

**General Business Meeting
Minutes
Monday, February 12, 2007
Holiday Inn Downtown
Alexandria, LA**

The meeting was called to order by the president, Patricia Miers. Mona Bickham gave the Invocation.

Minutes from the General Business Meeting from the Friday, October 13, 2006, meeting were distributed. It was moved by Melanie Meche, and seconded by Liz Lenoir that the Minutes be approved as written. Motion passed.

The **Treasurer's Report** reflected a bank balance of \$5,773.17.

Pat Miers thanked all of those who made her year as President a successful one.

Mona Bickham thanked everyone who participated at this conference and thanked all those who made it possible for the training and testing services offered by Thomson Publishing (SAM Training Software) and Certiport for attending members.

Marilyn Gastineau, Vice President, reported on the October 13, 2006, meeting that was held in Lafayette at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. There were 117 participants and an increase in membership from 49 to 151 from that meeting. Marilyn thanked all exhibitors and speakers from that meeting. Income from the meeting was \$6,559 and expenses were \$3,365.65. This left a profit of \$3,193.35.

NBEA/SBEA: Melanie Meche reported that the current membership in NBEA/SBEA was 70. The current goal for this year for NBEA/SBEA membership is 167. She encouraged all present to renew or become a member of NBEA/SBEA. This membership includes benefits of \$250,000 of Professional Liability Insurance, and eight publications per year—four *Business Education Forum* and four *Keying-In*. Other benefits are shown on the website.

Journal of Business and Training Education: Melanie Meche reported that this year the Journal will be sent in an electronic form. The paper copy has become too expensive. A demonstration of the new media format was shown.

Awards Committee: Mona Bickham reported that there will be no awards for this year. Problems arise when the person nominating is not a current member of LBE or if the person being nominated is not a member of LBE. There are many secondary and post-secondary business teachers who are worthy of the prestigious awards awarded by LBE. Mona encouraged all business teachers to become members of LBE in order that we are able to recognize the outstanding teachers in our state.

Membership Committee: Melanie Meche reported that Membership for the last year was up from 49 to 151 thanks to the October conference. She reminded everyone that dues cover your membership from Spring Conference to Spring Conference. She encouraged all members to renew their membership for the coming year.

Nominating Committee: The nominations for the coming year for open positions on the Executive Board are as follows:

Vice President, Laura Spencer, Carroll High School
Treasurer, Susan Fontenot, W. E. Smith Career Center, Lafayette
Parliamentarian, Nancy Crippen Hearne, West Ouachita High
Chaplain, Cherry Johnson, Southern University Lab
Secondary Representative, North, Elaine Garland, Natchitoches Central
Secondary Representative, South, Nikita Clark, Hahnville High
Post Secondary Representative, North, Barbara O'Neal, LTC Alexandria Campus
Post Secondary Representative, South, Mary Pat Younger, LTC Baton Rouge
Campus.

New Business: Louisiana ACTE will be changing its conference back to July/August and will not have another meeting this year. Louisiana ACTE will meet again during the August of 2008.

A motion was made by Becky Draughn and seconded by J'Ann LeMoine that we return to our Spring Conferences rather than a Fall Conference. Motion Passed.

LABE will return to our Spring Conference being independent of the Louisiana ACTE organization. Our next meeting will be in the *Spring* of 2008. We will then meet again in the August of 2008 with Louisiana ACTE.

Election of New Officers: New officers ran unopposed and were accepted by acclamation. Since new officers were not in attendance, there was no installation of officer ceremony.

In Recognition: A plaque was presented by Mona Bickham to Genny Melancon in absentia for her service as Treasurer and Web Master to LABE. Mona also presented Pat Miers a plaque in appreciation for her service as President this year.

Mona Bickham offered the Benediction

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Melanie A Meche

Melanie A. Meche