

MNA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2015

Comfort Suites, Worthington, MN

Present: Joni Harms-Worthington; Pete Mohs-Pequot Lakes; Mike Jacobson-Paynesville; Chris Schultz – Howard Lake; Mike Dalton – Cannon Falls; Karin Ramige-Cornwell – Glencoe; Chris Knight, APG Media; Justin Lessman-Jackson, Lisa Hills– MNA

Absent: Marge Winkelman- ECM

Welcome and Call to Order by President Harms at 9:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes from the April 9 & 10, 2015, meeting on a **MOTION** by Mohs, seconded by Cornwell, passing unanimously

Executive Director Report – Hills reported that business at MNA is good some highlights:

- Sam Swanson joined the MNA staff in May and he has hit the ground running. MNA will fill the open media buyer position later this year.
- The bill to restore the publication of names of owners of unclaimed property introduced by Rep. Atkins during the regular legislative session was not included in the Legislative Special Session. Rep. Atkins is very committed to getting this legislation passed and will work with representatives over the interim to keep a keep a spotlight on the need to pass the bill.
- The MNA newspaper directory was recently printed and mailed to members.

Finance Reports – Jacobson reviewed disbursements, staff Expenses, financial statements and balance sheets for April-May. He reports overall income is above budget and prior year; overall expenses are below budget and prior year. The Financial reports were approved on a **MOTION** by Dalton, seconded by Knight, passing unanimously.

New Member Application An Associate Membership application for the Sauk Rapids Newsleader was approved on a **MOTION** by Schultz, seconded by Jacobson, passing unanimously. The newspaper will be eligible for Active membership following one year of publication.

State Auto Insurance Dividend Program The State Auto Insurance Property/Casualty Dividend Program offered to MNA members will be terminated effective August 31, 2015. A review will be conducted at the end of August, if the program is profitable, and also meets the minimum participation threshold a final dividend distribution will be paid.

New Journalist of the Year Award

Dave Pyle passed away earlier this year. His legacy includes the AP Jobs Fair and the New Journalist of the Year Award which MNA took over from AP a few years ago. On a motion by Mohs, Seconded by Knight, the New Journalist of the Year award will be named the Dave Pyle New Journalist of the Year Award in Dave's honor. The motion passed unanimously.

Long Range Planning

A report from the Long Range planning meeting in April was reviewed.

The next board meeting will take place October 15 & 16 at the MNA office in Minneapolis.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. on a motion by Schultz

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Hills

MNI Board of Directors

A special MNI meeting was called to order by Chairman Mike Jacobson to review MNI's 990.

A **MOTION** to approve MNI's 990 form was made by Knight, Seconded by Cornwell, passing unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:36 p.m. on a motion by Dalton