

Board Meeting Minutes

Friday, October 17, 2008

The regular board meeting of the Montana Business and Information Technology Educators was held at the Best Western Hotel in Butte, MT on Friday, October 17, 2008. The meeting was called to order by Janie McFarland, President at 8:00 a.m.

MBITE officers and guests of honor were introduced. Angie Neal-WBEA President, Denise Holland-U of M Western, Sandra Williams-U of M, Mark Branger-Montana ACTE, Cheryl Graham-Montana ACTE, Past President Sue Cheff, President-Elect Jenny Rohrer, Secretary Stephanie Thennis, Newsletter/Membership Director Eric Swenson.

The following reports were presented:

Secretary: Stephanie Thennis - The motion was made to accept the minutes (O'Dell/Lawrence, Unanimous).

Treasurer: Janie McFarland – Cheryl Graham noted the financial report looked good. It was reported that Michelle Foss (Libby) was the new treasurer replacing Loralee Beatty.

Membership: Eric Swenson – Reported MBITE is over its goal for Montana teachers (+6) and MBITE has approximately 80 current members. He also noted that the individual \$15 MBITE membership was no longer available but that it can be paid with MACTE or ACTE online.

MACTE: Mark Branger – Next years conference (2009-10) will be held in Billings at the Crown Plaza, (2010-11) will be held in Helena, and (2011-12) will be in Great Falls. National ACTE conference this year will be December 4- 6 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Carl Perkins: Mark Branger – It was reported that things were moving well regarding Career Clusters/Pathways as well as dual credit options. Mark emphasized the magnitude of contacting Congressmen to endorse funding and encouraged everyone not to forget thank you's for the on-going support.

Office of Public Instruction: President McFarland reported that Diana Fielder had left the position of business/marketing specialist as of September 25. The search is underway for a new specialist will be named soon. President McFarland reported that 8-9 business positions were filled this year with non-certified teachers. Mark Branger reported that MACTE is working on pursuing a bill similar to the loan repayment bill for teachers in CTE to serve as an incentive for more teachers to go into the business field.

BPA/DECA: President McFarland noted that Sue Cheff is the acting state advisor until a replacement is named. The 2009 state BPA conference will be held in Kalispell, MT while the 2009 state DECA conference will be held in Helena, MT.

Montana Western MBITE: Denise Holland sited 6 – 7 students currently working toward certification. The university is looking to hire 3 – 4 new faculty members while the business department continues to grow.

- D. Legislative Year: CTSO students will be presenting to legislators in the Capitol rotunda Monday and Tuesday, February 23-24, 2009. Advisors are encouraged to take CTSO winners, outstanding student projects, etc.
- E. Donations: Sue Cheff provided a "thought and consideration" for the membership of a CTSO award. In addition she proposed the idea of eliminating the "Rookie of the Year" award or possibly combining some of the awards due to low nomination numbers. It was requested that the officer team review and come up with a recommendation/proposal on awards. President McFarland noted the donation rotation for BPA/DECA. In 2008-09, BPA was awarded the \$100 allocation and DECA, \$250 which alternates each year between the two organizations. A motion was made to continue the rotation (Juanita/Scott). Motion approved.
- F. Other: MBITE was the only division to donate to ACTE during the past legislative term. Eric Swenson questioned whether we should donate again for this legislative year. It was noted that cash is available and that MACTE doesn't "need" the revenue however it is nice to demonstrate a monetary donation of support. It was moved to donate \$200 to the MACTE legislative fund (Julie/Dennis). Motion approved.

Other (cont.): President McFarland cited that every other year, MBITE approves a \$500 payment to Denton BPA for the development of the newsletter. A motion was made to once again approve the \$500 allocation (Molly/Char). Motion approved.

Election of Officers: The new slate of 2009 officers was introduced – Past President, Janie McFarland (Conrad); President, Jennifer Rohrer (Simms); President Elect, Dana Grupenhoff (Noxon); Vice President, Regina Wood (Livingston); Secretary, Stephanie Thennis (Helena); Treasurer, Michelle Foss (Libby); Membership, Eric Swenson (Denton). A motion was made to approve the 2009 officers (Julie/Mitzi). Motion approved.

Recognition of Colleagues and Retirees: Sue Cheff recognized the following individuals for their hard work and dedication to the business/marketing fields.

Jackie Spicher – (North Star) teacher/BPA advisor
Sheila Crosmer (Stanford) – teacher
Donna Paulsen (Victor) – teacher

Awards were presented by Sue Cheff to nominees. She also thanked and recognized those (especially principals) who took the time to nominate these individuals. ** Indicates award winner.

- 1. Young Business Teacher
 - a. Kari Ihly – Pine Hills Youth Correctional Facility
 - b. Jode Kraft – Corvallis HS
 - c. ** Julie Hansen – White Sulphur
- 2. Outstanding Contributor to Business Education by an Individual Associated with an Institution Involved in Business Education
 - a. ** Bob Nicolson, President – First Interstate Bank
- 3. Secondary Business Teacher
 - a. Karen Bell – Joliet
 - b. Linda Cotton – Cascade
 - c. Kelly Parsons – CM Russell
 - d. ** Janie McFarland – Conrad