



NCEAFCS Annual Business Session August 18, 2004

President, Evelyn DeLoatch called the Annual Business Meeting of the NCEAFCS to order at 9:38 am. She welcomed the members who were present and expressed her appreciation to the Board for serving with her this year.

President-Elect, Nancy Abasiekong, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Alton Price of Catawba County sang the National Anthem.

Evelyn DeLoatch announced that the flowers on the podium were sent as a gift from Dr. Sandy Zaslow. Dr. Zaslow is unable to attend the state meeting but sends her greetings.

Evelyn DeLoatch explained that Robert's Rules of Order would be followed during the business meeting and that each person addressing the assembly should state their name for the official records. As Advisor and past President, Frances Turner would be serving as the official parliamentarian.

Evelyn DeLoatch stated that the minutes of the 2003 annual business session had been posted to the website. She asked for any additions or corrections to the minutes, then called for a motion to approve them as posted. Debbie Cox made a motion to accept the minutes. Nancy Ostergard seconded the motion and it passed.

Evelyn DeLoatch explained that in the absence of secretary Jo Ann Cope, Sally McNeill would be taking minutes. Evelyn asked Debbie Cox and Nancy Ostergaard to review the minutes of the meeting once they were typed and to send any corrections/changes to Sally McNeill or Jo Ann Cope. They agreed to do so.

Treasurer's Report: Margo Mosley, Treasurer, presented the budget. Evelyn DeLoatch asked if there were questions about the budget and stated that it would be filed for audit. She then asked for three people to serve on the audit committee. No one volunteered. Evelyn asked Nancy Abasiekong, Glennie Daniels and Tracy Davis to serve.

Registration Report: Southwest District President, Glennie Daniels stated that there were 98 people registered for this year's state meeting and 106 registered for the awards banquet.

Extension Foundation: Evelyn DeLoatch introduced special guest, Maurene Rickards, who came to provide information about the Extension Foundation. Maurene explained that she is now working

with the NC Extension Foundation and is responsible for a 20-county area. Her role is to keep the Extension Foundation before the employees. The Extension Foundation's purpose is to benefit employees and county offices and to help them grow their resources. The Foundation manages four types of accounts: Restricted Accounts, County Enhancement Accounts, Building to Endowment Accounts, and Endowment Accounts. The advantages of opening an account in the Extension Foundation is that the account would be part of the Cooperative Extension family. You would be helping the organization that employs you. By pooling your money with others' you are able to make your money grow faster. The Foundation is managed by professionals and your money's earning ability is greater.

In the absence of Dee Furlough, VP for Public Affairs, Evelyn DeLoatch stated that all 2004 State Committee Reports had been posted to the website. She asked for a motion to accept the committee reports as posted. Marilyn Gore made a motion to accept the reports. Deborah Womack seconded the motion and it passed. Evelyn reminded everyone to be sure to remember 2005 deadlines for submitting future reports.

Administrative/FCS Update: Dr. Carolyn Dunn brought greetings from Dr. Zaslow saying that she could not be there as she is involved in salary negotiations for FCS at the state level all week. Dr. Dunn discussed the FCS long range plan explaining that it has more flexibility than previous plans. She asked FCS agents to let administration know of their concerns related to the plan. Carol Schaub has left NC Cooperative Extension and because she was involved in Estate Planning issues, they are working to contract with someone to keep the information on the website up-to-date. The Workable Wellness program was a collaborative effort among all Specialists. Currently sixty counties have reported doing some form of the program. The Specialists are working on a written paper about Workable Wellness and hope to have it ready for publication in a few months. NC Cooperative Extension is working to help the agents promote their programs related to Childhood Overweight. A new publication is being prepared to describe what activities FCS is involved with related to childhood overweight and counties will also be able to enter information on a website as to what activities they are doing in their respective counties. Cooperative Extension was a partner in the Eat Smart School Standards that were written recently about the foods offered in the school lunch program. Dr. Dunn brought copies of the publication for FCS agents to take with them.

