

BET EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
TAMU Agricultural Research & Extension Center, Overton
February 14, 2003

MINUTES

Presiding: Wayne Lacy, Chairman

Present: Mary Clements, Horace McQueen, Phil Sadler, Dr. Greg Clary, Tony Douglas, Dr. Charles Long, Ron Hufford, Ted Conover

Financial Report: BET Regular Checking Account, \$1408.90; TALL, \$3,359.41.

Chairman Wayne Lacy opened discussion regarding the ongoing revision of the BET Bylaws, specifically Article VI, Board of Directors, currently made of membership from each of the 37 BET counties. He asked, "If the Executive Committee is to set up programs, etc., is the Board even necessary, and if so, in what form or fashion?" The group agreed that the Executive Committee can be replenished as new members are added, and it can secure people from counties to help as needed with programs. Dr. Long moved that Article VI be eliminated; Horace McQueen seconded the motion; motion carried. With elimination of Article VI, the Executive Committee will appoint task forces as needed which could be subject matter specific or region specific; meetings will be open. Remaining Articles in the Bylaws will be renumbered, and the word Membership will replace the word Board. The revised Bylaws will be sent to all Executive Committee members for their review.

Greg Clary recommended hiring an individual on a part-time basis to develop a website for BET for the purpose of coordinating BET activities and membership. The website could provide a calendar of events, meeting notices, links to all BET counties, TFA, TDA, etc. Clary volunteered his computer for the website, with who and how to maintain it to be determined. He suggested the committee determine how the website could best support future BET activities.

New format suggestions for future BET activities included:

- X Quarterly meetings rotated within the BET area to promote commonality and avoid overhead of an annual meeting
- X Limited time frame (noontime setting, including lunch)
- X Short issue-oriented program of interest to people within the area of the meeting site
- X Advisory committee to decide topics
- X Include a short time for sharing what is happening in the area of the meeting site.
- X Involve local people for meeting arrangements, etc., to generate more ownership of program.

Ted Conover reported on the January 23 TALL meeting in Austin honoring former TALL members. Albert Purnell received the TALL Alumni Award. Jerry Lucy, Ron Hufford, and Phil Sadler were also present. BET was recognized for its contributions and support. The agenda included a Board meeting, a detailed report of TALL's trip to Russia this past summer, an increase in tuition to \$2,000 per student, and discussion on eliminating the age limit of TALL participants.

Dr. Charles Long provided an overview of the newly-established Texas Beef Industry Task Force. Dr. Long stated that the Texas Beef Industry Task Force will consist of four regional groups and that the East Texas Region will consist of approximately 30 beef industry leaders.

BET will present the annual V.A. Bill Clements Memorial Award and the BET Award of Excellence in Agricultural Research and Extension for 2002 at the first BET quarterly meeting in 2003. Mary Clements, Phil Sadler and Ron Hufford will serve on the Nominating Committee for the Award of Excellence in Agricultural Research and Extension. Information letters and nomination forms for the two awards will be sent to county Extension agents, Overton-based Research and Extension faculty, and BET committee members, with nominations due to the district office by April 15.

Meeting adjourned.