

Minnesota Rural Health Association  
Board of Director's Meeting

May 10, 2010

Minutes

Attending: Tim Stratton, Allison Lunde, Duane Nelson, Liz Quam, Jill Myers, Jenni Lohse, Darrell Carter, Karla Weng, Mark Schoenbaum, Judy Neppel

Excused: Robin Weis, Tiffany Yen, Laurissa Stigen, Ray Christensen, Dave Borgert, Jack Geller, Barbara Muesing, Maddy Forsberg, Jenny Schlagenhaft, David Brenne, Jim Dregney

1. **Call Meeting to Order** – President Stratton called the conference call meeting to order at 12:05 PM.
2. **Approval of Minutes** – Motion to approve April 12 meeting minutes as written is made by Karla Weng. Seconded by Mark Schoenbaum. Approved unanimously.
3. **Business Arising from Minutes** – President Stratton reported on the Rural Health Conference Policy Forum. He stated that he made the decision to invite all gubernatorial candidates whose party affiliation garnered a minimum percent of more than 1 in the 2006 elections. That included the DFL, IR, and IP parties. Letters of invitation have been sent to the five candidates currently endorsed or running with a party affiliation stated previously. Discussion ensued regarding commitments from candidates and whether staffers will be welcomed in their place. The outcome of the discussion was that we'll give the candidates time to respond given that 3 of the 5 are legislators with a busy agenda currently. We will keep the Board up to date on the commitment process and decisions will be made later based on candidates responses. There was some discussion about inviting the media to the forum. Decisions in that regard will be forthcoming. We will ask our Board members who have connections to assist us to get commitments from the invited gubernatorial candidates.
4. **Old Business** –
  - Past Presidents Recommendations:** Quam reported that they focused on the legislative session and have not met since. She'll follow up with the group.
  - Committee Reports:**
    - Membership Committee: In Schlagenhaft's absence, Neppel reported that a committee meeting is scheduled for the end of the month.
    - Education Committee: Weng had no report
    - Finance Committee: Nelson had no report but did suggest that an agenda for an upcoming

should be a discussion regarding longer term funds investment to improve outcomes.

Advocacy Committee: In Moore's absence, Neppel reported that the HHS Omnibus Bill is being worked on.

Structure Committee: In Christensen's absence, Stratton reported that there has been a meeting and discussion but there is not a report at this time.

**5. New Business -**

**MRHA Board Meeting, Tuesday, June 29, 2010 at DECC** – President Stratton discussed the start time for the meeting. The decision is to start at 6:45 AM in the Board Room at the DECC.

**Finance Report:** Treasurer Brenne was not on the call.

**Executive Directors Report:** Neppel reviewed the written Executive Directors report sent to the Board.

**6. Other**

President Stratton told the Board that Maddy Forsberg feels she must resign. He responded with the Board's appreciation and thanked her for all her years of service and reminded her that her voice was important to rural health issues and that she can join in whenever it works for her. President Stratton discussed the need for a President Elect candidate to be announced at the Rural Health Conference. He said he would be working with Past President and Nominating Chair Jack Geller to make overtures toward current Board members. He asked that anyone who had an interest in serving contact him or Geller.

**7. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn was made by Weng at 12:45PM.

Next Board meeting will be the June 29<sup>th</sup> at the Rural Health Conference. Watch for the agenda and further announcements.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judith Neppel, Secretary