Dr. Dunn announced two upcoming trainings that would be held this fall. The first is for Families Eating Smart and Moving More, a cutting-edge curriculum that was developed in partnership with WIC. The three dates are December 2, 2004 in Fletcher; January 11, 2005 in Greenville and January 13, 2005 in Raleigh. If a county Extension agent does not come to the training and a WIC employee does, then it is Cooperative Extension's loss. The second training is for a Tool Kit to help agents put a value on the programs and impacts that we do in the counties. FCS agents, CED's and DED's will be invited. The three sessions are November 1, 2004 in Pitt County, November 3, 2004 in Fletcher, and November 5, 2004 in Lee County. Dr. Dave Chinowitz, an Econometrics expert from East Carolina University will be at the Pitt County training and will be on tape at the other two sites.

Dr. Dunn asked for any questions at this time. Denise Baker asked her to comment on what has happened recently in Mecklenburg County and how this might affect the FCS program and agents across the state. Nancy Ostergaard from Buncombe County explained some of what took place in her county related to funding and pointed out that she thought perhaps the ERS system was almost

too specific when it came to reporting accomplishments. It has been decided in Buncombe County to leave the specific questions in ERS unanswered since there is not a method available to get the correct information. This results in most of the reporting segment being left blank. This looks as if an agent has not done any programming. The only place left to report your entire year of accomplishments is under the narrative. This does not give the County Commissioners a real sense of your program, if this is all they are seeing when they review your position for funding. A question was posed about sharing and “giving away” Extension programs to other agencies in the counties. Dr. Dunn commented that sharing curriculum on the web is a way for CES to create, educate and pass on information. Keeping things to ourselves and not partnering is not going to help us (survive). Alice Pettitt recommended that everything that is posted on the website belonging to NCCE should have a logo on it. That way if someone prints it, it will at least identify the NC Cooperative Extension. Evelyn DeLoatch suggested that we take these concerns back to our districts and identify one person in each district to volunteer to dialogue with Dr. Dunn and Dr. Zaslow about these kinds of issues. Please send the district member's name to either Nancy Abasiekong or Evelyn DeLoatch after you next district meeting.

Business

By-Laws: Nancy Abasiekong reported that the bylaws with recommended changes have been posted to the website. She thanked the bylaws committee for their work this year. The Executive Board recommended to accept the bylaws as changed and posted. Carmen Long seconded the motion and it was passed by the membership.

Federation/PILD: Nancy Abaseikong distributed written copies of information about Federation and PILD. Each year there is a Federation forum in December. The next meeting will be on the first Friday in December 2004. Each district should send their issues and concerns to NCEAFCS to bring before the forum. Dr. Ort has posted his responses to 2003 Federation concerns on the Federation website. At this year's meeting one of the issues that will be discussed is whether or not to start assessing each organization in the Federation \$50 dues per year to cover the expenses of the Federation. The Soybean Association has provided money in the past, but expenses are more than what they provide. The Executive Board recommended that NCEAFCS support the dues assessment. Regenia Bell seconded the recommendation and it passed. Another issue that will come before the Federation is that of whether or not to admit Epsilon Sigma Phi into the Federation. This was voted down last year but ESP has requested that the issue be reconsidered again this December. The Executive Board recommended that NCEAFCS support Epsilon Sigma Phi being part of the Federation. Debbie Cox seconded the recommendation and it passed. The third issue is that NCEAFCS is expected to fill the President- Elect position for the Federation for the upcoming year. Susan Conclin's name will be submitted from NCEAFCS for this 2005 office.

The PILD conference was held in Washington, DC. The title of the conference was Public Issues From County to Congress. Dee Furlough and Nancy Abasiekong attended this year's conference. The NEAFCS presented the Living Well Campaign during their congressional visits. Extension agents represented FCS on the national level with a nice marketing tool. Nancy, Dee and others met with congressmen and staffers. There is a Living Well exhibit that Dee will pick up at the national association meeting for use by agents in NC. FCS agents may want to consider asking their County Commissioners to make a local resolution proclaiming the week of March 2nd, 2005 as “Living Well

Week.”

