

**Minutes of the Business Meeting of NCERA-194, Research on Cooperatives**  
**Tuesday, November 8, 2005**  
**Hyatt Regency Hotel**  
**Minneapolis Minnesota**

**Administrative Advisor:**

Sarahelen (Sally) Thompson  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
Purdue University  
West Lafayette, IN 47907

**Chair**

Michael Boland  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
Kansas State University  
Manhattan KA 66506

**Vice-Chair**

Phil Kenkel  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
Oklahoma State University  
Stillwater OK 74075

**Secretary**

Sue Hine  
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1172

**Treasurers**

Michael Boland and David Barton  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
Kansas State University  
Manhattan KA 66506

**Attendance:**

There were 35 individuals in attendance. 19 NCERA-194 members and 16 other individuals (graduate students, industry representatives, guests).

***NCERA-194 Members in Attendance:***

David Barton, Kansas State University  
Michael Boland, Kansas State University  
Jennifer K. Bond, Colorado State University  
Paul G. Christ, Land O' Lakes  
Anthony Crooks, USDA

Robert Cropp, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Joan Fulton, Purdue University  
Shermain D. Hardesty, University of California-Davis  
Brian M. Henehan, Cornell University  
Phil Kenkel, Oklahoma State University  
William Nelson, CHS Foundation  
Brian Oleson, University of Manitoba  
Chris Peterson, Michigan State University  
Anne Reynolds, University of Wisconsin-Madison Center for Cooperatives  
Bruce Reynolds, USDA Cooperative Services-Cooperative Programs  
Sarahelen (Sally) Thompson, Purdue University (Administrative Advisor)  
Evert Van der Sluis, South Dakota State University  
Kim Zeuli, University of Wisconsin-Madison

***Other Individuals Attending***

Andrea Bentancor, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Vernon Eidman, University of Minnesota  
Brenda Forman, SD Assn. Of Cooperatives  
Rodney Holcomb, Oklahoma State University  
Nikolaos Kalogeras, University of Illinois  
Colotte Lebel, La Coop. Fédérée  
Larry Leistritz, North Dakota State  
Robert Ludwig, The Hale Group  
Gregory Mckee, University of California, Davis  
Lovisa Nilsson, Swedish Agricultural University  
Gerald Ortmann, University of Kwazulu-Natal  
Pablo Pincheira, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Amanda L. Scheurer, University of St. Thomas  
Adam Schwatz, NCBA  
Cathy Statz, Wisconsin Farmers Union  
Doug Weinbrenner, Golden Heritage Foods, LLC

**Call to Order**

Chairman Mike Boland called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

**Approval of minutes from the 2004 Annual Meeting**

Vice-Chair Phil Kenkel distributed the 2004 meeting minutes. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Brian Henehan and seconded by Joan Fulton. Motion carried.

**Nominating Committee Report**

David Barton gave the nominating committee report. The committee recommended an officer slate consisting of: Phil Kenkel-Chair, Sue Hine-Vice Chair and Shermain Hardesty-Secretary. There were no further nominations from the floor. A motion to elect the recommended slate of officers by acclamation was made by Chris Peterson and seconded by Evert Van de Sluis. Motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Mike Boland presented the financial report. Prior to the meeting expenses, the organization had a balance of \$4,027. Mike reported that 34 paid registrants for the 2005 meeting. The projected balance after meeting expenses was expected to be very close to the balance at the beginning of the year of \$1,500. A motion to approve the financial report was made by Chris Peterson and seconded by Phil Kenkel. Motion carried.

### **Administrative Advisors Report**

Sally Thompson reported that the committee had been doing a good job of entering information into the NMIS system. She complimented the committee on its productivity in coordinating timely research and encouraging cross-state interaction. Mike Boland thanked Dr. Thompson for her efforts in advising NCERA-194.

### **Cooperative Text Book Project**

Dave Barton led a discussion on the cooperative text book project. The NCRERA-194 members in attendance were polled concerning their use of the working copy version. Strategies for completing a final version of the text book were discussed along with needed revisions. Various members also discussed needs for additional chapters or modules. Dave Barton observed that while the current version contained a chapter on the international role of cooperatives, the text chiefly reflects a U.S. perspective. Chris Peterson discussed whether the text needed more of an industrial organization perspective. A suggestion was made that a working session with all of the authors in attendance was needed to try and move the book to completion. There was a consensus to pursue that strategy. David Barton agreed to investigate possible dates and venues.

### **Cooperative Economic Impact Study**

Mike Boland reported on the plans of the National Council of Farmers Cooperatives and the Cooperative Business Association to provide a \$500,000 grant for a national study of the economic impact of cooperatives. A discussion of the role of NCRERA-194 members in the project incurred. The need for the project to be offered on a competitive basis was emphasized. The importance of involving researchers with both modeling expertise and an understanding of cooperative business structures was also pointed out. The group agreed that NCERA-194 members would collaborate on a proposal for the economic impact study once the request for proposals was officially announced.

### **2006 Meeting Format**

The format for the 2006 NCERA-194 Annual Meeting was discussed. The group was in agreement with continuing to link the conference with the Farmers Cooperative Conference. The general consensus was that holding NCRERA-194 immediately after the Farmers Cooperative Conference was preferable to before the conference. Chris Peterson suggested having a keynote speaker. Joan Fulton and Mike Boland discussed the concept of organized symposiums. The concept of identifying the best selected paper was also discussed. A committee chaired by Chris Peterson and with members Joan Fulton and Evert Van de Sluis was formed to identify a keynote speaker and to manage the "Best Selected Paper" competition.

### **Student Registration Fees and Financial Support**

Mike Boland reported that \$3,000 of scholarship funding was received from the CHS foundation. Mike reported that 8 individuals received scholarships: Nikolaos Kalogeras, University of Illinois; Pablo Pincheira, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Andrea Bentancor, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Lovisa Neilsson, Swedish Agricultural University & University of Missouri; Gerald Ortmann, University of Kwazula-Natal/University of Minnesota; Cathy Statz, University of Wisconsin; Gregory McKee, University of California-Davis; and Amanda Scheurer, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul MN.

### **Resolution of Appreciation**

A motion thanking the CHS Foundation and the Ralph K. Morris Foundation for their support of the meeting and thanking CALS Outreach for facilitating the registration process was made by Joan Fulton and seconded by Chris Peterson. Motion carried.

A motion thanking Mike Boland for his dedicated service as chair was made by Phil Kenkel and seconded by Brian Henehan. The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.