

Minutes: ERA Board of Directors Wednesday June 15th, 2011

Start Time 6:30 pm CDT

Attendees: Hank Henke, Ronnie Charnes, Alan Reynolds, Bill Ernst, Chris Thompson, Bob Thomas, Wes Grueninger, Mike Schroeder, Joe Bradish, Mike Dietrich, Kenny Turner, Tom Barrett, Ken Plourde, Daren Roggentien.

1: Treasurers Report:

- a. Chris Thompson reported a balance in the ERA checking of \$16,868.56 with all bills paid in full.
- b. Chris informed that the ERA has a year to date income of \$43,629.75 and year to date expenses of \$43,792.23.

2: Membership Committee Report:

- a. Tom Barrett reported that as of June 1st a membership of 444. Tom informed that 10 members had not renewed but had contacted 2 of these 10 and re-signed them and is the process of contacting the others.
- b. Tom reported that he has been in contact with the Battery Alliance Buying Group. The Battery Alliance is in the process of putting together a proposal to present to the ERA Board. Tom will have more information on this at the July ERA Board meeting.
- c. Tom has been in contact with Dennis at Lester Catalogue Co. on providing a discount on subscriptions to ERA members. Dennis wasn't sure he could offer discounts to ERA members because of Lester's involvement with the APRA. Dennis would like a proposal from the ERA on what the ERA could offer Lester Catalogue Co. Bill Ernst informed the attendees that the APRA offers free advertisement in the APRA monthly newspaper and also offered booth space at no charge to APRA Trade Shows. After discussion attendees felt that this shouldn't be forgotten and pursued again in 6 to 12 months.
- d. Tom informed attendees that the Membership Committee would like to look into offering Supplier Members more benefits. Wes Grueninger informed that Supplier Members are offered a benefit of listing new products on the ERA Forums monthly. Only a few Supplier Members use this benefit and Wes informed when he receives the information he has to rework the information and it is very time consuming. Ken Plourde told attendees he felt it is very important that the ERA keep Supplier Members involved.

3: Technical/Training Committee Report:

- a. Mike Schroeder reported that the Tech Line usage was up for the month. Mike also thanked Ken Plourde for manning the Tech Line while Bob Thomas was on vacation.

- b. Mike told attendees that he had talked with Wes Grueninger about having tools available to make videos. Wes explained that Joe Bradish would be willing to rent or lease (to the ERA) some of the tools and equipment Joe purchased from Wes. Mike informed that Wes and Joe are going to get together and report back to the Technical Committee next month.
- c. Wes informed that Ken Plourde had sent him a packet of information on all types of starter drives. Wes told that much conversation took place on what should be included in an article on the drive information. The committee felt that this should be pursued.
- d. Ken Plourde expressed frustration on the amount of videos being produced. Wes informed that just maintaining the ERA Web Site and Forums is taking up more and more of his time every month. In addition nearly every month the ERA Board comes up with other projects that get put ahead of producing videos. Mike Schroeder brought the idea of hiring Joe Davis on a one-at-a-time basis. The Technical Committee will look in this.

4: Old Business:

- a. Membership Committee Employee:
 - 1. Table until July meeting.
- b. Mentoring Program:
 - 2. Hank Henke informed attendees that he felt the ERA should have a mentoring program. Hank has been mentoring a new rebuilder and finds it very rewarding and encouraging for a new rebuilder coming into the industry. Hank would like someone from the ERA board to compose a letter to supply to Supplier Members and in turn the Suppliers could inform new rebuilders of this benefit the ERA has to offer. Discussion was had on this and all attendees felt that the ERA should move forward with this.
 A motion was made by Bob Thomas to form a committee and move forward with a Mentoring Program. After discussion an amendment was added to the motion to have Hank Henke be the chairperson of the committee and bring back information to the July ERA Board meeting.
 A second was made by Ronnie Charnes. All ayes motion passed. Hank informed that anyone that is interested in being on this committee to contact him.
- c. Debit Card:
 - 1. Wes Grueninger approached the ERA Board about obtaining a debit card that he could use to purchase supplies that he needs to produce videos and other necessities for ERA use. At the present time he is purchasing the needed supplies and submitting receipts and being reimbursed, this amounts to a lot of extra paper work. Mike Schroeder informed that he would look into this or the possibility of a prepaid debit card and report back to the ERA Board at the July meeting.

5: New Business:

a. It Worked for Me:

- 1:** Ken Plourde brought an idea of having a contest for the best posts on the “It Worked for Me Forum”. Kens thoughts were that this would get more rebuilders involved with submitting ideas or videos. The Training Committee felt that money prizes would be the best reward and should be sponsored by the ERA. A motion was made by Alan Reynolds to accept the proposal of the “It Worked for Me” contest.

A second was made by Mike Schroeder. All ayes motion approved. The Technical/Training Committee will have recommendations to present to the ERA Board at the July meeting.

b. Using Web Site Information:

- 1:** Dick Vensel would like permission to use some ERA videos involving tools that he sells on Vensel’s Web Site. Wes Grueninger said that he could make the videos available in a format that Vensel could use on his company’s website and suggested that, since they will be open to the public on the Vensel site, that the ERA put them on YouTube as well. A motion was made by Mike Dietrich for Wes to move forward with this. The motion was seconded by Ken Plourde. All ayes motion approved.

At 7:55pm CDT Hank Henke placed the ERA Board meeting in executive session.

At 8:20pm CDT Hank closed the executive session of the ERA Board meeting.

Being no further business a motion was made Ken Plourde to adjourn.

Joe Bradish seconded the motion. All ayes meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

**THE NEXT ERA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR
JULY 20TH, 2011 @ 6:30 PM CDT.**

Respectfully submitted

Daren Roggentien

Secretary