

MAAO AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE REPORT
2011 Fall Conference
Grand Rapids, MN
October 10th – 12th, 2011

The MAAO Agricultural Committee met at the MAAO Summer Seminars in St. Cloud, Minnesota on May 26, 2011. The Grain Elevator Manual and Ethanol/Sugar Beet Facility Manual were discussed at length. Tom Reineke, with the Minnesota Department of Revenue, was present for the meeting and shared information that he has gathered on Ethanol plants throughout the Midwest Region. Bob Anderson, Chair of the Grain Elevator Committee, will be attending Farmfest in August to gather cost information. The committee agreed to meet sometime in September to review the information Bob gathers and determine any up-dates to the Grain Elevator Manual.

On September 19, 2011, members of the Ag Committee met in Litchfield, MN at the Meeker County courthouse. Also in attendance were Tom Reineke, Gale Bondhus and Bob Zelenka, Minnesota Grain Association. The members reviewed the cost schedules and recommended changes will be forwarded to the MDOR for up-dates to the Grain Elevator Manual. The committee will continue to work with the MDOR towards a timely up-date to the manual. Tom Reineke has gathered information from Assessors regarding ethanol facilities and compiled a spreadsheet. He will be sending out a draft copy of “State Ethanol Plant Values” for Assessors to review and get back to him with their comments and/or suggestions.

The Ag Committee goals for 2011-2012: Continue to work closely with our regions throughout the state to address agricultural issues. The Ag Committee will also continue to work with the Department of Revenue on the valuation and classification of Ethanol plants and provide cost up-dates for the Grain Elevator Manual. We hope to begin utilizing the “Go To” web meeting service this year.

The Ag Committee would like to welcome our new 2011-2012 members: Doug Bruns, Renville County and Dianne Reinart, Traverse County.

The Ag Committee will be meeting at the MAAO Fall Conference.

Respectfully,
Jeanne Henderson,
MAAO Agricultural Committee Chair