

# NYASCOE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

## TELECONFERENCE

**MARCH 5, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER:** @ 8:00 AM by President Annette Hyman

**ROLL CALL:** Jean Davis, Lorri Dandignac, Annette Hyman, Tom Della Rocco, Laurie Fuess, Jamie Earl, Steve Ropitzky, Kate Hemstreet, Dean Pendergast

### **ACTION OF**

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** December 11, 2009 Organizational Meeting, motion by Laurie Fuess, to approve seconded by Jean Davis, carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** February 22, 2009 a phone call received from Executive Office Mark Dennis to Annette Hyman to confirm appointments of new hires and county alignments. Offices to be combined are Cayuga & Oswego, Delaware & Sullivan counties. A letter on shared management was read to the group from Mark Dennis.

It was noted that, Bill Gibson was not timely notified in writing of the change in shared management.

STC – Appointment date unknown, expected soon.

Mark Dennis said shoot for April to meet with STC.

\$80,000.00 over budget now – COC & Temps. Trying to give temporary workers where most needed.

On extending deadline dates – due to postage cuts – WDC told Myron that postage budgets were not cut.

What is our postage budget? Notice BU 716 postage budgets same as 2009.

Statewide Teleconference – indicated that the postage budget is being used at a rate in which it will be used up before yearend.

Phone Expenses, Where do they come from, budget wise?

Annette Hyman will follow up with Myron and Mark Dennis.

Patsy Wiles called, we need to inform JM Marketing of the dates for the annual meeting. Jim will send us \$200.00 for next year.

Newsletters – Patsy Wilies asked Annette Hyman what percent of counties use KC to mail out monthly newsletters. List used by KC is all multi-county producers, borrowers, companies etc. A suggestion made that for a review of scims be completed to reduce duplicates.

**AREA REPORTS:** A motion made to dispense the reading of area reports, made by Kate Hemstreet seconded by Steve Ropitzky. (Area Reports attached)

**TREASURER'S  
REPORT:**

Tom Della Rocco gave the report as follows:

Checking account balance	\$23,900.73
Certificate of Deposit #1	2,626.05
Certificate of Deposit #2	6,918.12
Total	\$33,444.90
Income since 11/11/09	
Interest Checking	\$ .54
NYASCOE Dues (Regular and Associate)	5,374.30
Total	\$ 5,375.30
Expenses since 11/11/09	
Memorial	\$ 50.00
NYASCOE Dues	1,402.50
Waggin' Tongue	323.01
Annual Meeting	428.10
Membership	215.56
Total	\$ 2,419.17

**ACTION ON**

**TREASURY REPORT:** Kate Hemstreet made a motion to accept report as presented, seconded by Jean Davis, carried unanimously.

Action on bills, Tom Della Rocco reviewed bills paid since the last meeting with the Executive Board.

Motion made by Jamie Earl to put up to \$15,000.00 into interest bearing account, seconded by Jean Davis, carried unanimously

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Membership**

Motions made at Annual Meetings.

On motion to pay for non-members, the consensus of comments received from the membership was primarily against paying dues for all non-members.

On motion to pay dues for the 1<sup>st</sup> year for all new employees is as follows:

The vote was 8 Yes and 1 NO to pay for 1<sup>st</sup> year dues. Upon further discussion, it was determined that we provide all members with an opportunity to vote on new employees that would be taken @ the next meeting. Membership shall be given an opportunity to vote at the meeting.

Kate Hemstreet will find a location in Syracuse for the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Incentive for NE Rally

Motion by Dean Pendergast to pay 2 nights of lodging and registration for members of NYASCOE for NE Rally, seconded by Lorri Dandignac, carried unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS CONT:**

### **Incentives for:**

National Convention – A motion by Jean Davis to pay for 3 nights lodging, registration, and banquet for members, who attend, seconded by Jamie Earl, carried unanimously.

Dean Pendergast – Discussed paying NAFEC dues for committee chair using the office address to send NAFEC correspondence and newsletters.

NAFEC – On March 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> will meet in WDC with Chairman of AG Committee, Secretary of AG and Administrator.

