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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING  
NORTHEASTERN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS COUNCIL  
June 23, 1982

The Annual Business Meeting of the Northeastern Agricultural Economics Council was called to order at 3:15 p.m. at the University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, by President Malcolm Bevins.

The minutes of the June 17, 1981, Annual Meeting were approved as printed and distributed to membership in 1981 Fall Proceedings Issue of the Journal of the Northeastern Agricultural Economics Council.

#### Secretary-Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Mary Templeton, reported a balance of \$2,497.84 as of June 15, 1982, with income of \$11,490.36 (individual dues, \$2,416; Journal page charges, \$8,853.50; Journal sales, \$12.50; interest on savings, \$208.36) and total expenses of \$12,274.03 (printing charges, \$11,787.72; AAEA dues, \$402.00; Service and check charges, \$18.00; bad check and exchange rate adjustments, \$60.98; frames for certificates, \$5.33). The Treasurer noted that the cash position of the Council had decreased approximately \$1,000 since June, 1981, and that a dues increase should be considered. The Treasurer's report was accepted and will be filed for audit.

After considerable discussion of increased postage and printing costs a motion was made, seconded and passed to increase regular membership dues to \$10 and student membership to \$5 effective with 1983 membership dues.

#### Auditors' Report

Kenneth Hock presented the auditors' report. The financial report was found to be a true and accurate account of the items shown in the accounting records and bank statements of Mary E. Templeton, Treasurer for the Northeastern Agricultural Economics Council as of June 15, 1982. The auditors, K. Hock, Chairman, and Dennis Smith, noted the decline in the organization's cash position since last year. It was moved and seconded to accept the auditors' report as submitted.

#### Membership Report

Mary Templeton, Secretary-Treasurer, presented the following membership report as of June 15, 1982: 355 regular members, 78 student members, 28 Honorary Life members and 6 Distinguished members for a total membership of 461. The Secretary-Treasurer noted that the organization experienced a 75 percent increase in membership over 1980-81 membership.

#### Editor's Report

Filmore Bender, Editor, introduced the Assistant Editor, Virginia Smith. The Journal for Spring 1982 has been published and distributed. Editor Bender reported that 22 papers were submitted for the Spring issue and seven were accepted for publication; also five papers have been submitted for the 1983 Spring issue. The editor has established a rotating Editorial Board and indicated that all current members of the

Board were willing to continue to serve. Filmore Bender suggested that consideration should be given to the appointment of a new editor. According to the by-laws, the incoming editor should be appointed so that he can begin working in January, 1983, on the Spring, 1984 issue.

President Bevins asked for suggestions of names for an editor for 1984-1987. Since no nominations were received, President Bevins requested that nominations be mailed to incoming President Frank Goode.

Editor Bender noted that the Journal takes about 20 percent of his time. During periods of peak demand, it takes more than 75 percent of the Assistant Editor's time; on an annual basis it takes probably 0.30 FTE of her time.

#### Nominations Committee Report

The Nominations Committee, Robert Koch, New Jersey, chairman, Hays Gamble, Pennsylvania State and Ray Tremblay, Vermont, placed the names of Lee Day and K. E. McConnell in nomination for the office of President-Elect. President Bevins called for nominations from the floor. There being no further nominations, it was moved and seconded that nominations be closed.

President Bevins appointed the nominating committee to serve as tellers for the election. In a secret ballot, Lee Day was elected President-Elect.

#### Distinguished Member Award

Kenneth McIntosh presented the Distinguished Member Award to Lee Day who has demonstrated that rare combination of service to the Northeastern Agricultural Economics Council and to his profession. He has made important contributions to Agricultural Economics and Rural Development in this region. In addition, he has rendered years of dedicated service to the affairs of the NAEC and AAEA.

#### Master's Theses Awards

Master's Thesis Awards Committee consisted of Neal Pelsue, Richard Stammer and Alan Bird, chairman. Chairman Bird presented the first recipient for the "NAEC Outstanding Master's Thesis for 1982" - Terry Brownschidle, Pennsylvania State University, whose thesis is entitled, "The Economic Impact of Adopting a Seasonal Water Quality Management Strategy - A Mathematical Programming Approach." Co-advisers were Dr. C. Edwin Young and Dr. Donald J. Epp. The winner of this award receives \$150.

Chairman Bird presented the following three NAEC Master's Thesis Awards of Merit to: Michael Edward Goldman, University of Connecticut, for "Least-Cost Machinery Combinations for Use in Field Crop Operations on Connecticut Dairy Farms," (adviser, Dr. George Ecker); Collette M. Hoffman, Cook College, Rutgers University, for "The Effects of Geographic Access to Employment Opportunities and Socio-Economic Factors on Labor Force Participation: An Econometric Analysis," (adviser, Dr. Roger J. Beck); Merri Lynn Woodell,

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Cornell University, for "An Economic Analysis of Alternative Beef Feedlot Systems in New York State," (adviser, Dr. Robert Milligan).

Chairman Bird made a motion to amend the by-laws for the NAEC M.S. Thesis Awards Program Guidelines as follows:

- 1) the membership of that Committee be expanded from 3 to 6;
- 2) the President appoint the members and the Chairperson as needed, with the understanding that each member normally serve 3 years; and
- 3) the Chairman of the Committee report the Committee's findings to the President at least 30 days before the beginning date of the Annual Meeting.

Dale Colyer seconded the motion. The motion passed. Chairman Bird and his Committee were given a vote of thanks.

