

OFFICERS

Chair
Marc Rosso • 531-207-3244

Chair-Elect
John Keith • 402-441-1622

Vice-Chair
Ryan Hurst • 402-443-3222

Secretary
Brian Gongol • 515-223-4144

Treasurer
Angel Lowery • 402-970-2338

Director
Ben Day • 402-570-6843

Past Chair
Craig Reinsch • 402-458-5671

Trustees
Chris Miller • 308-234-6456
Adam Darbro • 402-694-6992
Tom Menke • 308-432-0522
{one vacant}

STANDING COMMITTEES

Archives & History
Rob Pierce • 402-432-9172

Audit
Marc Rosso • 531-207-3244
Angel Lowery • 402-970-2338

Awards
Rob Pierce • 402-432-9172

Budget
Angel Lowery • 402-970-2338

Cross Connection
vacant

Education
John Keith • 402-441-1622

Fall Conference
John Keith • 402-441-1622

Fuller Award
Teresa Konda • 402-926-7063

Manufacturers/Associates Council
Lee Dunn • 531-200-5983

Membership Engagement
Chuck Seuferer • 402-443-7440

Nominations
Craig Reinsch • 402-458-5671

One Water
Dale Jacobson • 402-203-4921

Philanthropy
Joe Roberts • 402-321-8726

Public Information
Mary Poe • 402-471-1003

Publications
Brian Gongol • 515-223-4144

Scholarship
Angel Lowery • 402-970-2338

Small Systems
Adam Darbro • 402-694-6992

Top Ops
Mike Wentink • 308-535-8135

Water Utility Council
Chad Roberts • 402-844-2210

YP & Student Activities
Hayden Delay • 402-926-7075
Abhijeet Saraf • 402-392-6986

AD-HOC COMMITTEES

Community Engineering Corps
Dr. Bruce Dvorak • 402-326-8391



Annual Meeting Minutes (v.1)

Date November 1, 2023

Time 1:30 pm CT

Location Younes Conference Center
Kearney, Nebraska

Call to order Marc Rosso called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

Roll call	Present	Absent
ROSSO, Marc	X	
KEITH, John	X	
HURST, Ryan	X	
GONGOL, Brian	X	
LOWERY, Angel	X	
DAY, Ben	X	
REINSCH, Craig ¹	X	
MILLER, Chris	X	
DARBRO, Adam	X	
MENKE, Tom	X	

An attendance sheet was circulated among the attendees. Those signing in but not listed above include: Dale Jacobson, Christine Spitzley², Alan Slater, Torey Zuver, Jessica Johnson, Steven Hanna, Abhijeet Saraf, Joseph Roberts, Mary Poe, Doug Woodbeck, Lee Dunn, and Robert Pierce.

Approval of agenda Ryan Hurst moved approval of the agenda, seconded by Chris Miller. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Approval of minutes Approval of the 2022 business meeting minutes was moved by John Keith, seconded by Angel Lowery. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Chair's report Written report submitted by Marc Rosso.

Craig Reinsch entered the meeting at 1:32 pm.

Rosso briefly reiterated his written report. No questions were raised.

Director's report Written report submitted by Ben Day.

Day briefly summarized his written report. No questions were raised.

Treasurer's report Angel Lowery advised that there is no written report to review at this time.

John Keith advised that overall the section's expenses are

1 Craig Reinsch entered the meeting at 1:32 pm.
2 AWWA representative

relatively minimal. The section has an expected net income of around \$30,000 for the year, and Keith suggests that our budgets may be over-projecting expenses from year to year, which could indicate a latent need to re-set our budgets to reflect actual spending.

Ryan Hurst noted that the section may need to work harder to spend resources on travel and association-level activities so that those resources aren't left dormant.

Craig Reinsch recommended that the board push hard for attendance at the budgeted activities.

Angel Lowery thanked John Keith for his ongoing support as she accedes into the new role of Treasurer.

Election of officers

The board has received notice of Tom Menke's resignation as a trustee with one year remaining in his term.

John Keith commented on the transitional nature of this year's board due to the unexpected resignation of Mike Koenig.

Craig Reinsch noted that Tom Menke has helped to find a suitable nominee to fulfill the remaining year on his term. Reinsch moved to amend the nominations report to add Torey Zuver to fulfill the remaining year of Tom Menke's term as a trustee.

Ryan Hurst seconded the nomination of Torey Zuver, and noted his enthusiasm for ensuring that the western part of the state retains geographic representation on the board.

The motion to accept the amendment to the report of the nominations committee was approved by a voice vote of the board.

Marc Rosso called three times for nominations from the floor. None were submitted.

Ryan Hurst moved to close nominations, seconded by Chris Miller. Motion was approved by voice vote.

Ryan Hurst moved to approve and elect the recommended slate of nominees, seconded by Angel Lowery. The recommended slate of officers was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Committee reports

Archives & History:

Rob Pierce commented on his written report, noting that some of the 75th anniversary history books remain in stock.

Audit:

John Keith advised that the audit has been delayed due to sickness on the part of the auditor. Angel Lowery advised that all of the required paperwork has been submitted and that the process remains in the auditor's hands.

Awards:

Rob Pierce commented on his written report. He advised that there are many section and association-level awards, and that the section should try to have nominees for as many of those awards as possible.

Budget:

John Keith and Angel Lowery advised that the budget committee has nothing further to report. Keith noted that the board should review the SOPs and bylaws to determine whether multiple reports are necessary.

Cross Connections:

No report was submitted.