Motion by Tom Della Rocco, to pay Dean Pendergast's expenses for his trip to WDC representing NAFEC seconded by Lorri Dandignac, carried unanimously

It was suggested that Waggin Tongue be sent out to everyone in FSA.

It has been, suggested we use blind copy email when sending out information.

Laurie Fuess will be presenting a Certificate of Appreciation and Lifetime Membership to Ralph Croniser, at the retirement party on Saturday March 13. .

How about a NYASCOE Welcome Packet of some kind for new employees?

Annette Hyman has bags from previous meetings we can utilize. Lorri Dandignac has black bags for the Rally, too.

NYASCOE should take on the role of information provider; we need to provide information to all new employees. Getting information out about our association is very important, too.

Adjourned @ 9:40 am.

New Employees:

Colleen Wolfanger – PT in Wyoming County started March 1<sup>st</sup>. She is very excited and appreciative to be able to fill the position.

Mike Schroeck – Loan Analyst Genesee County

Colleen Rudolph – PT Genesee County

Cindy Hughes – Full time temp PT Monroe County

Christen Trewer – PT from Livingston has accepted a FLOT Trainee position in Bath. She will be training with Doug Donner and eventually will be filling the loan officer vacancy in Steuben County. She begins her training on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Best wishes to her.

Nicole Ayer, will be headed to Orange County as Acting CED on March 15<sup>th</sup>. No work on how long she'll be there.

Ted McKay has been asked to assist with the MIDAS Common Processes Team. The team will be gathering program information for SCIMS, Eligibility, Fiduciary and Entity Files. This process will be done by having weekly conference calls.

DCP enrollment is underway. Many CO staff members feel that the STO enrollment report is more of a negative influence than a positive motivator.

Many of the employees are excited about HELC/QWC training w/NRCS. Well needed training!

Most of the Counties in Area 1 are in the red on their 2010 allocation. Much concern! How do we continue to serve our farmers, when we are limited on newsletters, program mailings and supplies? What more can we cut?

Need for reports (specifically farm records) to update real time.

Need for improved functionality with SCIMS.

## Report for Area II

Counties are busy with DCP sign-up and getting the necessary PL paperwork up to date.

The budget seems to be a big topic of discussion among the counties and figuring out Alternative methods to deliver programs to the producers without the usually costs of postage and supplies.

The first of three HEL/WC trainings took place in Auburn over the past week and I feel that it was good to have onsite training and see fellow coworkers from around the state. Plus the training was a good review of the HEL/WC process which involved NRCS & FSA.

Area 4 Report  
3/5/10

Lorrie Dandignac

Congratulations Barb Davidowsky on getting the CED position in Delaware County. Nicole Ayers is Acting CED Orange County.

The first session of the HELC/WC training held in Auburn is over. It was good to see everyone at the training but there was very limited time to catch up with everyone. Shelly Jenney, from Tioga County was in an accident Wednesday morning on her way to meet her ride to Auburn. Luckily, she was not seriously injured but was shaken up.

Counties are busily cleaning up HEL issues with the CLU. With the State Office pressuring to have FSA-569's sent for every field where corn is being grown that does not have a HEL determination in 2010 will put that much more pressure on County Offices.

## Area 5 NYASCOE Notes

Two new FLOT's were hired in the Area and started this week. Peter Elmer will be working out of the Greenwich office and George Wickswat will be working out of the Cobleskill office. Both are former Farm Credit employees.

Tara Quackenbush, PT from Rensselaer County is back at work coming back after maternity leave.

A temporary PT has been hired in Washington/Warren County to help out with FLP and Farm Program work. As I understand it that appointment is only thru the end of the fiscal year.

There is concern about the status of enough administrative funds to get through the rest of the fiscal year. Most counties in our area got about 55-60% of what was spent last year and will not have enough or have already overspent their allocations.

Area employees are waiting to see who the new STC will be and when will they be appointed.

Recent heavy snowstorms collapsed many barn roofs in Albany and Schenectady Counties.