

# NATIONAL EDGE & TA



## Board Meeting

Friday Night 6-12-9:00PM at the motel

1. Meeting called to order by President Larry Voris
2. Larry asked that only one person talk at a time. Listen and try not to repeat yourselves.
3. First introduction was Johnny Burger and welcomed him the National Board of Directors.
4. Next was Tom Yearian the new Hall of Fame coordinator.
5. First order was **Policy and Procedures (P & P)**

Larry stated that the policy & procedures aren't new to the board but is new since he has been on the board and he came on in 2003. The purposes of the P & P is to make policies by the board and then a procedure on how to carry out the policy thus leaving the bylaws alone. We can not over step the bylaws. But we can be more stringent than the bylaws and we don't have to be changing the bylaws all time. Johnny explained that branch 37 uses P & P. The BOD makes the policies and procedures and relates to the membership what the policies are and the procedures how to carry out the policy. Then the BOD can make changes to the policies. But if the membership wants to vote on a policy and does vote that locks that policy and it can't be changed unless the membership votes to make a change to that particular policy. Larry then said go to Article IV, Section 9 of the bylaws and he read, "The Board of Directors may set policies pertaining to the operation of the Association that is not covered by the Constitution & Bylaws pursuant of the State of Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 181.

Larry said that a lot of things we do are policies and procedures but we don't call them that. Then we could make changes to the P & P without a vote of the membership. There maybe things in the bylaws that keep changing. Then this item should be added as a policy & procedure and then the board can make these changes. It does have merit. Larry asked, do we as the board want to make the change and go to the P & P. Dick related that new members could be handled through the P & P making it much easier. There was much discussion on this subject. The board needs to make the commitment to go to the P & P system. We can not do this overnight.

Larry said as it states in the bylaws Article X – Safety

- a. The Association shall provide Safety Requirements to the branches.

This is an example of policies and procedures.

Our whole book is basically P & P. We need to start on the P & P now and have this ready before the next National Meeting in CA 2010.

If we have a bad policy and procedure, the BOD can make changes. If we have a bylaw that is not working, we have to wait until the next National meeting and send out the proposed changes to the bylaws and all branches have to vote on the changes.

It was agreed by all to make the change to the Policy & Procedure system. We all agreed that it will take some time but it will be better in the long run.

**6. Discussion of Advisors**

Are we using our advisors?

Dick said he didn't think they are being used properly. They should be the ones groomed to take over as a director in the future. Dorene said she takes her advisor along to answer question on steam and other things she isn't acquainted with. Dick doesn't have an advisor within 500 miles of him. He can't take one of them along to a meeting. Wayne doesn't have an advisor. Johnny doesn't have an advisor but Johnny feels that he needs to get a grip on things first and then come up with an advisor. Johnny has a man that is willing to be an advisor and has good qualifications. When Johnny is ready it is his call on an advisor. He will then present the person to the Board and then the person is appointed.

We talked about Gus wanting to retire. Ruth would like to have input on the selection. It was agreed to have Ruth present the person she want to work with.

**7. Discussion of National Buttons.**

Ruth asked me if we could go to a lapel pins rather than buttons.

Our organization continues to grow and the cost of materials to ship as well as shipping costs continues to increase. There was a lot of discussion and we will pursue it further.

Ruth gave me the breakdown of this year's buttons:

Button Cost for 11,000	2565.00	this is .233 each
Postage from supplier on buttons	164.71	
Shipping boxes to branches	101.44	
Postage to ship buttons to branches	1154.81	
Then we had to order 500 more buttons	190.00	this cost was .38 each
This total on buttons equal	\$ 4175.96	this equals .36 each

Larry read the note from Ruth from the supplier.

**LAPEL PINS**

We are pleased to tell you that we can offer you a Great Price for Lapel Pins!!!

11,000 qty. would cost .49 each\* Art & Shipping Additional.

This includes printing a photo on any custom shape, with an epoxy dome, and A butterfly clip attached. If you decide to go with spot colors, and not a photo, we can also do an etched pin at a competitive price.

\*Allow six weeks for production and delivery time.

Ruth needs to give us some more information and how much information we can get on a lapel pin. We will discuss it later by e-mail.

**8. Discussion of New Branches as well as some older branches**

Larry said that he has heard several time from different people about EDGETA Insurance. EDGETA is not an Insurance Company. We need more education on telling the branches that we are not an insurance company. This is a benefit of being a member of The Early Day Gas Engine & Tractor Association.

