

RAMS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 13, 2015

Hibbing Park Hotel

The RAMS Annual Meeting was called to order by President Craig Pulford. He asked for sixty seconds of silence in honor of the men and women serving our great country in the military. Hibbing Mayor, Rick Cannata welcomed the RAMS members and guests to Hibbing. President Craig Pulford introduced Mark Phillips, the new IRRRB Commissioner. Commissioner Phillips expressed his excitement in this important role. He indicated that while he will continue certain initiatives that were started previously, he also has plans for new ones. The membership then recessed for dinner.

Following dinner, Past President, Jim Fisher introduced the keynote speaker, Brigadier General Jon A. Jenson. His extensive biography was included in the meeting packet. Brigadier General Jenson gave an update on the six Air National Guard units in the area and congratulated them for their outstanding service. He had a special opportunity to visit the Hibbing unit today. He thanked the Legislators who helped pass bills that provided needed legislation for those serving in the military and their families.

Vice President, Tim Riordan spoke about the Associate Member Program which helps business and government better serve each other's needs and promotes excellence in the services provided by RAMS.

Vice President, Tim Riordan gave the Nominating Committee Report. He went through the ballot that was in each packet on the tables. He stated that parliamentary procedures would be used. This year the RAMS Board will be increased to its maximum of 25.

He introduced the two candidates for President on the ballot: Carlene Perfetto, Councilor, City of Silver Bay and Charles Baribeau, Councilor, City of Virginia. There were no other nominations from the floor. A motion to adopt the ballot for President was made by Leon Schanlaub, Director, Eveleth-Gilbert Schools supported by Robert Larson, Director, St. Louis County Schools. Motion carried.

Vice President Riordan then introduced Jim Fisher, Chairman, Town of McDavitt as the only candidate for Vice President. There were no nominations from the floor. Craig Pulford made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for Jim Fisher for Vice President supported by John Berklich, Director, Hibbing Schools. Motion carried.

Vice President Riordan then introduced Dave Worshek, Councilor, City of Aurora as the only candidate for Secretary. There were no nominations from the floor. Robert Larson, Director, St. Louis County Schools made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for Dave Worshek as Secretary supported by Ed Zabinski, Councilor, City of Grand Rapids. Motion carried.

Vice President Riordan then announced that the election of One-Year Term Directors has five openings and six candidates. Candidates are: Walt Hautala, Director, Mesabi East Schools; Bob Berrini, Supervisor Town of Morse; Herb Sellars, Supervisor, Town of Great Scott; Paul Borg, Director, Lake Superior Schools; Brad Hadrava, Councilor, City of Eveleth; and Paul Kess, Councilor, City of Ely. There were no nominations from the floor. Ray Marsnik, Director, Ely Schools made a motion to close nominations and issue a ballot for the five One-Year Term Director positions with the six candidates listed above. Motion supported by Jim Fisher, Chairman, Town of McDavitt. Motion carried.

Vice President Riordan announced that there are nine Two-Year Term Director positions open and nine candidates. The nine individuals are: Mark Forte, Director, Eveleth-Gilbert Schools; Gene Mathew, Councilor, City of Buhl; Pat Medure, Director, Grand Rapids Schools; Ben DeNucci, Mayor, City of Nashwauk; John Berklich, Director, Hibbing Schools; Mark Skelton, Mayor, City of Hoyt Lakes; Ed Zabinski, Councilor, City of Grand Rapids; Kim Stokes, Director, Virginia Schools; Warren Stolp, Supervisor, Nashwauk. There were no nominations from the floor. Leon Schanlaub, Director, Eveleth-Gilbert Schools made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for the nine individuals listed above with support from Carlene Perfetto, Councilor, City of Silver Bay. Motion carried.

Other board members are: Craig Pulford, Past President, City of Buhl; John Tourila, Mayors and Township Chair; Deron Stender, Chair, Superintendents Committee; and Mark Adams, Past Chair, Superintendents Committee. Jim Fisher, Chairman, Town of McDavitt made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for these individuals with support by Ed Zabinski, Councilor, City of Grand Rapids. Motion carried.

Vice President Riordan read the names of those board members who are continuing to serve. They are: Ray Marsnik, Director, Ely Schools, Patrick Garrity, Clerk, City of Hibbing; Ray Svatos, Supervisor, Town of Clinton; and Robert Larson, Director, St. Louis County Schools.

Vice President Riordan indicated that the ballots for President and One-Year Term Directors will be mailed out on February 17, 2015 due to the holiday on Monday, the 16th. In order to allow enough time for cities, schools and towns to meet, RAMS members have until Friday, March 20, 2015 to return their ballots.

They must be postmarked by March 20, 2015. Vice President, Jim Fisher will be responsible for determining how the ballots will be counted and by whom.