

NS-AWWA Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: **March 12, 2018**

Location: Miller and Associates, Kearney, NE

Eric Melcher called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM

ROLL CALL:

Board members present:

Board Chairman: Eric Melcher

Chair Elect: Milo Rust (on phone)

Vice Chair: Brittany Travers

Treasurer: John Keith

Secretary: Mary Poe

Director: Bruce Dvorak

Past Chair: Chad Roberts

Trustee: Marc Rosso

Trustee: Craig Reinsch

Trustee: Jack Satur

Trustee: absent

Board members absent: Gary Thurlow

Committee Chairs present: Rich Koenig, Teresa Konda (on phone)

Others present: Mike Wentink, Ben Day

Approval of November Board Business meeting minutes:

Bruce made a motion to approve the February 2nd Board meeting minutes, Marc seconded and the motion carried with all present voting aye.

Chairman's Report:

None.

Director's Report:

Bruce and Craig will be attending the RMSO in Detroit April 12-14. Future nearby RMSOs will be in Iowa (2021) and Minnesota (2023). It is possible to attend an RMSO in another region. There is one in Kansas in 2021 and Missouri in 2024. Nebraska will be hosing again in 2024.

AWWA will host a Cyber-Threat webinar on March 14. Mary plans to attend.

The Association has changed the deadline for nominations for President-Elect, Vice-President, and Director-At-Large to August 15.

A Water Operator Certification Exam Prep handbook will be released April 2018.

Veterans Workforce Initiative has been started at AWWA. The Nebraska Section has three people who have volunteered to part of the network, but could always use more. Interested individuals should contact Bruce.

The volunteers will be trained to help with the following: communicating training/education/certification requirements to veterans; making personal connections to utilities and employers to help veterans get their foot in the door in the water sector. The time requirement will likely be less than ten hours/year and can be done via phone and computer.

Report is attached.

Treasurer's Report:

John announced that the total in all accounts is \$180,425.80. The Fall Conference disbursements were finalized and checks sent out. The disbursement to NS-AWWA was \$14,979.57. The Section received the AWWA allotment in the amount of \$15,000.

Bruce made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, the motion was seconded by Brittany and the motion carried with all present voting aye.

See attached checkbook ledger activity and proposed 2018 budget.

Committee Reports:

Archives & History: No report

Audit: No report

Awards: An email is being prepared to solicit nominations for national awards. One WISA awardee has been decided.

Budget: It was suggested that in next year's budget the projected conference income be increased from \$13,000 to \$14,000 or \$15,000, which is more in line with the actual income the past few years.

Although it appears that we have a budget deficit, it is not cause for concern since the budgeted expenses are never fully used and we always come out in the black at the end of the year. However because of this difference Bruce suggested that we get the budget more in line with actual spending. This can be accomplished by either reducing the budgeted amounts or by increasing the activities of the committees to benefit membership.

Marc made a motion to approve the 2018 Budget, the motion was seconded by Milo and the motion carried with all present voting aye.

Cross Connection: Topics have been selected for this year's trainings. Rich announced that this will be the last year of the Ultimate Backflow Challenge as he will be stepping down from organizing the challenge. There is still the question of whether the challenge participants at the Fall Conference need to be registered for the conference. As suggested by Milo, Mary looked back at prior meeting minutes where this topic was previously discussed. The January 2016 meeting minutes say "*Discussion of non-paying participants in Conference and competitions. May have moderators make announcement in the future that you need to be*

registered to compete and participate.” Since this preference has not been implemented, Milo made a motion to continue as we have been (not require challenge participants to be registered for conference) since this will be the last year. The motion was seconded by John and the motion carried with all present voting aye.

Report is attached.

Education: Area 1 Training Grant workshop will be held May 17 at Camp Carol Joy Holling in Ashland. Thirty (30) Small Systems Water Operator field guides have been purchased with the Section bookstore allotment. We need to make sure that APWA and NWEA are aware that AWWA is not in charge of the pre-conference this year.

Report is attached.

Fall Conference: The planning meeting for the 2018 conference will be held April 18th from 1:00 to 3:00 during the Great Plains Conference in La Vista. Milo plans to attend.

Fuller Award: No report

Manufacturers/Associates Council: No report

Membership Engagement & Development: Marc reports that membership is at 348, which is down slightly from this time last year. He noted that oftentimes the village board members aren't aware that they can become an AWWA member. We can do a better job of informing them and inviting them to join, especially when they are gathered at the LoNM annual conferences.

The MEDC national committee is working on a student video featuring a local intern who ended up receiving a job offer in South Carolina because of the networking opportunities available to students through AWWA.

We continue to work on getting operator training certified by DHHS so that online training can count toward training hours. Marc is working with AWWA IT and Mike Wentink at DHHS to work out the details. AWWA is working on a pilot project to test the software.