### Undergraduate Liaison Committee

The Undergraduate Liaison Committee shall be comprised of a faculty member from each of the departments of agricultural economics or equivalent that elect to participate, and not more than three at-large members, including an undergraduate student member. Members shall be appointed for renewable annual terms by the President on the advice of the Executive Committee. The president shall appoint a chairperson annually. The chairperson will appoint sub-committees as needed. The Committee shall develop and maintain active, continuous liaison between individual undergraduate students, student groups, Council officers and members, and relevant AAEA officers to ensure relevant and adequate professional programs and activities for undergraduate student members. From time to time, the Committee shall recommend to the Executive Committee and to the Council other actions that will further the purposes of the Committee and the Council.

### Historian

Irving Fellows, the Historian, was unable to attend but submitted the following report:

The early NAEC records were quite complete and were in the departmental library at New Hampshire. The early Proceedings of the Council are bound in three volumes: Vol. 1, 1922-36; Vol. 2, 1937-47; Vol. 3, 1948-55. Unbound Proceedings are complete from 1956-60 and 1963-79. However, 1961 and 1962 are missing. Also, research publications, financial records, official correspondence, and some research news are there.

The new organization and role of the council does not lend itself to record keeping without a direct program. I believe the historian could perform this function with support of all members. All issues of the Journal should be assembled, bound, and deposited in a permanent location. All minutes of official meetings and similar records should be preserved also.

If this is consistent with the goals of the Executive Committee, then there will need to be an identification of a storage place and minor financial support for binding.

### Program Committee

Frank Goode thanked Steve Reiling (Contributed Papers) and George McDowell (Symposia) for

all their assistance in organizing and handling the contributed papers sessions and the organized symposia. Chairman Goode noted that 50 papers were submitted and 25 were accepted.

### 1983 Meetings

Robert Koch invited the Council to the Garden State-New Jersey at Rutgers June 20-23, 1983. He petitioned for the humidity to be below 60 percent during the 1983 Annual Meetings.

### Resolutions Committee Report

Resolutions Committee consisted of Robert Koch and Dale Colyer. Dale Colyer moved that the following resolutions be adopted by the Council:

Be it resolved that the Northeastern Agricultural Economics Council thank the personnel of the University of Vermont for hosting the 1982 Annual Meeting. In particular Malcolm Bevin is acknowledged for his leadership as president and through Fred Webster appreciation is extended to the personnel of the Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Vermont, for a well organized, concerned and attractive conference setting for members and their families. A special thank you is extended to Sara Audette, Conference Coordinator, for efficient registration and communication procedures.

Be it further resolved that President-Elect Frank Goode be recognized for organizing and developing an outstanding and innovative program. Additional appreciation is extended to Steve Reiling for a tireless effort in handling and organizing the contributed paper sessions and to George McDowell for the organized symposia.

Lastly, be it resolved that copies of these resolutions be sent to Dean Robert Sinclair and President Lattie Coor.

The motion was seconded by Robert Koch and approved unanimously.

### President Bevin's Remarks

President Bevins presented the following remarks:

"The final assignment of the President of this organization is to assess recent accomplishments of the organization. I do this with pleasure as I really feel good about where we have come since we were first established.

"My thoughts go back to 1956 when I first joined this group. At that time, we were called the 'New England Agricultural Economics Council.' It wasn't until the 1960's that this group saw the need to broaden its horizons and become a truly regional group of agricultural economists. The solidarity of agricultural economists in the Northeast prevailed, and we became a recognized regional group of economists, entitled to all of the privileges associated with such recognition. Over this time period, we have grown from a small organization barely recognized by the American Agricultural Economics Association to one which now has official representation on the AAEA Board of Directors.

"Twenty-six years ago, we mimeographed the

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major presentations of the annual meeting. Today, we support a fully recognized and refereed journal through which our members can communicate to others in the profession. The high quality of our journal is the result of the diligent efforts of some of our past editors—people like Wally Dunham, Dale Colyer, and our current editor, Filmore Bender.

"The quality of our annual meeting has shown continuous improvement in recent years. It made me really feel good to listen to the papers presented during the past 3 days. A word of gratitude is expressed to Steven Reiling and George McDowell, who organized the review team that very carefully scrutinized all papers. Appreciation is noted for the many hours spent by reviewers. Through such diligent efforts, we have seen, in these past 3 days, a set of papers and discussions unparalleled in terms of quality.

"Unlike many organizations today, the Northeastern Agricultural Economics Council has kept its head above water financially and continued to increase its membership. A special word of gratitude is expressed to Mary Templeton, who has worked extremely hard keeping the Executive Committee informed of the status of the organization and alerted us to any problems appearing on the

horizon. How many other organizations today have been able to stay financially in the black while charging a membership fee of only \$5 per year?

"As I mentioned in the beginning, I am proud to be a member of the Northeastern Agricultural Economics Council. Each of you has every reason to feel as good about your membership in this group.

"It is at this point that I turn the reins of this organization over to Dr. Frank Goode, your incoming president. I turn control of this organization over to Frank without any concern whatsoever that he will provide the leadership that is needed to continue the long-run success of the Council. Frank has very clearly demonstrated such an ability in the very fine way he has handled the program for the 1982 annual meeting. It is with great pleasure at this point that I step down and turn the meeting over to your new president, Frank Goode. Thank you."

President Bevins turned the gavel over to President-Elect Frank Goode. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Mary Templeton  
Secretary-Treasurer