Education:

John Keith advised that 71 people attended the December 2022 RCAP-funded event in Ashland. The other major event was the preconference event held yesterday, and that about 72 people attended. He noted that the RCAP grants have been exceedingly well-used by the Nebraska Section, but that the program has been closed. Keith noted that Teresa Konda has volunteered to assist with future events, and that the section could likely handle at least one session next year, possibly in the spring.

Fall Conference:

John Keith offered his praise for Brittany Travers and her contributions to organizing the conference. The room was set up for 140 at the first session this morning, and had to be expanded to about 180 total attendees. Keith also shared a sample of the barbecue set to be given out at the banquet tonight as a membership inducement award.

Fuller Award:

Marc Rosso noted that he had been advised that there would be a recipient of the Fuller Award this year.

Manufacturers and Associates Council:

Lee Dunn reported that the room is full of exhibitors and lots of sponsorship support had been received as well. Coffee and drinks bars are staged to encourage flow through the exhibit area. Dunn reported that he is looking to step down in 2024, and that he has recruited Kelsey Groff as a new chair to take over in a year-long transitional process. Dunn further noted that he tried to keep SWANA-attached vendors together in order to help keep the exhibit area from looking too empty if those vendors leave early.

Membership Engagement:

A written report was submitted by Chuck Seufferer. Marc Rosso noted that membership is up somewhat over last year, and that Seufferer will be giving away gift cards at the banquet tonight.

Nominations:

See report under "Election of Officers" above.

One Water:

Dale Jacobson commented on his written report, noting that the committee had evolved from earlier efforts at "Total Water Solutions". Further efforts seem not to be sustained by the association, and he recommended sunsetting the committee, effective immediately. Ryan Hurst noted that the board's efforts to streamline committees begun last year would naturally drive towards accepting Jacobson's recommendation.

Philanthropy:

Joe Roberts commented on his written report. He noted that the committee intends to revive the "Wine for Water" event that was

suspended due to Covid-19. Roberts is seeking a co-chair for the committee and thanked Marc Rosso for his support with the sporting-clays shoot.

Public Information:

Mary Poe commented on her written report. The committee received 128 posters for the children's poster contest, more than double the total received last year. The water-tasting contest takes place this afternoon. Poe noted that switching the Top Ops and Water-Tasting Contest events seems to have worked well to smooth out the afternoon schedule. The committee is persisting mainly with business as usual.

Publications:

Brian Gongol commented on his written report. Ryan Hurst asked whether the Philanthropy committee had been using any mailers to promote its events. Joe Roberts advised that they had generally not in recent years. Hurst suggested that those may be useful events to promote via postcards. Rob Pierce commented that while many of the section's events have been consistent and well-known, there is enough turnover in the workforce that supplementary promotion beyond our digital tools may be useful. Marc Rosso commented that the fall sporting clays shoot is already scheduled for September 13th.

Scholarship:

Angel Lowery commented briefly on her written report.

Small Systems:

Adam Darbro commented briefly on his written report.

Top Ops:

Mike Wentink submitted a written report. John Keith commented that the number of teams had been capped at six in order to keep the event on time.

Water Utility Council:

Chad Roberts commented briefly on his written report. The DC fly-in is scheduled for April, and he anticipates asking for the board's support in funding travel to that event. He anticipates that PFAS, lead and copper, and cybersecurity will all remain subjects of considerable interest to the industry.

YP and Student Activities:

Abhijeet Saraf commented on his written report. He attended the AWWA YP Summit this year, and the committee (which is a joint committee with NWEA) has been organizing events at most of the major conferences this year. Abby Kigin is coordinating some mentoring efforts. They hope to enlarge the leadership cadre of the committee to help increase both student engagement and YP engagement.

Ryan Hurst commented on the great success of the poker tournament. Saraf commended the work of Sarah Nguyen.

Marc Rosso noted that the funds raised at the poker tournament last year were not disbursed at the time due to an oversight which has since been rectified.

Craig Reinsch asked whether the funds should be disbursed on a consistent basis across more than just the two primary charities. Saraf said he would raise the question with the

	committee.
Membership report	The membership report was not discussed.
Ratification of bylaws	Revised bylaws for the Nebraska Section were approved by the AWWA executive board in June 2023. Angel Lowery moved for ratification of the revised bylaws by the Nebraska Section membership, seconded by John Ketih. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.
Old business	No old business was discussed.
New business	<p>1. Sunsetting the One Water committee (item added by discussion during the committee reports).</p> <p>Mary Poe asked Christine Spitzley whether AWWA is continuing to promote the Total Water Solutions/One Water idea. Spitzley said that nothing by that particular name was active at the association level.</p> <p>Ryan Hurst commented that the concept made sense, but that it did not ever seem to have gotten traction. Spitzley asked if it was easy to spin up a new committee, and the general consensus was that the process was suitably easy if the need should arise.</p> <p>Lee Dunn moved that the One Water committee be sunsetted, seconded by Doug Woodbeck. Motion was approved by a voice vote.</p>
Visiting dignitary	AWWA Vice President Christine Spitzley shared remarks with the assembled members. The Water 2050 initiative is the largest agenda item at the association level right now, as included in her comments to the luncheon. She acknowledged the Nebraska Section's concerns about the termination of RCAP funding, and that she would pursue that further.
Announcements	No announcements were made.
Upcoming meetings	The next business meeting is scheduled for November 7th, 2024, at the Fall Conference. Craig Reinsch asked whether the board intended to incorporate the regular board meeting into the business meeting. Light discussion followed, and the board agreed to proceed with the regular board meeting as scheduled.
Adjournment	Ben Day moved adjournment, seconded by Chris Miller. The motion was approved by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 2:33 pm.
Attest	Respectfully submitted: Brian Gongol, Secretary
