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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association
University of New Hampshire
Durham, New Hampshire
18 June 1991

The annual business meeting of the Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Cole Auditorium at the University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire, by Past-President Cleve Willis.

Past-President Willis explained that President Bill V. Lessley would not be able to attend the meeting this year due to illness. In accordance with the bylaws, Past-President Willis would conduct the annual business meeting.

Minutes of the 19 June 1990 annual business meeting were approved as printed and distributed to the membership in volume 19, number 2 (October 1990) of the *Northeastern Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* (NJARE).

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Steven Hastings, secretary-treasurer, reported that from the period 5 June 1990 to 31 May 1991 the Association had income of \$24,598.67 and expenses of \$13,186.19. With the starting balance of \$7,310.57 on 5 June 1990, this gives a current balance for the Association in the checking account of \$18,723.05. All bills are paid. The Association has outstanding page charges of \$5,855.10. The Special Account has a balance on 5 June 1990 of \$2,620.53 and has accrued \$198.64 interest income; with expenses of \$200.00, this gives a balance of \$2,619.14. The financial records have been audited by the Auditing Committee. With regard to membership, as of 31 May 1991, the Association has 368 members; 308 general members, 30 student members, and 30 Honorary Life Members. The secretary-treasurer's report was approved.

Auditing Committee Report

Dr. Gerald Cole reported that the Auditing Committee (Dr. Conrado Gempesaw and Dr. John Mackenzie) had reviewed the financial records maintained by Steven E. Hastings, secretary-treasurer. He certified that the report Secretary-Treasurer Hastings presented is a true and accurate account of the Association's treasury as of 31 May 1991.

Editor's Report

Editor Loren Tauer reported that the April 1991 issue of the *NJARE* was sent to the printer (Heffernan Press) 30 January 1991. It will be mailed in July and contains five regular articles and eight articles on the theme

“The Effects of Agricultural Production on Environmental Quality.”

Editor Tauer indicated that the special theme for the April 1992 *NJARE* is “The Changing Composition of the Agricultural Industry.” Papers are due 15 October 1991. Notices were sent to all department chairs (national), the *AAEA Newsletter*, and a call will appear in the April 1991 *NJARE*. Further, he said that the microcomputer database of *NJARE* article titles, authors, and abstracts was sent to every northeast chairman, regional journal editors, *AJAE* editor, and the Economic Research Service (ERS). ERS will distribute it as part of their computer data offerings. Editor Tauer informed the membership that the first *NJARE* article of the year award was given this year. That article, designated “Journal Article of the Year for 1990” is “An Economic Analysis of the U.S. Generic Dairy Advertising Program Using an Industry Model” by D. J. Liu, H. M. Kaiser, O. D. Forker, and T. D. Mount. Thirteen articles were eligible. The nine-member editorial board was asked to pick and rank the top five articles.

Editor Tauer reported on the *NJARE* acceptance rate during the period 1 June 1989 through 14 June 1991: 63 articles were received; 18 have been published; 4 have been accepted for publication (vol. 20, no. 2); 8 are out for review; 5 are being revised; and 28 were rejected or published elsewhere. Thus, acceptance rate is at least 35% and may go as high as 56%.

Past-President Willis reported that the Executive Committee will be selecting a new editor for volumes 22–24 (1993–95) of the *NJARE* at its fall meeting. He solicited nominations from the membership.

Nominating Committee Report

Cleve Willis, chairman, thanked all nominees who participated in the election process. Chairman Willis reported on the results of the election as follows: Wesley Musser (The Pennsylvania State University), president-elect; Christine Ranney (Cornell University) and Jill Findeis (The Pennsylvania State University) elected as the new three-year directors. He reported 303 ballots were mailed to nonlibrary members, 2 of which were undeliverable, and 158 were returned—a 52% return. P. Geoffrey Allen, Margaret Cialek, and Cleve Willis (University of Massachusetts) served as tellers.

