

**North Central Council for School Television
Third Floor Conference Room
207 North Fifth Street
Fargo, ND**

June 20, 2003

Annual General Membership Meeting Minutes

Present: Steven Johnson (Lisbon)), David Monson (Edinburg), Bev Pearson (Prairie Public), Bruce Schumacher (Fairmount) David Flowers (Fargo), Robert Tollefson (Washburn) Dr. Mark Sanford (Grand Forks). Also in attendance were John Harris (Prairie Public), Bob Dambach (Prairie Public), Jess Skala, (Lakeland Public Television), and Jeff Hanks (Lakeland Public Television).

Absent: Robert Marthaller (Harvey), Robert Briggs (Sawyer), Anthony Duletski (Bowman), Richard Larsen (Minot), Dr. Paul Johnson (Bismarck), Larry Gегelman, (Central Cass), Merrill Krueger (Rolette), Don Blaeser (Fertile-Beltrami), Dr. Charles Cheney (West Fargo) and William Reusch (Rothsay)

Call to Order

Acting Vice-Chair Bruce Schumacher called the meeting to order at 1:45 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes of the June 28, 2002 Annual General Membership Meeting

Motion to approve the Minutes by Dave Monson; unanimously approved as printed.

Public Television Updates

Jess Skala, Lakeland Public Television, reported that they are broadcasting their digital signal out of the Brainerd site and on June 18th had turned on their Bemidji site. Last November, they installed a new automated system in master control, so they could broadcast unmanned. They are the beta test site for this project and are working through the “bugs”. With the automated system, they also bought a big video server and a DVD jukebox to eliminate the use of videotape at their station. Lakeland Public Television continues to air analog signal along with the digital. On the digital side they are airing PBS Kids, PBS U, Schedule XD and right now, the Minnesota House and Senate feeds. Previous to the legislature, they were airing the Annenberg/CPB channel.

John Harris stated that education is the strong roots of public television. There is huge potential in digital television and data casting, but we are in a state of flux because no one knows what is around the corner. Bob Dambach concurred that all of public television needs to remain flexible. We need to find out what people need and want. He suggested that professional development for education was a big opportunity.

Key education needs in North Dakota

Bev Pearson announced that a national Education Summit will be held this summer to continue determining direction of PBS's role for education services. She requested the Board to serve as an informal focus group to grapple with a list of general questions to identify North Dakota and Minnesota's key needs to be submitted prior to the Summit. The questions will also be posed to the Chief Education Officers. (results attached to and made part of these minutes).

Recorder: Jennifer Carney
Prairie School Television