

**State Board of Agricultural Research
Conference Call
Minutes - August 7, 1998
Fargo, North Dakota**

The State Board of Agricultural Research met via conference call at 8 a.m. on August 7, 1998. Members participating in the call were: Sharon Anderson, Ryan Brooks, Tim Bryan, Sylvia Daws, Jerry Doan, Allan Fischer, Cole Gustafson, Jody Hauge, George Heller, Pat Jensen, Burdell Johnson, Dale Reimers, and Mark Weber.

Chairman Jerry Doan opened the meeting explaining the reason for the meeting was to discuss two proposals submitted for purposes of administering the Ag Research Fund.

Board members had received copies of the two proposals for review prior to the conference call. Proposals were submitted by: Association Management Services and Dakotas Cooperative Business Development Center.

The group discussed strengths and weakness of both submissions. The board members favored an hourly rate over a set fee, noting difficulty in evaluating the time commitmen, this being the first year of fund administration.

Because there was no hourly rate stated in the AMS proposal, that information was faxed during the conference call and members received the information to make comparisons as follows:

Association Management Services - administrative and clerical rate \$16.50 per hour and professional service and communication rate \$32 per hour or \$230 per day.

Dakotas Cooperative Business Development Center - support staff rate \$9.62 per hour and professional staff \$19.64 per hour.

Mark Weber made a motion to table a decision for a week, allowing more time to think about the proposals. A roll call vote defeated the motion.

Tim Bryan made a motion to accept the proposal from Dakota Cooperative Business Development Center as presented. Ryan Brooks seconded the motion. The motion passed on a 10-2 vote.

Jerry Doan closed the meeting stating the importance of moving forward with a positive message and show of support for the selected administrator.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Recorded by Margaret Olson