**BOD MEETING MINUTES**

**Zoom Conference Online**

**May 18, 2021**

**Board Members present:** Emma Marvin; Ed Smith; Jason Gagne; Donna Young; Paul Palmer; Dave Folino; Reid Richardson; Arnie Piper; Jenna Baird; Peter Purinton; Ted Young; Sam Cutting; Mark Isselhardt; Arnold Coombs; Dave Mance; James Buck

**Staff present:** Allison Hope; Cory Ayotte

**Motions:**

1) A motion was made by Reid Richardson to accept the current Executive Committee with the nomination slate of James Buck as Member at Large and Jason Gagne as Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Ed Smith. The motion was approved by all.

2) A motion was made by Ed Smith to accept the slate of nominees as presented. The motion was seconded by Paul Palmer. The motion was approved by all.

3) A motion was made by Dave Mance to add Reid Richardson to the Nominating Committee. The motion was seconded by Ed Smith. The motion was seconded by all.

4) A motion was made by Ed Smith to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dave Mance. The motion was approved by all.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Emma Marvin at 8:02am

**Annual Meeting (conversation and schedule):**

Emma Marvin noted that it’s important that all Board Members attend the meeting and for them to relay the meeting information to the members in their respective counties to ensure we have adequate attendance. Hopefully by using Zoom as the meeting platform, we’ll have a strong turnout.

**Offer Slate of Board Officers for Board Vote:**

Dave Mance reported that the Nominating Committee, which consists of himself, Ted Young, Sam Cutting and James Buck polled the current members of the Executive Committee and they all wished to stay on the committee with the exception of Mark Bigelow. Dave stated that the committee had to search a bit for a new Treasurer. Jason Gagne is willing to move from the Member at Large position to be the candidate for Treasurer. Because of that, the committee has a vacancy at the Member at Large position. At this point James Buck would like to be in that position. The Nominating Committee is recommending that all positions stay as such minus Jason Gagne and James Buck.

A motion was made by Reid Richardson to accept the current Executive Committee with the nomination slate of James Buck as Member at Large and Jason Gagne as Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Ed smith. The motion was approved by all.

A motion was made by Ed Smith to accept the slate of nominees as presented. The motion was seconded by Paul Palmer. The motion was approved by all.

Emma asked that one person that is not on the Executive Committee be added to the Nominating Committee. Reid Richardson volunteered to be on the Nominating Committee.

A motion was made by Dave Mance to add Reid Richardson to the Nominating Committee. The motion was seconded by Ed Smith. The motion was seconded by all.

**Next Meeting & Other Items**

Emma reminded everyone that a request has been put out for Annual Maple Award Nominations. She asked BOD members to think about who has stood out and put forth a nomination or two.

Arnie Piper brought up the topic of future meetings. Vermont plans to open back up on July 4th. At some point, do we want to have in person meetings for future BOD meetings? Arnie thinks we have more spirited meetings in person. He feels that he sees less of that because of Zoom. Arnie doesn’t think we’ll go back to doing all meetings in person, but at least have one or so with a lot of committee meetings and a lot of topics. Let Arnie know what you think. Emma stated that a lot of organizations are moving to Zoom meetings for winter and in person meetings for better weather months. Dave Folino agreed with both Arnie and Emma. He said he went to an in person meeting recently and those meetings were much richer. He thinks it likely should be a hybrid format in the future, and if someone can’t be there in person, they can go online and participate if we have the technology. Yankee Farm Credit has offered their Williston boardroom to VMSMA. Emma asked if people think a July Board meeting is needed. Ed Smith thinks we need one because of information coming soon for the Big E. Emma asked Allison to put out a Doodle poll for a July Board meeting. Then we’ll have another one in September and a short one in December.

A motion was made by Ed Smith to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dave Mance. The motion was approved by all.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23am.