2005 Budget Recommendations: Treasurer Margo Mosley presented the 2005 budget recommendations, making one change to the Professional Development budget. The amount to be included is to be \$100.00 for Professional Development as there are several advanced degrees which are anticipated being earned in 2005. The income reported is based on 130 member. Our dues at the state level did not cover our expenses and we have had to move money from savings to cover our costs. A miscellaneous line item was added in the amount of \$500.00 to cover any unanticipated expenses. A discussion followed about the cost of officers traveling and attending meetings. A question was raised about our endowment foundation account from which \$1500 is to have been given to the district hosting the state meeting. This year it came from regular savings. The motion was made to readjust the income, taking from the endowment fund and not from savings for the \$1500 annual meeting expense. Deborah Stroud seconded the motion and it passed.

Horn of Plenty: This year the Horn of Plenty is on Friday, August 20, 2004 in Asheville in the Western District. Renay Knapp asked if anyone could help to please see her. The Horn of Plenty shows our appreciation to the County Commissioners during their state meeting and highlights NC's agricultural commodities.

Silent Auction for National Meeting: Each year each state contributes two gifts for the silent auction held at the national meeting. We have one gift, but still need a second. Funds are available to purchase a gift, but if anyone has something to donate this is preferable to taking money from the budget. The money raised during the auction goes for National Awards.

Ada Dalla Pozza Award: Upon the request of Ada Dalla Pozza, the Ada Dalla Pozza Award has been moved to the Cooperative Extension Foundation for management. NCEAFCS wrote a letter in support of the move.

NCECA Request: The Extension and Community Association is hosting the CWC national meeting this year in Greensboro. NCEAFCS voted to give NCECA \$300.00 to help them with their expenses for this meeting. The rationale was that many times ECA supports our association and so it only seems appropriate to support them.

EFNEP Request: Lorelei Jones with EFNEP requested help with \$100.00 to pay for refreshments for an EFNEP appreciation event. NCEAFCS voted to send them this amount.

NEAFCS Update: The official delegates to the National Meeting were presented. Margaret Allsbrook's name was added as the delegate from the NC District. Others are Evelyn DeLoatch, President; Nancy Abasiekong, President-Elect - alternate; Rose Massey, NE; Geissler Baker, alternate from NW; Lisa Childers, SC; Marsha Smith, SE; Melinda Houser, SW; Jessica Roberson, W.

Evelyn DeLoatch passed a list around to sign if you are planning to attend the National Meeting. This will help her determine how many will attend the State's Night Out event to be held on Tuesday night during the national meeting. Evelyn also explained that if you were part of a member resource committee then you would be expected to attend meetings at National. She reminded those who

ordered a corsage to give Margo Mosley \$2.00 cash or a check made out to NCEAFCS for each corsage. State and National award winners should also provide Priscilla Graves with a photo for a display she is making.

NCAFCFS Report: Deborah Howard serves as the President of the NCAFCFS. Evelyn DeLoatch encouraged agents to join this association.

Election of Officers: Glennie Daniels presented the slate of officers for 2005 in the absence of Deborah Myatt, Nominating Chair. Evelyn DeLoatch moved to accept the slate of officers as presented. Susan Chase seconded the motion and it passed.

Other Business: Marilyn Gore spoke to the membership about what took place in Mecklenburg County recently and provided “Tips for FCS Survival”. Her suggestions included doing an assessment of the programs that are done in your county and to “review, revamp and update” them. She suggested that the state and district Extension leaders have an ongoing presence in the counties to keep Extension in front of the County Commissioners on a regular basis. She also said that she has applications for membership on the Diversity Catalyst Team and encouraged agents to join. Marilyn brought greetings from the National Association.

Doris Rogers provided information about the retirees meeting on August 17, 2004. Ten retirees were present. New retirees included Gloria Baker from Union; Lucille Carter from Iredell; and Patsy McNeill from Stanly. Doris explained that Maurene Rickards spoke to the group about the Extension Foundation. They also talked about forming a retirees' group. Evelyn DeLoatch commented that all the FCS agents appreciate the retirees, as they help make our organization strong.

Bess Whitt made a motion to adjourn the annual business meeting. Renay Knapp seconded the motion and it was passed by the group. Evelyn DeLoatch adjourned the meeting at 11:57 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Evelyn DeLoatch, President

Sally McNeill
Appointed Minute Taker