

March 20, 2026 MNTIC Board Meeting

1. Called to order at 5:24
2. Icebreaker: Board members visited freestyle!
3. Present: Andres, Ehtalow, Jenny, Marcela, Marj, Sally. Quorum established.
4. Sally moved and Andres seconded to approve the agenda and the minutes.
5. Financial Update
 - a. February was not as low as we were concerned it would be at last meeting.
 - b. We had a little more loss at this time this year compared to last year. Payments if \$2,500 intended for 2025 went through this year and the pro-bono work that we decided to pay was about \$2,000.
 - c. USCIS interviews have been lucrative and plentiful.
 - d. Boards that had put their meetings on hold during the immigration surge have resumed meetings.
 - e. Cando has requested a proposal for 11 board meetings. It has been sent and we await their response. Emerging Farmers' Conference, November 13-14.
6. Old Business
 - a. Certification with the Dept. of Agriculture—Sally contacted but has not heard back yet. City of St. Paul—Sally will contact, but hasn't yet.
 - b. The Synod Learn Together Over Lunch report—it would be most helpful if the presenter and the interpreter could speak to each other directly prior to the event.
 - c. A prospective member has accepted our offer to cover the MJB orientation cost of \$100.
 - d. Website update—goal to get membership page, minutes, and board photos and bios and the ribbon with client list updated by annual meeting.
 - e. Bank change hasn't occurred yet, but other coops recommend Sunrise Bank, which works with worker owned model. It is also local. Marj moved, Marcela seconded that we transfer to Sunrise Bank.
7. New Business
 - a. A next project will have to be development of an MNTIC manual / employee manual with policies.
 - b. Patronage—we might be able to pay a patronage to our members. There are some questions about the calculation method. We will hold a mini-meeting via zoom next week after more research. It would be nice to be able to announce—or pay—at our annual meeting.
 - c. Annual meeting
 - i. Saturday, April 25, Hosmer Library from 11am to 2pm. Meeting time from 11:30-1:30.
 - ii. Food—Delfino
 - iii. Potential agenda items: 2025 overview and financial report, discussion about pro bono work (the coop could donate a percent of sales or some other method of deciding how and if to pay), patronage, request for volunteers to help with outreach, certifications and/or grants, associate membership at CWA information. Marcela will ask about pro bono policies at Terra Firma.

8. Next Meetings
 - a. Short zoom meeting next week Tuesday, March 24 at 5:00.
9. Meeting adjourned at 6:42.