

# Washington State Society of Enrolled Agents

## Annual Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2015

### In attendance:

President	Ed Harris, EA President-Elect
Immediate Past President	Barbara Culver, EA
Vice-President	Trudy Moore, EA
Treasurer	Linda Newell, EA
Director	Don Ptolemy, EA
Director	Catherine (Kate) Grubb, EA
President Elect	Virginia Goldman, EA
Office Administrator	Michele Allen, EA

also in attendance:

Dirk Rhynsburger, EA

Steve Nehen, EA

### Call to Order

At 5:41 PM President Ed Harris called the meeting to order. There were 18 members in attendance in addition to the members listed above. The membership recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Minutes

Kate Grubb submitted the minutes from 2015 annual meeting. Dick Schmidt made a motion to accept minutes as submitted. Steve Nehen seconded. The motion was approved.

### Treasurer's Report

Linda Newell submitted a Profit and Loss statement. Linda said we are in pretty good shape. Although we are down on convention projections, we are still well within our budget. Dick Schmidt moved we accept the treasurer's report. Barbara Culver seconded. The motion was approved.

Linda Newell presented the board's proposed budget for the coming year. The board is proposing to run at a little loss this year and to turn that around next year. The report shows that the majority of our income comes from membership dues via the national organization and those arrive in June. We left in a budget item for Apex. There are funds available to send members to the Schuldiner/Smollan Leadership Academy training. Leadership is not included

in the budget yet since it is based on our net earnings. We will know how much that will be by the end of June. Dick Schmidt pointed out that we need to promote education sooner than December to make our projected education income. Dick Schmidt moved we accept the budget as presented. Sandra Robb seconded. The motion was approved.

### President's Report

Ed Harris reported that NAEA has posted an alert that the IRS will be in serious hurt next year from more budget cuts, so audits will be down and there will be fewer pubs printed. Congress is trying to make a point. The NAEA website has a space for members to update and enhance their online profile. Ed suggested our members log on and update to help us compete with other affiliates. There are new features, including a way to post a picture. Ed pointed out that education is big part of what we do. Our previous education chair had to resign for personal reasons and we need someone to step up and help. Ed's written report has more about where we were and where we are going. Ed concluded that he was thankful for opportunity to serve.

### Administrative Office Report

Ed introduced our new Office Administrator Michele Allen. Dennis LeMaster, who has served in that position since 2008, has retired. Michele said she felt honored to take over his duties. Michele reported that the toll free number will stay the same. She also encouraged the membership to update their NAEA website profile. Michele reported that our membership numbers are at 240 down from 266.

### Affiliate Council Report

Barbara Culver reported on behalf of Melissa Longmuir. Melissa provided an extensive written report in the membership packet. Barbara explained that the state affiliates plan APEX. Every month there is an affiliate phone conference to listen to what's going on.

### NAEA Fly In

Ed Harris explained that the Fly-In offers all members an opportunity to go to Washington, DC and meet with local congressman. This year they talked about the need professional preparers and tax payers have for extenders act predictability and giving IRS ability to control unregistered preparers (which congress shied away from). They also pointed out that EA credentials make part of tax code so EA's from all EAs should have the right to advertise their credentials, and not be prohibited by states from doing so.

### NAEA APEX

Ed Harris reported on APEX which occurs right after the fly in. Attendees get to meet other affiliate leaders, learning about their successes and failures. The banner used at pro bowls and

the Super Bowl “What is an EA?” is available for affiliates to borrow. As past-president Ed plans to promote EAs with past-president Sandra Robb.

### NAEA Benefits Report

Barbara Culver submitted a written report. Barbara said that EA's who think the NAEA has never done anything for them just don't know what they are talking about. NAEA Bob Kerr is on Capitol Hill every day to protect our credentials. NAEA's top goal is publicity to get people to hire EAs. Their government relations committee is there to remind us when to renew your credentials and to help solve problems we may have with getting credentials. They hold a conference with a tax track for EAs doing representation. They offer opportunity to do SEE courses. Their education offered affords almost all your needed annual education. They also have a tax service, tool kit, and a find an EA service. There is a 6 hour course on ACA archived in NAEA website which members can still watch for no charge. Barbara urged the members to check out national's web site.

### Policies and Procedures

Policies and Procedures are presented in the booklet. Members were urged to read them, and if they had any questions to ask a board member. Overseeing policy and procedures is included in board member responsibilities

### NAEA PAC

Sandra Robb served on the PAC committee a few years back. She explained the committee helps enrolled agents to support candidates who stand behind EAs. It is in its 9<sup>th</sup> year of reaching out lawmakers who sit on Senate and House Ways and Means. Sandra urged the membership to donate.

### Old Business

Kate Grubb spoke on web site we received free as an affiliate of NAEA provided by GetNetSet. It has just gone up, so the committee is working on adding information that the membership needs and wants. Kate asked people to visit the site and to please comment.

### New Business

Dick Schmidt reported that the Small Biz Fair held at Renton Tech always needs help manning table to talk to people about EAs.

### Awards

Ed Harris presented the board members certificates as a thank you for all their work. President Elect Virginia Goldman spoke about Ed's great leadership and said that she is glad he will be

her back up man. She presented Ed a parting gift, a pair of bulldog bookends, since Ed's new hobby is showing bulldogs.

### Nominating Committee and Elections

Barbara Culver presented the slate of candidates who have agreed to serve for the next year.

President	Virginia Goldman, EA
President- Elect	Trudy Moore, EA
Vice President	Donald Ptolemy, EA
Secretary	Catherine Grubb, EA
Treasurer	Linda Newell, EA
Immediate Past President	Ed Harris, EA
Director	Dirk Rhynsburger, EA term expires 2017
Director	Veronica Pohl, EA
Director	Steve Nehen, EA term expires 2016

The slate was short one director. Barb called for nominations from the floor three times, but there were no further nominations. The missing director slot will have to be filled by the board at a later date. Dick Schmidt moved to accept the nomination slate unanimously. Joe seconded. The motion was passed.

The annual meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Grubb, EA  
Secretary