

Minutes of the National Association of Forensic Economics
Board of Directors Meeting
July 22 – 23, 2006 Chicago, IL

Voting members attending: Frank Tinari, Kurt Krueger, Steve Shapiro, Larry Spizman, Beth Gunderson, Ed Foster, and Chris Bruce. Also attending: George Schieren, Jack Ward, Mike Piette, and Gary Skoog

1. President Tinari began the meeting at 8:00 am and welcomed everyone.
2. Schieren presented the minutes from the January 6, 2006 Board meeting. It was moved and seconded (Krueger, Shapiro) **that the minutes be approved with the corrected spelling (Spizman) of “Spizeman.”** The motion passed 7 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain. Schieren presented the minutes from the April 6, 2006 electronic meeting. It was moved and seconded (Krueger, Shapiro) **that the minutes be approved.** The motion passed 7 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain. Schieren presented the minutes from the May 8, 2006 electronic meeting. It was moved and seconded (Krueger, Gunderson) **that the minutes be approved.** The motion passed 7 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain. Schieren presented the minutes from the June 23, 2006 electronic meeting. It was moved and seconded (Krueger, Gunderson) **that the minutes be approved.** The motion passed 7 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain.
3. Schieren presented the half-year financial report showing net income of \$4,438.64, with a cash, or near-cash, balance of \$205,634.14. He also reported the transfer of funds into a \$100,000 certificate of deposit paying 5.13% interest. As of June 30, 2006, NAFE had 647 memberships and 75 subscribers. It was moved and seconded (Gunderson, Krueger) **that the financial report be accepted.** The motion passed 7 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain.
4. Krueger reported on the upcoming Southern Economic Association meetings to be held in Charleston, South Carolina on Saturday, November 20. There will be three NAFE sessions with papers, hypothetical testimony, and an international aspect.
5. Spizman reported on the upcoming Eastern Economic Association meetings to be held in New York City February 23 – 26, 2007. Marc Weinstein is helping organize 3 or 4 sessions.
6. Foster reported that NAFE will not be participating in the Missouri Valley Economic Association meetings in Minneapolis in 2007.
7. Bruce reported that approximately 32 people attended the NAFE sessions at the recent Western Economic Association meetings in San Diego, with about 50 people attending the NAFE reception. Tinari congratulated Chris on the good job he did of covering for missing program participants.
8. Ward reported on the upcoming winter international program being organized by Jim Rodgers. It will be a cruise, and 6 – 7 people have signed up thus far. Ward also reported on the recent spring international program held with 15 participants in Italy. One result of these international programs will be the participation by some international experts at the upcoming ASSA meetings. Also, the journals are getting some good spin-off paper submissions. Next year’s meeting will be in Barcelona, Spain, with the 2008 meeting planned for Istanbul, Turkey.
9. Gunderson reported on the recent efforts of the Membership Committee (Gunderson, Barry Ben-Zion, Marc Weinstein, and Stephanie Rizzarda Pearson). The committee solicited and received proposals for designing and printing a promotional brochure for NAFE. This brochure, describing NAFE and the benefits of membership, would be distributed at professional meetings and sent to potential members. It could also be sent to non-member attendees at professional meetings, if such lists are compiled at our

conference meetings. There was discussion about the possibility of advertising in other journals such as those targeted to Labor or Human Resources. There also was discussion of the need for a NAFE logo. It was moved and seconded (Krueger, Gunderson) that **the Board authorizes the Membership Committee to spend up to \$3000 for brochure development (including logo) and printing.** The motion passed 7 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain. In the discussion of membership, it was pointed out that as of now there is no way to email all the members who have email capability and known addresses. It was moved and seconded (Gunderson, Shapiro) that **an email list of members be created for use by the President to communicate with members.** The motion passed 7 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain. In considering content and uses of promotional material it was suggested that NAFE does not have a working, public definition of what constitutes forensic economics. It was moved and seconded (Krueger, Shapiro) that **the Board authorizes the President to appoint a committee to develop and recommend to the Board a definition of forensic economics to be used by NAFE.** The motion passed 7 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain.

