



**Board Meeting
April 22, 2010**

Minutes

President Nick Williams called the meeting to order at 5:06 PM

Voting Members Present: Nick Williams, Bill Sellnow, Vandy Cruise, John Pittard, Ralph King, Ed Hayes and Ben Hulgan.

Honorary Members Present: Cindy Wigley

Members Absent: John Shrout, Ed Childress, Grant DeMuth, Teresa Walker, Jerry Cofield and Andre' Thomas.

Minutes from the March 4, 2010 meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Ed Hayes and Second by Bill Sellnow.

Ben Hulgan presented the **Financial Report**. We have a current bank balance of \$10,802.86, with no outstanding obligations. Financial report was accepted, with one minor typographical correction, on a motion by Bill Sellnow and Second by Vandy Cruise.

OLD BUSINESS

Status of 2010 Membership Program: Ben reported that membership has increased to 37 paid memberships versus 42 last year. Since last meeting we have received memberships from Tyson Foods, The Print Shop, Mastins, Sundown Industries and Arab Cartage. We expect to receive dues from Wayne Farms LLC and Federal Mogul soon. Pilgrim's Pride has assured us they will re-engage ASAP.

Action Item: ALL Board members continue to solicit their assigned contacts.

Review of March 25th General Membership Meeting: Attended by 20 people, including Snead Career Coaches and Dean of Academics. MCMA \$3,000 contribution presented to Snead for Career Coach Program. Frank McRight presented an update on labor and employment law.

Status of Plan to make presentation to local municipalities: Question was asked about this item, and Ben stated that since there has been very limited interest by any members of the Board to pursue this, it has been tabled for the present time.

NEW BUSINESS

Review 2010 Scholarship Applications and make selections: Sixteen applications were received this year from seven High Schools. All applications were reviewed, discussed and rated by the Board. Three applicants were rejected because their stated career interest was not technical and/or did not relate to a potential career in manufacturing. Based on the Board's rating, three applicants were selected as being most qualified and five others were essentially equal but somewhat lesser qualified. A discussion ensued regarding whether to select two more recipients or allocate the remaining scholarship funds differently. Since the application specifically states the amount of the scholarship to be \$1,000, the funds reallocation suggestion was rejected. A motion was made by Vandy Cruise to make the final two selections so as to spread the scholarships around to as many High Schools as possible. John Pittard Seconded this motion and it passed. This year's scholarship winners are:

Tyler Scott Winkles – Albertville HS
Sam Bates – Boaz HS
Lucia Silvestre – Boaz HS
Bronson Edmonds – Brindlee Mountain HS
Jeremy Davis – Guntersville HS

In addition, the Board approved by consensus the renewal of 2009 Scholarships awarded to Sacha Frasier, Joseph McCrary and Debbie Bonds for the 2010 Academic Year.

Total expenditure for 2010 Scholarships is \$8,000.

AIDT Training: Ben informed the Board that AIDT Training has been scheduled for May 12 – 13 (LS I), and May 26 – 27 (LS II). Both sessions will be taught at TS Tech. MCMA members have been notified and invited to schedule employees to be trained. Currently only one company in addition to TS Tech has responded.

Plans for May 13th General Membership Meeting: We discussed ideas for an appropriate format to use for the local political forum we will have as our program. Ben has contacted the Democratic and Republican Party County Chairpersons to inform them of our plan and the date of the meeting, and to obtain contact information for officially inviting each candidate. As a part of the invitation, we would like to give the candidates some idea of what to expect so we need to finalize the format ASAP. The consensus was to start by giving each candidate about two minutes to introduce themselves, state why they are seeking office and state what, if any, are the key issues they intend to focus on if elected. Suggestions were made to ask generic questions, solicit (and screen) questions from the audience or to have prepared and structured questions. Our concern is how to give each candidate, out of a potential fourteen candidates, adequate opportunity to speak without extending the meeting far too long. We decided to get input from Ed Childress and Matt Arnold, who have more experience with this sort of thing, before finalizing our format. In the meantime, Ben will formally invite the candidates and their party Chairpersons stressing the opportunity to meet and greet some local business people, and asking them to prepare to respond to the basic question.

Action Item: Nick to get input from Ed Childress, and Ben to get input from Matt Arnold by NLT Tuesday April 27.

OTHER BUSINESS

EMA Weather Alert System: Nick explained a weather alert system that the County EMA is encouraging businesses to purchase and use to get better information during severe weather events. Nick attended a presentation by County EMA Director, Anita McBurnett and was impressed with the potential of this system. He asked if the Board thought this is something the MCMA should promote and recommend to its members. The subject was discussed at some length with most Board members having a positive response; however, a question was raised as to whether Southern Link, the EMAs chosen provider, was the most reliable service for this kind of program.

Action Item: Nick and Ben to meet with Anita McBurnett and address this concern ASAP.

Ben presented a quote from Guntersville Laser Engraving and asked for Board approval to purchase a small quantity of static labels to distribute to MCMA Members identifying them as 2010 members. After some discussion, a motion was made by Bill Sellnow to authorize the purchase of 125 2-color labels which can be obtained for around \$300. Motion Seconded by Ralph King and passed.

Action Item: Ben to order labels ASAP.

Meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.

Submitted by: Ben Hulgan, Secretary/Treasurer