Galt House Hotel, Louisville, KY

November 2, 2016

6 pm ET

Present: Kay Barton, Lindsey New, Dawn Ovesen, Micki Crider, Kelli Rouse, Adam Haggard, Kellie Samuels, Karen Evans, Runita Rice, Dana McKinney, Coy Higdon, Gera Ferguson, Diane Dunn, Jenni Blandford, Travis Chick, Donald Dunn, Kenni Crane, Laura Howell, Susan Dewitt-Champion, Barry Allen, Wes Daniels, and David Curtis.

Documents provided to begin meeting: Agenda 11/02/16, Travel Claim, Membership Report dated 10/28/16, Financial Report for expenditures 07/01/16 thru 10/28/16, Meeting Minutes dated 06/09/16, Polled Meeting Minutes dated 08/15/16, 2017 NASCOE Scholarships information and DSA Awards information. (Meeting Minutes dated 09/13/16 were provided for review by email on 09/14/16.)

President Kay Barton called the meeting to order. Due to a number of new faces, and several visitors present, each person gave their name and service center location as an introduction and to begin the meeting.

First order of business was seating alternate directors who were present. Dawn Ovesen was seated from Alternate to Director for District 3 due to the election of Kay Barton as President. Temporary alternates seated for the meeting were Micki Crider who was present for Carla Harper and Jenni Blandford who was present for Debbie Beehn. (Laura Howell was also present for Jeanie Williams.) Motion was made by Karen Evans, second by Runita Rice. No opposition.

Time was given for review of Minutes for meeting held on June 9, and for polled Minutes for transactions by email on August 15. Minutes for meeting held on September 13 were provided at an earlier date by email for review. Coy Higdon made a motion, second by Karen Evans to accept the three sets of Meeting Minutes as presented. No opposition.

Financial report for Statement of Revenue and Expenditures for July 1, thru October 28, 2016, were read by Secretary Dana McKinney. There were no questions. Motion was made by Micki Crider, second by Runita Rice to accept the report as presented. No opposition.

Membership Report was presented by Secretary Dana McKinney. It was noted that at the time the report was prepared KY had 225 employees on board, with 6 vacancies advertised. Currently membership standing is at 82.6 % of current on board employees. NASCOE President, Wes Daniels, spoke about membership encouragement and how we should be continuously educating our employees about the importance of maintaining a strong membership and how the COC system is so important to our positions as County Office employees. We should be educating all members but have a focus on new hires and COTs. After review of the presented membership report, it was noted that one retirement has occurred since its preparation (Ronn Pelfrey). Motion was made by Dawn Ovesen, second by Diane Dunn to accept the report. No opposition.

President Barton informed the directors that Committee Chairs have remained the same with the exception of Membership Chair, Christy Berry, who asked to be replaced. She went on to say how much of the duties and reports for membership are prepared by the Secretary and asked the directors if there was any opposition or discussion if Secretary duties were updated to include Membership chairperson. Lindsey New made the motion to update Membership Chairperson to Secretary duties, second by Dawn Ovesen. No opposition.

Micki Crider, who also serves as National Chair for Scholarship, Awards and Emblems, reviewed the Scholarship and Award material given to the directors. She noted the change in the process for 2017 and future, as all applications for awards and scholarship will be online only. Deadline for 2017 is January 1, 2017. Submitted apps will be sent automatically to the AREA chairs who will sort and send back to states in order for state winners to be selected. 2017 National Scholarships available include: Traditional for HS seniors and college freshman; Open Continuing for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year students; Member Continuing Education; Continuing Education for Adult Children of Members for employment continuing education not paid for by their employer; Grandchildren Scholarship; and Associate Member Scholarship. She also encouraged submission of DSA Awards, and recognized Lindsey New, who had been selected in 2016 as the SEA DSA Winner.

Kenni Crane thanked the directors for the opportunity to attend the Legislative Leadership Conference held in WDC in September. First day consisted of meeting NASCOE team and AREA chairs that were present. Attendees were given a history of NASCOE and educated on the importance of the County Committee System and what it means to us as COF employees. Later in the day, they met and heard Hunter Moorehead, NASCOE’s legislative consultant speak and talk of his role working for NASCOE. Day two was spent in the Whitten Building meeting and hearing Deputy Undersecretary, Lanon Baccam, and also hearing Mike Conaway from TX who serves as the House Ag Committee Chairman. Later in the day they had the opportunity to make some Hill visits and met with Rand Paul staff members. Kenni and Dawn Ovesen, who also attended, agreed it was a wonderful and enlightening experience.

NASCOE President Daniels followed with some comments about the conference. He also talked about the relationships that have been fostered with National Office. Some of the issues that he has been working with Management on recently include restructuring; IT changes and the new workload tool. He will be in negotiations in the next few weeks on restricting policy. In the new restricting policy Management is wanting 5 employees per office with one manager. (He noted the old CVS plan wanted 9 per office.) Doing the math to reach this of course is going to result in some relocations and closures, with the MWA probably being less affected that other parts of the country.

He also talked about Farm Loan approval authority for CEDs to relieve loan back up and to give CEDs and advantage should it become a reality to compete against a FLM for the supervisory position in a COF. It would provide job security to have it.

He stated David Curtis, SEA Executive, is on a task force for Restructuring. Two things NASCOE wants in the new plans to be Employee Friendly and Give CEDs opportunity to be able to complete for the supervisory position.

He talked about Bridges to Opportunity which was developed by Sales Force. The software works well. The receipt for service function within this software is much more friendly that the one from FSA Applications. NASCOE has been on board with BTO and big supporter to help get it into all offices.

President Barton then discussed the All South Rally that is going to be in San Antonio, TX, Feb 15-18, 2017. Dawn Ovesen stated she has plans to go and would be willing to serve as a delegate. No one else expressed interest in serving at this time. Lindsey New made the motion, second by Micki Crider, to send Dawn as a delegate and let the Executive Committee choose one other person to serve. Within this motion was to give each delegate a $500 stipend for expenses. There was no opposition.

President Barton mentioned we normally send a $50 donation to the Rally for expenses. Motion was made by Karen Evans, second by Gera Ferguson to send the donation. No opposition.

Next agenda item was discussion on the perennial forage reporting date change and the letters that have been sent from 8 of the 12 affected state associations requesting a waiver of late filing fees. President Daniels gave the update that discussions have taken place and have been positive. He said that he is aware that a notice is being drafted but does not know exactly what is in the notice. Steve Peterson is supposed to update him as soon as the notice is signed by DAFP. He hopes that will be while he is still in KY and can share the news with us. He stated that it would be a good practice to follow up with a thank you to the National Office. This could only foster better relationships for the future.

Remaining item on the agenda for discussion was LEAD PT issue that has been going on in western Ky. Coy discussed how this remains to be a problem but is clearly stated as handbook policy. President Daniels confirmed that policy is coming from DAFO in a notice that will force STC/STO to re evaluate situations and address shared management issues and responsibilities. David Curtis, SEA Executive, spoke and talked about how this had been part of negotiation discussions at meetings held in March of this year. President Daniels said he has a good working relationship with KY AO Debbie Wakefield and will address it with her during his visit here.

Lindsey New notified directors that Benefits Chair, Nicole Barrier, wanted her to let everyone know that we now have a discount for members with KY State Parks of 10%

With no further business to discuss, Karen Evans made the motion, second by Diane Dunn to adjourn.

Next scheduled meeting to be held after the close of 2016 convention: February 23, 2017, 5 pm ET at the Elizabethtown Service Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana McKinney, Secretary