Minutes of NBA Meeting - April 8, 1954

(Country Club, Beatrice - Gene Ackerley, Secretary)

President Bob Thomas opened and presided over the 20th Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Broadcasters Association. Minutes were read and Treasurer's report given by Secretary-Treasurer Gene Ackerley. Moved by Bud Pentz, seconded by Jim Ebel that they be approved. Carried.

President's report by Bob Thomas included a suggestion for yearly dues statements instead of semi-annual; dues structure discussion suggested TV NBA Board Member; pointed out that there is not enough association money available for special projects on present dues income; need to screen state legislative matters.

Roger Carey of FCC discussed Conelrad projects and FCC rules and recommendations relating to Conelrad. Mentioned nationwide exercise of Conelrad in cooperation with Civil Defense planned for this year. Broadcasters in Nebraska, according to Carey, are to be congratulated for the way Conelrad has been set up in the State. Extended appreciation for this cooperation from broadcasters. Question and answer session regarding details of the Conelrad system.

Austin Bacon, civilian head of Civil Defense in Nebraska, pointed out that Civil Defense in Nebraska is on a firm footing, thanks to the Nebraska Broadcasters for disseminating the necessary information. "Operation Ivy" film on Hydrogen bomb discussed and scheduled for showing later in the day. Few restricted portions. Civil Defense will furnish programming material for the Conelrad tests. ETs also available explaining CD in operation during disasters.

Captain Dean Swanson, USAF, Ground Observer Coordinator for Nebraska, was next speaker. He pointed out that through radio and TV efforts GOC is 65% manned in Nebraska and is capable of operating satisfactorily.

Captain O. H. Witt, Education Department of the Nebraska Safety Patrol, reviewed states concern with traffic problems. Plan in progress to organize a Governor's-Citizen's group to help eliminate traffic problems. Speed is the number one problem.

Ralph Hardy, Vice-President of NARTB, in charge of Government Relations gave a complete report on the activities of his department. Following are the general topics he discussed: (1) General picture effecting broadcasting in Washington, with emphasis on the maturity of the industry and the forward looking, progressive attitude developed by both the FCC and the industry during recent years. (2) Congress - make-up of House and Senate in relation to Committees of special interest to the broadcasting industry. (3) White House- President's power to make appointments to FCC etc. (4) License fee matter- rule making delayed until July 1, 1955 to allow additional study. (5) Political broadcasting problem - "comparable rates" - suggested to broadcasters to have a sound basis for political rate charges.

(6) Multiple ownership. (7) Remote control of directional arrays.... might be action in about a year. (8) State legislation - increase in items affecting broadcasting. State groups should supply information to NARTB.

Nominating and resolutions committees appointed by President. Committees as follows: Resolutions Committee: John Alexander, Chairman: Bill Martin, Les Hilliard, and Lyle DeMoss. Nominating Committee: Paul Fry, Chairman: Bud Crawford, James Pickett, and James Ebel.

Recess for Luncheon, during which a gift was presented to Les Hilliard of Scottsbluff in recognition of his 20 years of service to N B A. Was one of the original organizers and members of the Association.

Showing of Civilian Defense Film "Operation Ivy".

Afternoon session started with report of the nominating committee. Nominations as follows: President, Harry Burke, Omaha; Vice-President, Max Young, Sidney; Secretary-Treasurer, Bud Pentz, Beatrice; NARTB Representative Jim Ebel, Lincoln; Directors - Bob Johnson, Fremont; John Alexander, North Platte; and Bill Martin, Grand Island. Nebraska Network Coordinator-Bill McDonald.

Les Hilliard moved and John Alexander seconded motion to vote for nominations as a group. Carried.

Paul Fry made a motion, seconded by Pentz, to add a TV Board Member. Carried. Owen Saddler nominated by Pentz, seconded by Ebel. Saddler elected by separate vote.

Bill McDonald, Nebraska Network Coordinator, gave a report on the Activities and finances of the Network. Operates on a $2,500.00 annual budget. Suggested scholarship in Radio-TV Department at U. of N. Gave a report on production of "Your University Speaks" show.

Discussion of NBA dues schedule in regard to TV stations tabled for further study by new officers and directors.