Wayne said that he discusses this with all of his prospective branches. He tells them that we are not an Insurance Company. Wayne said he asks each prospective branch if they have bylaws and officers. He said it needs to be a ligament club before he will talk to them. Much discussion of this issue. Wayne keeps telling us that a branch must have bylaws. If the branch is not incorporated then they only have to contact person and a safety officer. Larry called time out and referred everyone to Article VIII, section 1: Branches. Branch responsibilities.

b. Branches may be organized in any locality, elect their own officers, and conduct the business of their branch as they see fit, provided it does not conflict with these Bylaws and Constitution of the EDGETA.

e. Each branch shall have a designated Branch Safety Officer or other Branch Official so designated. It was discussed that if a branch incorporates, then they will be required to have a pres, v-p sec'y-treas and a board of directors. We also require they always have a Safety Officer.

Wayne said that if we give the branches \$4,000,000 worth of liability they should have these officers.

Then Larry brought up that if we use our P & P manual, We can say that we recommend that they have a Pres, V-P, Sec'y, Treas. Safety Officer and B of D. There are several clubs today that may only have one meeting a year. And they say we don't need all these officers for us to make our decisions.

Then Dorene brought up Branches and checking accounts. We as EDGETA don't have any thing to do with the branch bank account. We as EDGETA don't require the branches to have bank accounts. You don't have to have your branch number on your checks. Wayne said that Most of the new branches that we are taking in now already have bank accounts. They are existing clubs joining us for the insurance program. This was also discussed at length on what we should require for a new club to be accepted as a branch. We all need to be asking the same questions.

#### **9. Puddle hoppers or Doodle bugs**

We have a club in Maine that has a lot of these machines and control the safety of these vehicles. Wayne said these clubs are on top of the safety of the pulls and do a good job watching safety at all there shows and pulls.

**10. Tote Gotes:** These are 2-wheel vehicles are used in place of mules to haul cargo on trips. How do we control the use of these machines? Dick said that one way is to control the speed. Hold the speed to 3-4 mph. This would keep the 2-wheelers or small motorcycles with in reason on there speed. Johnny asked about golf carts and Larry said that golf carts are covered under there own section in the Q & A. This is another thing that needs to be added to our P & P manual.

**11. Stock Garden tractor pulls:** We don't presently have anything written for stock garden tractors. They want to take the belts off there garden tractors and pull stock right out of the yard. We don't address this in our garden tractor section.

The requesting branch does not want to use helmets and all the safety switches that we have listed. After going through our safety section we decided that we have this covered for stock tractors. Dick asked if we are seeing tractors that are not stock. There are a lot of hot rod garden tractors. It looks like we are violating our own requirements. Most of these tractor clubs have more safety

rules that we have listed. Are the garden tractor pullers following our guidelines? Dorene said they need to be following these guidelines or they don't have liability insurance coverage.

12. **Insurance Summary:** Dick

We had one incident last year and it still hasn't been settled. The man is back to about normal. Our insurance paid the ambulance bill and all the rest of the bills have been paid by his personal insurance. Larry said he had talked to the injured person and told them to keep all his expense records for the settlement. The person that owned the tractor paid for the tent that was damaged out of his own pocket. We decided to hold the insurance at \$4.00 for the next year. Back in 2005 we increased the premium per member to \$6.00 for a couple of years and we came up with a surplus in the insurance fund. We lowered the premiums in 2007 & 2008 to \$5.00 and this year we lowered again to \$4.00. It was decided to hold this year at \$4.00 and hold the surplus funds incase the premiums would go up on us.

13. **Hall of Fame:** Tom discussed the Hall of Fame program. He has drawn up a new form to go by when applying for induction into the hall of fame. Now we are not judging apple to apple. All applicants need to follow the same guidelines.

Make it uniform for all applicants. We have a standardized application form and put it on the web site. The web site now is pretty general. Tom wants to know what the applicant has done for EDGETA total. Tom is to complete the forms and go back to the directors for a final vote.

Larry mentioned that he would like to increase the number of inductees to a minimum of 6. Dorene said why don't we leave the number of inductees open.

Then it was mentioned if we have 20 applicants. We agreed to take the number 4 out and leave the inductees open and leave it to the judges. If we have 10 inductees so be it. We have in excess of 10,500 members and I'm sure we have several that deserve the honor of induction into the Hall of Fame.

Meeting was recessed until the next day.

Re-convene the board meeting from last night 6-12-2009

6-13-2009 8:00 p.m.

Picking up where we left off

14. **Questions & Answers.** Vendors. Dick said that we can't cover outside vendor anymore. This is true. In talking with Carrel our agent he states that this hasn't been excluded in our policy but we need to stop vendors from join EDGETA just to get insurance coverage. When I asked him about local branches serving food for their own show, he said it is not excluded in the policy it is ok at present.

