presidential gavel over to her. Dr. Christensen was awarded a plaque for his year of service as the MRHA President.
President O'Connor discussed her thoughts about a Board retreat this fall. She asked if there were any preferential dates or locations. Hearing none, she asked the Executive Director to establish a location and date and to assess the Boards members' ability to attend.
- 10. Adjourned:** The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:25 AM.

Respectfully submitted:

Judith Neppel, Secretary