



MACS Newsletter



May 2006

MN FSA Restructure Progress

Last week, May 18th, a conference call with the Structure Review Team, SED John Monson, and EO Dan Hockert was held. The working ideas developed by John and Dan were shared with the Structure Review Team and an opportunity for questions and comments was provided. The Review Team agreed not to discuss the ideas publicly until the other stakeholders were consulted. The SED and EO stressed these were ideas and not necessarily the final plan as they planned to also visit with other stakeholders including affected offices. Those meetings are going forward this week.

MACS put forward the FSA Tomorrow document last fall and that document contains principles MACS is following for this process. We have continually stressed the need to examine workload including as measured by, borrowers, applications and loans and to examine these as a trend. Other principles affecting personnel and workload are also contained in this document.

MACS has not and will not put forward a restructure plan nor has any member of the Review Team. We have had opportunity to participate in the process and

share our concerns as the ideas formulate into a plan. As the plan is finalized we will evaluate how and whether the plan meets the principles set forth in the MACS FSA Tomorrow document and will respond accordingly.

Any members who have any questions or concerns on this process should contact me at mark.drewitz@mn.usda.gov or mark.drewitz@charter.net.

Note: I will be on annual leave the week of May 29th and returning on June 5th.

MACS/MNASCOE Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 21st at the Holiday Inn in Owatonna. This is a return to a joint meeting with MNASCOE with the first part of the meeting for speakers of joint interest to the two Associations. Following this MACS will conduct our regular business meeting. At the business meeting we will discuss resolutions for FSA and program improvements, constitution and by-law changes, and officer elections. Other business may be put forward at that time as well by any member.

Included with this newsletter is the registration form. As this is a larger event with a larger number of attendees because of the two Associations coming together, registration is needed to ensure proper accommodations have been made at the meeting site. Also, a registration fee of \$25.00, made payable to MACS, is necessary to cover a morning continental breakfast which includes muffins, fruit and juice and the noon lunch.

Lee Crawford, Cindy Vukasin, and Evie Moore have worked diligently together to set-up this event. Please plan on attending as your participation is essential for a successful meeting.

An agenda will be issued at a later date.

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Lender Workload Survey

Please make sure your completed responses for the Lender Survey's (see the February MACS newsletter for the survey questions) should be sent to Sue Westrom by June 1st.

This should be completed as a discussion with area lenders. This information will help determine what reasonable goals MACS should put forward for loan making and servicing.

MN FLP Caseload Report

An updated FLP caseload report was compiled and posted to the MACS web site. This report includes 2006 data entered to March 31st.

The next update of this report is scheduled for data through June 30th.

Contact Cindy Vukasin if there is a discrepancy between the web reports for your office and the data on the compiled report.

NACS/NASE Convention

Additional members are needed for attendance at the NACS/NASE meeting June 19-21 in Arlington, TX.

2005-06 MACS Board

President – Mark Drewitz
Vice President – Lee Crawford
Secretary – James Kruize
Treasurer – Sheree Krogstad
NASE State Contact – Becky Martinson
Past President – Russell Miller
District 1 Representative - Kirk Phelps
District 2 Representative – Wendy Erickson
District 3 Representative – Michael Smith
District 4 Representative – Kevin Lehman
District 5 Representative – Rick Ray
District 6 Representative – Scott Nordby
District 7 Representative – Cindy Vukasin
District 8 & STO Representative – Tom DeCock

Minnesota has the second largest NACS membership in the nation and is entitled to 5 delegates and 5 alternates. Thus far 2 members have committed to attend for NACS and none for NASE. We need members to attend to make sure Minnesota's point of view is heard.

Two days of official time can be authorized by the SED for attendance at the NACS or NASE meeting for official delegates.

Contact Mark Drewitz at mark.drewitz@charter.net or mark.drewitz@mn.usda.gov for more information.

NACS/NASE Information

NACS and NASE association information is available at their web sites. Information, newsletters, and other materials is available at their respective web sites:

NACS – www.nacsfsa.org

NASE - www.geocities.com/judy_potter_2000/

Links to these sites as well as FMA are maintained on the MACS web site under "Links".

FMA Information

The FMA Washington Report newsletter is located at: <http://www.fedmanagers.org/public/washingtonreport.cfm>.

Members are encouraged to monitor the FMA site to keep abreast of the latest events with FMA and legislative actions in Washington.