15. **Web Site:** We need to break down the headings on the Safety page. Discussion on getting things posted in a timely manner. Larry said part of the problem could be him. We all are having trouble finding thing on the web site. When changes need to be made or added to the web site, send the information to Larry and he will send it to Ruth for her to forward it to Sally. This gives 2 more people a chance to look at the information to check for errors. Sally is doing a great job.

16. **Canadian branches.** Dick discussed the number of Canadian members of his branch. We can not cover a Canadian branch but can cover individual member that show in Canada.
17. **Reporting members to National:** We went to the bylaws and it states in Article III, Section 2. All new members must be reported within 30 days of joining. We can't make changes to this unless we change the bylaws.  
Some discussion on the reporting dates.
18. **Report of new branches:** 11 new branches in 2008. Membership at the end of 2008 was 10,582.
  - 195 Centralia, MO
  - 196 Presque Isle, ME
  - 197 Nine Mile Falls, WA
  - 198 Priest River, ID
  - 199 Cave City, AR
  - 200 Exmore, VA
  - 201 Grandview, TX
  - 202 Rockvale, TN
  - 203 Dublin, TX
  - 204 Beaver Falls, PA
  - 205 Medlan, IL
19. **Report of Branches that have dropped out..** I think Ruth reported that all have renewed but one, and she thinks that one will renew.
20. **Safety.** This is another thing in our book and web site that needs to be broken down into different sections. It needs to be broken down as follows and each item needs its own button for the web site.. This would make it easier to find what you are look for.

**SAFETY SECTION** (These probably should be in alpha order)

- a. General show safety and setup information
- b. Safety Tips on managing a show
- c. Gas engines and setup information
- d. Tractors and Tractor Pulls
- e. Stone Boat Pulls
- f. Steam Requirements
- g. Garden Tractors and Garden Tractor Pulls
- h. Tractor Parade Requirements
- i. Tractor Drive Requirements
- j. Youth Driver Program
- k. People Movers
- l. Barrel Train Requirements
- m. Kiddie Tractor Pull Requirements
- n. Accident Review Guidelines
- o. Accident Claim Form
- p. Golf Carts
- q. Three Wheelers and Four Wheelers

Some of these are covered in the Q & A section probably should be added to the Safety Section.

21. **Steam Update:** This has been done..
22. **Forms that need to be updated.** Ruth requested that the membership person be added to the branch officers' form. Dick would like to have the officers' page be programmed to when you type in a branch it will bring up last years officers and not have to type the whole list in again.
23. **Expenses accounts.** It is in the P & P manual.
24. **Credit Cards.** Ruth has the maximum amount we can get on our cards. Each of us has had trouble getting cards to be accepted. Dick said that Ruth wants us to use the company card as much as possible. This keeps her from having to send each of us a check.
25. **Election of Officers.** Motion to retain Ruth Warnock as sec'y-treas. Motion by Dick and seconded by Dorene. Motion passed.  
Larry reported that he would take the president another year. Wayne made motion that we keep all officers as they are now. Seconded by Johnny. Motion carried.
26. **Committee appointments.**
  - a. **Steam**  
George Christmas, Chairman  
Dick Tombrink  
Darrell Carter  
Johnny Burger  
Tim Wade
  - b. **Safety and accident review**  
Don Young, Chairman  
Wayne Timchuk  
Larry Voris
  - c. **Youth Driver Training program**  
Don Young, Chairman  
Larry Voris
  - d. **Insurance**  
Dick Tombrink, Chairman  
Larry Voris  
Dorene Yearian
  - e. **Hall of Fame Coordinator**  
Tom Yearian, Chairman
  - f. **National/Regional Show coordinator**  
Gus Peterson
  - g. **Magazine Articles**  
Larry Voris
  - h. **Newsletter Editor**  
Ruth Warnock
  - i. **Web Page Committee**  
Larry Voris, Chairman  
Ruth Warnock

27. **Branch Presidents Page.** Is it being used? It was used 2-3 times this spring. It is a good feature and I'm sure it takes Sally a lot of time keeping the e-mail addresses updated. It is a quick way to communicate with the branches. It was decided to keep.
28. 50<sup>th</sup> Year 2010 was discussed. No decisions were made.
29. Wayne brought up do all regional & national shows have safety meetings every morning before the show starts. This should be enforced by the director in charge.
30. Questions from parents or grandparents about underage children driving at shows. We have the Youth Driver program and it seems to be working. We need to stick with this program and let it work.
31. **Adjournment:** Dorene Yearian