10. Krueger presented the recommendations of the Nominating Committee (Krueger, Will Cobb, Manny Smith, and David Schap). It was the unanimous recommendation of the committee that Bob Bohm be nominated for Southern Vice-President and Gary Albrecht be nominated for At-Large Vice President. It was moved and seconded (Krueger, Gunderson) **that the recommendations of the Nominating Committee be accepted.** The motion passed 7 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain.
11. There was discussion about a policy for paying honoraria to special participants in NAFE sessions at the ASSA and possibly other meetings. Such honoraria have been paid in the past on an ad hoc basis, with the Board approving each request. The Board felt that because of the multitude of requests and the necessity of timely approval, perhaps there should be a line item in the budget and the President should have limited authority to approve such requests. It was moved and seconded (Shapiro, Bruce) that **the President of NAFE is authorized to pay up to \$500 honorarium per person to conference participants from North America and \$1000 per person for conference participants from outside North America if the participants are not members of NAFE, and are either government employees, or persons with great scholarly achievement, or are international experts, and if the participant's presentation will be of broad interest to the NAFE membership. The total honoraria per year are not to exceed \$3000.** The motion passed 7 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain.
12. Piette reported on the *Journal of Forensic Economics*. There has been a decline in the number of quality submissions to the *JFE*, with the acceptance rate falling from 77.8% in 1999 to the mid-40% level in recent years. Notwithstanding this decline, the *JFE* was 7 issues behind in 2001 and will be only 2 issues behind after a double issue later this year. This is due mainly to the Special Issues and the work of Jim Rodgers and Bob Male in promoting the legal damages in the states series of papers. At some point in the future these state papers may be bundled into a single book or cd, but the problem of some of the articles containing outdated material by then may be large. Aside from needing quality articles, the other biggest problem is the continuing need for reviewers. Piette reported that these problems also have contributed to the *Journal of Legal Economics* being way behind in issues and not having anything coming out in the near future. He also informed the Board of a letter sent out over his, Steve Shapiro's and Jack Ward's signatures to Tony Gamboa at Vocational Economics correcting false statements Gamboa had made regarding the peer-review process at the *JFE*. He was told directly that the *JFE* has never relinquished the peer-review process at any time in its history.
13. The report of the Bylaws Committee (Stephen Horner – Chair, Skoog, and Frank Slesnick) was presented by Skoog. In addition to numerous small editorial changes, the committee proposed that the section dealing with quorums at meetings be rewritten to

conform to Missouri law (the state in which NAFE is incorporated), the rules governing NAFE meetings be specified as Robert's Rules of Order, provision be made for electronic meetings, and the part of the section dealing with Directors' tenure remove the description of how the terms would go from 2 years to 3 years, since that transition took place a number of years ago. The Board agreed with these proposed changes and found some additional semantic changes. It also had a discussion about the Boards of Editors and their meetings. In light of the additional possible changes, the consensus of the Board was for the Bylaws Committee to consider these possible modifications and submit a new report to the Board for its consideration before submitting any proposed changes to the membership of NAFE.

14. The Board discussed the issue of procedures to be used to conduct electronic meetings, since this is a relatively new type of meeting. After considering a proposal by Schieren, it was moved and seconded (Krueger, Spizman) that the following be used in conducting electronic meetings:

Procedures for an Electronic Meeting of the NAFE Board of Directors

- 1. An electronic meeting will be called by the President using email or telephonic means.**
- 2. Once a meeting has been called, the President will make every effort to ensure that all Board members are participating and will ascertain which Board members are participating by requiring an electronic/telephonic acknowledgment. The Executive Director normally will serve as recording secretary for the meeting. Other invited parties may participate in discussion during the meeting.**
- 3. After the participating Board members, and others, have been identified, the President will open the floor for motions.**
- 4. If a motion is made and seconded, electronic/telephonic discussion of the motion will continue until every Board member has had ample opportunity to have input and respond to other Board members.**
- 5. After all participating Board members have acknowledged they are finished providing input to the discussion, the President will present the final version of the motion and call for a vote.**
- 6. The voting will remain open until every participating Board member has voted, either "yes," "no," or "abstain."**
- 7. The effective date of the meeting will be the day the President opens the floor for motions. The meeting will be adjourned the day the president indicates such.**

The motion passed 7 – yes, 0 – no, 0 – abstain.

15. There was lengthy discussion about possibility and desirability of somehow allowing multiple employees of any organization registered as a member of NAFE to have multiple-member access to the NAFE-L. Since NAFE neither owns nor controls the NAFE-L, it was recognized that this is not a Board decision. However, to facilitate the work of the NAFE-L owners, the Bylaws Committee will consider possible changes that would make such a proposal possible in terms of membership categories.
16. It was moved and seconded (Gunderson, Spizman) that the Board authorizes the Executive Director and the President-Elect to select the time and place for the 2007 summer Board of Directors' meeting.
17. Tinari thanked everyone for their hard work preceding and during the weekend. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am July 23.

Respectfully submitted by
George A. Schieren, Executive Director
July 28, 2006