Master's Thesis Awards Committee

Dr. Wayne Gineo, chairman of the committee, was not present. Past-President Willis submitted the report

for Dr. Gineo. There were ten submissions to the competition this year. Each thesis was reviewed by a minimum of two reviewers. The results are as follows:

Outstanding Master's Thesis of 1990:

Arthur Charles Thomas, "Firm Efficiency: Theoretical Issues and Empirical Analyses of New York Dairy Farms," Cornell University, Loren Tauer, advisor.

Master's Thesis Award of Merit:

Casey Eben Bean, "An Economic Analysis of Compliance in the Rhode Island Inshore Clam Fishery," University of Rhode Island, Jon Sutinen, advisor.

Master's Thesis Award of Merit:

Louise Janet Shaxon, "Intercropping and Diversity: An Economic Analysis of Cropping Patterns on Smallholder Farms in Central Malawi," Cornell University, Loren Tauer, advisor.

Distinguished Member and Honorary Life Member Awards Committee

Chairman Olan Forker reported that pursuant to Executive Committee action at their October meeting, two Honorary Life Memberships were awarded this year: Mary Templeton of West Virginia University and John Foster of the University of Massachusetts. He solicited nominations for both Honorary Life and Distinguished Member Awards.

Membership Committee

John Halstead reported that the Membership Committee will try to increase the exposure of the Association nationally and attract new members by mailing the table of contents and sample articles from the *NJARE* to department heads. This will be done later in the summer.

1992 Annual Meeting

Dr. Earl Brown extended an invitation for the 1992 meetings to be held jointly with the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA) in Baltimore, Maryland. President-Elect Olan Forker and Wesley Musser will continue their contact with Bruce Beattie, president-elect of the AAEA. The dates for the joint meetings are 9-12 August 1992. Dr. Earl Brown (University of Maryland) and Kathryn Lipton (ERS) are coordinating local arrangements.

Resolutions Committee

Dr. Emilio Pagoulatos, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, offered the following resolution: "Be it resolved that the Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association express its sincere ap-

preciation to the faculty, staff, and students of the Department of Resource Economics and Development, University of New Hampshire, for hosting the 1991 Annual Meeting. Special recognition and thanks are extended to John Halstead, local arrangements chairman, and his committee.

"Be it further resolved that President-Elect Olan Forker and Wayne Knoblauch, chairperson of the Selected Papers and Symposia Committee, be recognized for their efforts in arranging the program for this year's meeting.

"Additionally, be it resolved that the Association recognize President Bill V. Lessley for his long and dedicated service to the profession in the Northeast as a member, a director, and president of the Association. The Association appreciates his long and dedicated service to the organization.

"The Resolutions Committee requests that a letter of thanks and copies of this resolution be sent to the appropriate administrative officers at the University of New Hampshire, Cornell University, and the University of Maryland."

The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

President's Comments

Cleve Willis explained that he was acting on behalf of President Bill Lessley. President Lessley is quite ill and could not attend the meetings; he had asked that Willis convey his very best to his friends in the Association. He wishes the Association well in its continued growth and looks forward to rejoining us in the future. Cleve Willis expressed the sentiment of the Association that we are all pulling for him and looking forward to a speedy recovery and his return to our affairs.

Willis welcomed Wes Musser as president-elect and assured him that with the support of the NAREA officers and the membership, his term should be more a pleasure than a sentence. He also congratulated the two new members of the Executive Committee, Christine Ranney and Jill Findeis. Additionally, he thanked Bobby Gempesaw, Rigoberto Lopez, and Steve Reiling for their willingness to serve the NAREA.

Appreciation was also expressed to outgoing directors Donn Derr and James Opaluch. John Halstead and Olan Forker were congratulated on hosting and producing an outstanding program for the 1991 meetings. The meeting and imaginary gavel were then turned over to President Olan Forker. With no other additional business to come before the Association, the meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Steven E. Hastings
Secretary-Treasurer, NAREA