NACS/NASE Fundraiser

The NASE \$500 cash drawing fundraiser continues. Tickets can be purchased from any NASE member for \$5.00 each.

NACS ticket owners have their chances to win beginning May 22 through May 31. Winners will be determined by the mid-day drawing of the 3 Digit Pennsylvania lottery number. Go to www.lotteryusa.com and check the numbers beginning May 22nd.



MACS & MNASCOE

JOINT STATE CONVENTION

JULY 20-21, 2006 - Owatonna, Minnesota
at the
Owatonna Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites



Registration Form: Registration is due by July 11, 2006 to avoid a late fee.

Please mark the appropriate association: MACS _____ MNASCOE _____

Name(s): _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () - E-mail: _____

Guest(s) Attending: _____

Choose one type of meat you want and if you prefer a tortilla wrap or a sandwich during the Luncheon.

Turkey Ham Roast Beef / Tortilla wrap Sandwich

Registration Fee before July 11, 2006

\$25.00 X = \$

Registration Fee after July 11, 2006

\$35.00 X = \$

MACS MEMBERS

Make checks payable to:

MACS

Mail registration & checks to:

Lee Crawford
1400 West Main Street
Albert Lea, MN 56007

MNASCOE MEMBERS

Make Checks payable to:

MNASCOE

Mail Registration & checks to:

Evie Moore
235 Cedardale Drive SE
Owatonna, MN 55060

Owatonna Holiday Inn
Hotel & Suites Information:

- July 20, 2006 Room Rate \$60.00 + tax
No parking fees.
Rooms blocked out with the discounted rate will be released after June 30, 2006.
Make reservations by calling: (800) 920-4402 or (507) 446-8900 or online at: www.holiday-inn.com
To get the discounted room rate you must give a reservation code. This code is FSA (for Farm Service Agency). (Government ID will be required at check in)
Also don't forget to ask about the special discounted weekend packages the hotel is offering to the members for the whole weekend.

MACS & MNASCOE JOINT STATE CONVENTION

JULY 20-21, 2006

Owatonna, Minnesota



Hotel Information:

Owatonna Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites

2365 43rd Street NW

Owatonna, MN 55060

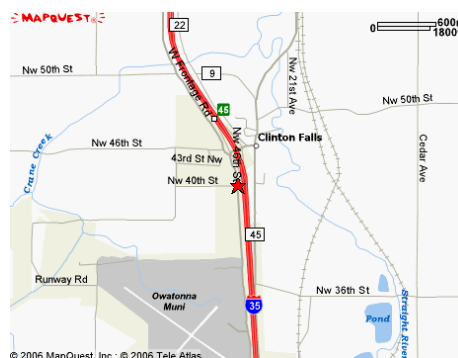
Tel: 507-446-8900

Tel: 800-920-4402

Fax: 507-446-8999

Website: www.greatserengeti.com

www.holidayinn.com



Directions: The Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Owatonna is located in southern Minnesota about 1 hour south of Minneapolis & St. Paul. To get to the hotel, take Interstate 35 to exit 45. Then go 2 blocks west on 46th Street NW. Then go south (left) on the frontage road. The hotel is located on the right side of the west frontage road off of 43rd Street just before Cabela's.

Hotel Amenities:

- ◆ Great Serengeti Indoor Water Park (features slides, lazy river, pool and spa)
- ◆ 43rd Street Pub & Grill (receive coupons upon registration)
- ◆ Lion's Den Video Arcade
- ◆ Fabulous Gift Shop
- ◆ Business Center
- ◆ Fitness Center
- ◆ Coin Laundry
- ◆ Free Parking
- ◆ 50 minutes from the Mall of America
- ◆ Free wireless internet in all rooms
- ◆ Kids room with supervision will be available Thursday, July 20th, 2006 from 6:00pm-12:00am

Owatonna Area Attractions:

- ◆ Cabela's World's Formost Outfitters
- ◆ State School Orphanage Museum
- ◆ Wells Fargo Historical Bank Building
- ◆ Owatonna Arts Center and Sculpture Garden
- ◆ Village of Yesteryear
- ◆ Brooktree Golf Course
- ◆ Hidden Creek Golf Club
- ◆ The Legacy Golf Course in Faribault
- ◆ Great architecture and historical attractions