



Board Meeting

March 4, 2010

Minutes

President Nick Williams called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM, welcomed everyone and recognized our two new members, John Pittard and Ralph King, and new Honorary Member, Jerry Cofield.

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

Honorary Members Present: Jerry Cofield and Teresa walker.

Members Absent: Ed Hayes, John Shrout, Grant DeMuth, Cindy Wigley and Andre' Thomas.

Minutes from the January 28, 2010 meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion by Ed Childress and Second by Bill Sellnow.

Ben Hulgan presented the **Financial Report**. We have a current bank balance of \$12,190.32, with outstanding obligations of \$500 to the Sand Mountain Reported for this year's Horizon Ad, and minor miscellaneous expenses to be reimbursed to MCEDC. Financial report was accepted on a motion by Bill Sellnow and Second by Ed Childress.

OLD BUSINESS

Status of 2010 Membership Program: Ben reported that we currently have 30 paid memberships versus 42 last year. We discussed making personal phone calls to former and prospective members focusing on the larger non-member companies. A revised list of prospective member companies and who will make the calls will be sent separately. John Pittard volunteered to contact the other poultry companies.

Action Item: Ben to revise and distribute call list.

Status of Plan to make presentation to local municipalities: Nick, Ed Childress and Ben have drafted a series of talking points. The meeting scheduled at the January meeting had to be cancelled, and we decided to reschedule and review and refine the presentation.

Action Item: Ben is to propose some dates and attempt to reschedule ASAP.

Status of 2010 Scholarship Program: Ben reported that scholarship applications and letters were sent to all County HS Counselors mid-January, and that 2009 recipients were contacted directly and invited to

re-apply for year 2010. We expect two 2009 recipients to re-apply. Deadline is April 16th. We discussed how many scholarships to award this year, and a motion was made by Ed Childress, Seconded by Bill Sellnow, and approved to award up to two scholarships to 2009 recipients, and up to five new scholarships to HS Seniors and/or employees of member companies.

Action Item: Ben to notify member companies of the opportunity for their qualified employees to apply, and to send the application for to Teresa Walker for distribution by Career Coaches.

Ben reported that name tags for Board Members have been purchased and gifts for outgoing Board Members, Bill Casey and Patti Yancey have been purchased and delivered.

NEW BUSINESS

MCMA ad for this year's SMR Horizons edition was reviewed, modified and approved for submission.

Programs and Locations for 2010 General Meetings: March program is Thursday March 25th at the Marshall professional Building. Frank McRight with Burr Forman LLC will present an employee relations and legal up-date.

The May meeting will be at the Bevill Center at Snead SCC. Program will include presentation of 2010 Scholarships and we will invite local political candidates for State offices to come and address the group regarding their vision and platform relative to small business/manufacturing issues.

The July program will be presented by the Alabama Technology Network and feature former Alabama football player, Darwin Holt.

We discussed and decided to invite Rep. Aderholt to speak at our September meeting, and we agreed to invite the Alabama Department of Revenue to present a program on incentives for expanding businesses at our final meeting of the year in November.

2010 Golf Tournament: We discussed holding the tournament later this year, possibly late August. We will compare costs and services at the State Park and Gunter's Landing and make a decision later.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ben read a letter from the North-central Alabama Regional Council of Governments (NARCOG) advising stake holders of the funding challenges facing the Career Coach program, and requesting contributions to help sustain it. Teresa Walker, who works closely with this program at Snead State, explained the program and related some of its many success stories. After discussion, a motion was made by Ed Childress, Seconded by Bill Sellnow and approved, to contribute \$3,000 to Snead State C.C. to be used by the Career Coach program. It was further decided by consensus to present this contribution to a representative of the Career Coach program at our May General Membership meeting, which will be held on the Snead campus.

We discussed at some length the problem of illegal immigration in our county and its effects on and challenges for manufacturers and especially poultry processors. Although some of our county companies have been negatively spotlighted recently in regard to this issue, it was decided by consensus for the MCMA to withhold public comment at the present time. It was also decided that this position would be reviewed at the request of a member company that felt it needed support from the MCMA.

Submitted by: Ben Hulan, Secretary/Treasurer