The 2018 Membership Plan was distributed. See attached.

Report is attached.

Nominations: Chad will be communicating with the committee to put together a list of candidates. June 15 is the target date to have the list completed.

Public Information:

Drinking Water Week is May 6-12 and the Governor's Proclamation Ceremony will be Monday May 7.

Publications: Brian reminds everyone to send newsletter content to him as soon as it become available since he always publishes it to the website right away.

Report is attached.

Research and Student Activities: No report

Safety: No report

Scholarship: Craig reported that the SOP has been revised and includes information about the Abel Wolman award and the Stockholm Jr. Water Prize.

Small Systems: The March workshop in Aurora has been rescheduled to April. A presentation is being planned on the implementation of a Wellhead protection program in cooperation with landowners within the protection area. The committee is working on a

presentation to include new products and as well as a Q & A with DHHS field staff. Lunch will be provided and there will not be a cost to attend.

Report is attached.

Top Ops: No report

Total Water Solutions: Dale thanked the Board for officially establishing the committee and he is in the process of finding committee members.

Report is attached.

Water for People: Teresa updated the committee members and announced that Ann Williams will be co-chair, with the expectation of her taking the reins next year. The committee plans to implement an outreach and education component to its activities this year. One committee member will plan to attend the WFP Leadership Workshop in Denver in July.

Scheduled events:

- Wine 4 Water Wine Tasting event - March 13 - Over 45 people signed up, plus four sponsors
- Golf Outing – May 11
- Shotgun benefit – September 28

Report is attached.

Water Utility Council: Chad Roberts and Rick Kubat (MUD) will be attending the Washington Fly-In.

Young Professionals: A 2018 expected list of activities was distributed. The committee will be hosting a YP track, with NWEA, at the Great Plains conference, as well as a Tailgate event at the Spring Game.

Report is attached.

Community Engineering Corp: The committee is working with the Village of Liberty and hopes to be submitting the application in the near future.

Finance Ad Hoc Committee: The Section investments will be handled by Scott Fuhrman with Stifel Nicolaus & Company, Inc. Mary emailed to everyone the Investment Policy Statement (IPS) for our possible investments, as suggested by Scott (and it is attached). We need more than one signer on the account. Mary made a motion to move forward with the investments and to recognize the following Board position holders as approved account signers: Chair, Chair Elect, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. The motion was seconded by Bruce and the motion carried with all present voting aye.

Update since the meeting: Since the account signers have withdrawal authority and some of the board positions change frequently, Scott suggested that only two people have signing authority. He also suggested that future changes to the authorized signers should go through Board approval.

On March 27, 2018 Marc made a Motion, via email, to allow the Treasurer and Past Treasurer (currently John Keith and Brittany Travers) signatory authority for the Investment Accounts with Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated as previously provided signatory authority by the NSAWWA Board for the current Bank Account established with Wells Fargo Bank. Motion was seconded by Bruce. Eight Board members responded in favor of the Motion. None opposed. Eric declared the Motion carried via email and that a digital vote will be confirmed at the next scheduled Board meeting.

The committee will continue as an ad hoc committee for the time being.

Unfinished Business:

Transfer of CD funds (finance Ad Hoc committee): previously discussed.

Veterans Workforce Initiative: Discussed in the Director’s Report.

ACE 2018 Update/student poster winner: The poster winner, Putri Brikke, is planning to present her poster at the Fresh Ideas poster contest at ACE in Las Vegas, but she is an international student and her visa is set to expire before June. Craig wrote a letter of support for extending her visa so that she can attend. No word yet on this.

Washington Fly-In: Two representatives from Nebraska will be attending: Chad Roberts and Rick Kubat.

Annual Conference Certificates of Attendance: The certificate of attendance to give to conference attendees has been approved by Mike Wentink. This would also be helpful for engineers to earn CEUs.

Regional Meeting of Section Officers: The Region 3 RMSO will be held in Detroit April 12-14. Bruce and Craig will be attending.

One Drive Storage: Details still being worked out.

New Business:

Drinking Water Week Governor’s Proclamation Ceremony: Monday May 7 at 11:00 AM.

Miscellaneous: The Section needs to obtain its own Pay Pal account rather than using NWEA’s account.

We are still searching for contact information for Dwight Hanson, who is owed Top Ops prize money.

Future Board meeting dates were discussed. July meeting (July 17) will be a call-in. September meeting (Sept. 18 ?) held at Lincoln Water System offices on N 27th St. in Lincoln.

Adjournment: At 11:23 John made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Chad, with all in attendance voting aye, motion carried.

Next Meeting:

Date and Location: Friday May 11, 2018, 9:30 AM, Woodland Hills Golf Course , 6000 Woodland Hills Drive, Eagle, NE

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Respectfully submitted by:

Mary Poe, Nebraska Section AWWA Secretary