Minutes of NBA Meeting - May 22, 1953

(Clarke Hotel, Hastings, Bob Thomas, Sec'y)

President Lenwell opened meeting. Minutes were read and Treasurer's report given by Sec'y-Treas. Bob Thomas. Cash on hand $293.53. Moved by Pentz, seconded by Crawford: they be approved. Carried.

President's report included: mention of NBA Incorporation and Get Out Vote Campaign; also explanation of Federation of State Broadcasters Association.

President appointed Paul Fry, Harry Burke, and Rex Lathen on Resolutions Committee - Fry Chairman. He appointed following on Nominating Committee; Hap Anderson, Chairman; Jack Yeager, Todd Storz.

Mr. Wendell Harding, State Director, Civil Defense, Lincoln outlined his agency's activity. Major Richard Ellsworth, Air Force liaison to State Civil Defense briefly described Ground Observor programs available to broadcasters.

Mr. Jim Olson, Sup't, Nebraska Historical Society, described plans for 1954 Nebraska Territorial Centennial. His talk included suggestions that NBA network affiliate members stimilate origination of network shows in State during 1954; the possibility of May 30th, 1954 "kick-off show" produced by NBA member stations; historical shows or forums at individual stations. He invited Industry support. He also mentioned Dedication of new Historical Society building at Lincoln, September 27, 1953.

Mr. Joe Hartenbower, Kansas City, District Ten Director, NARTB, and Mr. Bob Richards, Executive, Vice President - NARTB, Washington reported on Nat'l Ass'n activities. They urged increased membership of NARTB (now approx. 51% of Broadcasters) opposition to renewal of Baseball broadcasting restrictions - explanation of NARTB's attitude toward BMI and BAB clinics, Freedom of News - Taft-Hartley provisions - and the 1953 fall District Meeting scheduled for Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Al Marlin, Midwest BMI representative talked about upcoming BMI and BAB clinic and Student Composers Activity activity.

George Round, Public Relations Director, University of Nebraska, and Paul Schupbach, Acting Director, University Radio Department thanked broadcasters for support. Paul distributed Pronunciation Guide published by University Radio Department. George Round advanced suggestion that NBA sponsor awards for program excellence. This idea was later turned over to Officiers and Directors for study.

Virgil Sharpe reported Nebraska Network activities and financial status. He announced his resignation as Nebraska Net co-ordinator, after 14 years in that capacity.

Nebraska L.B. 434 was discussed by Les Walker and Harold

Soderlund. This bill would prohibit advertising of liquor prices. Consensus was, that passage of bill might stimulate further restrictions on advertising. Members agreed to write their Senators.

Meeting adjourned for luncheon. Ex-Senator Fred Seaton addressed members on 1953 GOP campaign strategy.

Following luncheon, discussion developed on advisability of NBA participation in Federation of State Broadcasters Association at $50.00 per year. Motion by Fogarty, second by Hilliard, that question be tabled, that it be re-examined by Board after six months; with Board having power to make decision then, if it deemed advisable. Carried.

President urged members to support reorganization of Radio News Directors on June 3 during Omaha BMI Clinic.

George Smith summarized May 15th, Educational TV meeting in Lincoln, when State Educators surveyed potential of this media. Smith offered opinion that Nebraska Educators were taking realistic approach to problem. Smith and Anderson agreed to offer Governor Crosby Nebraska Broadcaster support for his appointed Ed. TV Committee so they may properly complete their study:

Omaha World Herald Safety Campaign was discussed.

Fogarty moved, Anderson seconded that NBA officially oppose so-called Baseball Bill. Carried.

Paul Fry reported following resolutions:

Resolutions PASSED BY NBA

I - Be it resolved that the NBA, assembled here in Hastings, this 21st day of May, do unanimously offer our thanks and congratulations to the officers and committee chairman for a job well done.

II - To KHAS, its manager, Duane Watts and particularly to Senator Seaton for joining with us and being our principal speaker.

III - Our thanks to: The Mayor of Hastings, Wendel Foote; the President of the Chamber of Commerce; and, the city of Hastings for their fine hospitality.

IV - Thanks to Joe Hartenbower, 10th Dist. Director and Bob Richards, Ex-Vice President of NARTB for being with us.

V - Thanks to Wendell Harding, State Civil Defense Director and Major Richard Ellsworth and Lieut. Bernard Kaldahl for their participation.

VI - Thanks to the University of Nebraska representatives, George Round, Ken Keller and Paul Schupbach for their

attendance and for the pronunciation guide.

VII - Thanks to Al Marlin, BMI, for being with us and for his report on the upcoming BMI Clinic.

VIII - Thanksto Jim Olson for his report on the plans of the State Centennial.

IX - Sincere thanks to V. Sharpe for his 14 years of service as Coordinator for the Nebr. Net. and to Bob Thomas for his conscientious and faithful service as Sec.-Treas.

X - Be it resolved that these NBA broadcasters are opposed to the Johnson proposal regulating the broadcasting of baseball and/or any other athletic event and that copies of this resolution be forwarded to Sen. Johnson and individual members of his committee, and to Nebraska congressmen, as we believe that this measure violates the principal of free enterprise.

XI - Be it further resolved by the Nebraska Broadcasters Association that we are inexorably opposed to LB434 and/or any other legislative proposal which limits advertising of any legal product or prohibits any normal part of advertising on any media. Such restrictions adversely affects the American way of life and tends stifle free competition. Furthermore,restraint against advertising on one legal product may set a precedent to prohibit advertising on other legal products such action being against the public interest.

XII - Be it resolved that the FCC and its members individually, be formally thanked and commended by the NBA for the passage of the regulation making possible remote control Transmitter operation and relaxation of Operator rule requirements.

Harold Anderson presented the following nominations from Nominating Committee: President - Bob Thomas; Vice-President - Less Hilliard, Sec'y-Treasurer - Les Walker --- Directors Bud Crawford, Paul Fry, and Bud Pentz --- NARTB Representative, John Alexander. Normal Rules were suspended in lieu of further nominations from the floor, and unanimous ballot was cast for nomiations offered by the committee.

Site of 1954 Convention City discussed. Possibility of holding meetings in conjunction with the BMI-BAB Program and Sales Clinics was discussed. Contingent upon decision of 1954 Clinic site; invitation from Bud Pentz of KWBE Beatrice, to hold 1954 NBA Convention there, was accepted.

Suggestion made to secure details of Sesac discussion at May 23rd, Kansas Broadcasters Association meeting, and distribute to members.

Meeting adjourned.

Ray Scott Ham 2917 Ave E
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