



**NARFE**  
**MISSOURI**  
**FEDERATION EXECUTIVE BOARD (FEB)**  
**MINUTES OF THE FIRST QUARTER MEETING**  
**MAY 4, 2022**  
*(Oasis Hotel, Springfield, MO)*

President Emerson Kretzer called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. A moment of silent reflection immediately followed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was lead by 1<sup>st</sup> VP Sherry Haskins.

Secretary Gary Andrew called the roll. All board members were present with the exception of Stephen Price, Lois Nowlin, Michele Brown and Ronny Lenzy. 1<sup>st</sup> VP Sherry Haskins attended via conference call. Also present were National NARFE Secretary/Treasurer Kathryn Hensley, Region V Vice-President Cindy Reneé Blythe and Federation Secretary-Elect Kay Crayton.

*MOTION:* The Minutes from the January FEB meeting were approved on a motion by Linda Kurz and seconded by Laura Cowart.

Treasurer Marcy Nelson's reports were previously distributed. Marcy advised of a \$3 error to the balance. She will correct the report then resend it to the board and to Mary for publication.

Region V Field Vice-President Cindy Reneé Blythe will give her report at the conference.

President Emerson Kretzer's report was previously distributed. He will also report at the conference. Emerson told the board that Chapter 991 (Washington) has closed. Chapters 2256 (Kansas City North) and Chapter 1437 (Shepherd of the Hills/Branson) are in the process of closing. Chapters are closing primarily because of the difficulty getting members to step up to become officers. There was a short discussion with regard to the chapter closings and transference of their funds.

Craig initiated a discussion with regard to the integration of NARFE's AMS and NES communication systems and the difficulties of such a process. Laura informed the board that the CAB committee reported to the national board about the communication systems at an earlier NEB meeting, but the national board failed to respond.

1<sup>st</sup> VP/National Legislative Chair Sherry Haskins' report was previously distributed. She had nothing to add.

2<sup>nd</sup> VP/Immediate Past President/Membership Chair/FEEA Coordinator Laura Cowart's report was previously distributed. She had nothing to add.

Most District Leaders submitted a quarterly report. See the newsletter for details.

1<sup>st</sup> CDL Craig Pettibone met with Cori Bush's office to inform them of NARFE issues. Further discussion centered on the difficulty of contacting constituents' legislators.

2<sup>nd</sup> CDL Linda Kurz informed the board that she continues to receive communications from Rep. Cori Bush and Rep. Ann Wagner. Linda also confers with Rep. Wagner's office informing them of NARFE issues. Linda told the board that the redistricting map for Missouri is still in flux and the Second District is key.

4<sup>th</sup> CDL Maxine Rodriguez advised the board that the Cass County chapter is meeting in-person again even though they have only three members keeping the chapter going. She expressed the difficulty of getting people to step forward to help run chapters. Maxine said she is not currently aware of the Pomme de Terre chapter wanting to close.

5<sup>th</sup> CDL Joanne Collins told the board that Congressman Cleaver is actively campaigning. She said that most chapters in her district meet either in-person or virtually.

7<sup>th</sup> CDL Paul Mosbaugh read his report. Chapter 19 meets more for social purposes, having lunch and some form of entertainment. They average ten members at their meetings. President Bob Sterba of Chapter 1437 told Paul that they wanted to close their chapter. Paul informed Bob that only the Federation President could close a chapter. The chapter has few active members and only three officers.

8<sup>th</sup> CDL Walter Cowart reported that he did not visit the chapters in this district nor have they communicated with him. Chapter 11 averages about twenty members at their meetings. The Poplar Bluff chapter virtually does not exist. Contacting anyone from that chapter to facilitate a closing and transfer of their funds remains elusive.

Alzheimer's Coordinator Lois Nowlin's report was previously distributed.

NARFE-PAC Coordinator Elbert Williams' report was previously distributed. He advised that even though collections are strong, they still might not meet the goal of \$1.8 million; 65% of the goal has been collected. In Region V, only Iowa and Kansas have received distributions. There are only five sustaining donors in Missouri. The donation process of Dues Withholding is referenced in the Conference Program. PAC disbursement figures can be reviewed on the website.

Newsletter Editor Mary Lamping announced her resignation to the board effective at the end of this year's last publication. The current contract with the publisher is locked in until 2024. The board discussed how a new editor might be sought. The discussion also included the process of printing and distributing the newsletter. Gary asked Mary to draft a guide detailing the duties and responsibilities of a newsletter editor. Mary will also write an article for the next newsletter describing what she does as the editor of our quarterly paper.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1- Bylaws Revision – Although the 2022 revision was approved by Kathryn Hensley, NARFE Secretary/Treasurer, it was so approved with the understanding that it will be completely revised in accordance with the current template provided by the national office. One of the major changes needed is to replace the ‘20% of the membership requirement’ to approve bylaw changes. Conferences do not attract anywhere near 20% of membership. A discussion followed about getting people to run for office. The issue was tabled to the next meeting of the new board.

*MOTION: Laura moved that the business of rewriting the bylaws be tabled until the next Federation board meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.*

## NEW BUSINESS

- 1- Chapter Per Capita Dues – Due to the pandemic, chapters had not been meeting or rarely meeting. The Federation board met virtually, thus holding down expenses. Additionally, chapter membership has been declining which in turn decreased operating expenses. With money coming to the Federation from NARFE National, the board discussed how to deal with Per Capita Dues.

*MOTION: Marcy moved to set the Chapter Per Capita dues at \$0 going forth. The motion was seconded and passed.*

- 2- NARFE Advocacy Positions – Prior to the board meeting and at the meeting, Craig distributed materials relevant to the advocacy discussion. Details on the issues can be found on the NARFE website.

Background: A national committee was put together to “seek comments on this update from NARFE members ... and present recommended changes to the NEB” before their next meeting at FedCon22 in August.

Response time is short – July 8<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> to express changes or edits.

The crux of the board discussion emphasized the importance of Congress-NARFE issues and getting that information to the membership. Emerson said he could send an email to Federation members via the NES to get the word out to as many people as possible. Paul suggested that chapters write about the advocacy position in newsletters. Upon further discussion, Emerson will send an email to chapter presidents attaching a template of issues to be considered for comment from chapter members. Chapter presidents will then forward the comments to Craig who will summarize them. Members may also send in their comments via the FedHub.

The board meeting wrapped up with Laura reminding officers and committee chairs of a few housekeeping matters with regard to the conference, conference agenda and logistics.

*MOTION: Gary moved for the July board meeting to be held virtually. The motion was seconded and passed.*

*MOTION: Call to adjourn the meeting by Linda came at 10:31 a.m. The motion was seconded and carried.*

**Next FEB meeting: July 28, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. held virtually.**

*Gary Andrew*

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Approved 7/\_\_/2022