The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Gary Schnitkey, section president. The agenda for the meeting was presented and accepted.

The minutes from the Seattle meeting were approved as presented. Gary noted that the budget distributed did not include the expenses for the current meetings. However, even with these expenses considered the section will still have funds available although the exact amount won’t be known until after the meetings.

Barry Goodwin gave an update from the Board. He indicated that the Board was still committed to continuing the symposium concept. Some of the other changes initiated with this year’s meetings will be evaluated for their effectiveness and continuation.

Trent Teegerstrom gave an update from the Outreach Committee. He said that the committee will be working closer with Choices. The committee is also pursuing ways to use more interview type programs and pod casts. Stephan Goetz from Penn State is the new committee chair.

There was discussion on the drought webinar held this past year. It was noted that 2014 would be the 100th anniversary of the Smith-Lever Act. There is going to be a special issue of Choices devoted to the anniversary. Some of the articles have been identified. But, an Extension article or articles are being sought. These could be forward looking and/or reflecting on the past with Extension. CFARE and the Outreach committee are the contacts for this effort.

Jim Hanson presented a synopsis of the Chesapeake Bay pre-conference tour. There were 39 people who attended. Everything went smoothly and the tour was successful.

Margot Rudstrom reported on the graduate student competition. There were six projects submitted but one later withdrew so only five were evaluated. The top three projects will be presenting later in the meetings and two of the presenters were at the Section meeting. Margot discussed a need for mentor help with the projects. She said the projects this year were really lacking in materials and there were no evaluation plans. Margot encouraged the group to help recruit for the competition. There is a $1,000, $500 or $300 prize for first, second and third place finishers. Margot is stepping down after six years with the committee. Marie Marshall will be the chair for next year.

Dave Henderson from Texas A&M is the chair elect for the section. In addition to Dave, Rodney Jones announced that Jason Harper was the new NE Director. Rodney also reported that the 1890 spot was not filled for want of a viable candidate. The board is discussing ways that this position can be filled and they are working on getting it filled.
There were 12 track sessions and a poster session for this year’s meeting. Michael Langemeier said that the new poster system took some adjustments. There was a discussion on the poster sessions.

Everyone was reminded of the upcoming Crop Insurance Symposium October 8 and 9 in Louisville, KY. People were encouraged to publicize the symposium. Dates are posted on the web sites and final information would be available shortly.

Julie Caswell thanked the Section for the work that had been done on the symposium. As was noted the Board wants to continue to pursue this type of meeting arrangement.

Jim Novak noted that he will be leaving as co-editor for Choices. This position will need to be filled.

Brad Lubben repeated his 2012 forewarning that we might get a farm bill. He said that the rest of the comments from last year’s minutes would apply regarding time to act, etc. He will keep the group up to date on training.

There was some discussion on whether or not the email list could be shared with everyone. It was decided that the possibility distributing the list further would be pursued.

Gary thanked the group for all their help throughout his tenure as Chair and he introduced Michael as the Chair. Michael forewarned the people from MN that they would be asked to take a big role in the tours for next year’s meetings. Michael adjourned the meeting at 3:40PM.