Resolutions Committee report read by John Alexander, Chairman. Motion carried to accept all resolutions read as follows:

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY NBA

1. Be it resolved that the NBA assembled in Beatrice, Nebraska, this 8th Day of April 1954, do unanimously offer our thanks and congratulations to the officers and committee chairmen for a job well done during the past year. To Bob Thomas, President; Les Hilliard, Vice-President; Gene Ackerley, Secretary-Treasurer; and the directors. To Bud Pentz and Maxine, and the KWBE staff for the gracious hospitality and many courtesies. To Bill McDonald for his efforts on our behalf in administering the

Nebraska Radio Network. To George Kilpatrick, President of the Beatrice Chamber of Commerce for his welcome. To Roger Carey, FCC Coordinating Engineer, for his instruction and attendance relative to Conelrad. To Austin Bacon, Nebraska Civil Defense Director. To Captain O. H. Witt, Nebraska Safety Patrol and to Captain Dean Swanson of the USAF, Director of the Ground Observer Corps for Nebraska.

2. Be it resolved that the NBA is most appreciative of the highly intelligent report rendered by Ralph Hardy of the NARTB. And be it further resolved that we appreciate the NARTB's interest in State Associations making the services of Ralph Hardy and others available to us on a local level.

3. Be it resolved that we express our thanks to the University of Nebraska representatives, George Round, Ken Keller, and Paul Shupback for their attendance.

4. Be it resolved that the NBA endorses and supports the position of the NARTB relative to the proposed license fees for broadcasting stations.

Discussion of the Voice of Democracy contest with comments by Joe Baker of KMTV. Motion by Baker, seconded by Lyle DeMoss to actively support the Voice of Democracy contest and offer an award of a $100 savings bond. Vote of 5 for and 6 against. Motion by Bob Johnson to invite Jaycees to meet with NBA directors regarding the Voice of Democracy at the next board meeting. Carried.

Bob Thomas offered invitation to NBA to hold the Annual Meeting next year at Norfolk. Similar invitation from Jack Yeager to hold the meeting at Kearney. Comment by Les Hilliard that meetings should either be rotated from east to west locations or pick a centrally located city in the state to eliminate extremely long trips each year by Western members. Vote taken on location of next year's meeting--- For Norfolk 11--- for Kearney 3. Meeting next year at Norfolk.

Meeting adjourned.

# REGISTRATION LIST - 1954 NBA MEETING

| NAME | REPRESENTING | CITY |
|---|---|---|
| Harry Burke | KFAB | Omaha |
| Bob Thomas | WJAG | Norfolk |
| Gene Ackerley | KCOW | Alliance |
| Lyle DeMoss | WOW | Omaha |
| Les Hilliard | KOLT | Scottsbluff |
| Paul R. Fry | KBON | Omaha |
| Dick Wehra | KBON | Omaha |
| Bill Walter | KOLT | Scottsbluff |
| Evans Meier | WJAG | Norfolk |
| Tom Nuss | KWBE | Beatrice |
| Paul Schupback | Univ. of Nebr. | Lincoln |
| Doc Embree | KRVN | Lexington |
| Ed Mahiesky | AP | Omaha |
| Ken. R. Keller | Univ. of Nebr. | Lincoln |
| James D. Millekon, Jr. | KOWH | Omaha |
| William Drake | United Press | Omaha |
| Bill Martin | KMMJ | Grand Island |
| Ken Heodrick | KFGT | Fremont |
| Bob Johnson | KFGT | Fremont |
| H. Picket | KHAS | Hastings |
| Jack Yeager | KGFW | Kearney |
| Bud Crawford | KCNI | Broken Bow |
| Max Young | KSID | Sidney |
| George Round | Univ. of Nebr. | Lincoln |
| Bill Boyce | KWBE | Beatrice |
| Dick Chapin | KFOR | Lincoln |
| A. James Ebel | KOLN | Lincoln |
| Geo. H. Haskell | KFAB | Omaha |
| Ralph W. Hardy | NARTB | Wash., D. C. |
| Arden E. Swisher | KMTV | Omaha |
| Max Brown | KRVN | Lexington |
| Warren Middleton | Broadcasting-Telecasting | Chicago |
| Joe H. Baker | KMTV | Omaha |
| Lyell Bremser | KFAB | Omaha |
| John Alexander | KODY | North Platte |
| Bill MacDonald | KFAB | Lincoln |