

**OFFICERS**

- Chair**  
John Keith • 402-441-1622
- Chair-Elect**  
Ryan Hurst • 402-443-3222
- Vice-Chair**  
Brian Gongol • 515-223-4144
- Secretary**  
Angel Lowery • 402-970-2338
- Treasurer**  
Angel Lowery • 402-970-2338
- Director**  
Ben Day • 402-570-6843
- Past Chair**  
Marc Rosso • 531-207-3244
- Trustees**  
Chris Miller • 308-234-6456  
Torey Zuver • 308-432-0522  
Jessica Johnson • 402-471-1009  
Joe Roberts • 402-548-5123
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- STANDING COMMITTEES**
- Archives & History**  
Rob Pierce • 402-432-9172
- Audit**  
Angel Lowery • 402-970-2338
- Awards**  
Rob Pierce • 402-432-9172
- Budget**  
Angel Lowery • 402-970-2338
- Cross Connection**  
Greg Brekel • 402-219-1079
- Education**  
John Keith • 402-441-1622
- Fall Conference**  
Ryan Hurst • 402-443-3222
- Fuller Award**  
Teresa Konda • 402-926-7063
- Manufacturers/Associates Council**  
Lee Dunn • 531-200-5983
- Membership Engagement**  
Chuck Seufferer • 402-443-7440
- Nominations**  
Marc Rosso • 531-207-3244
- 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**  
Alan Slater • 402-274-4981
- Top Ops**  
Mike Wentink • 308-535-8135
- Water Utility Council**  
Chad Roberts • 402-844-2210
- YP & Student Activities**  
Abhijeet Saraf • 402-392-6986  
Sarah Nguyen • 402-435-3080



**Board Meeting Minutes (v.1)**

<b>Date</b>	May 16, 2024		
<b>Time</b>	10:00 am CT		
<b>Location</b>	Woodland Hills Golf Course Eagle, Nebraska		
<b>Call to order</b>	John Keith called the meeting to order at 10:18 am.		
<b>Roll call</b>		<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
	KEITH, John	Present	
	HURST, Ryan		Absent
	GONGOL, Brian	Virtual	
	LOWERY, Angel	Virtual	
	DAY, Ben		Absent
	ROSSO, Marc	Virtual	
	MILLER, Chris		Absent
	JOHNSON, Jessica	Present	
	ROBERTS, Joe	Present	
	ZUVER, Torey	Virtual	
	Others in attendance: Marc Rosso, Greg Brekel, Rob Pierce		
<b>Approval of agenda</b>	The meeting agenda was approved without objection.		
<b>Approval of minutes</b>	On a motion by Brian Gongol, seconded by Jessica Johnson, the minutes of the March meeting were approved without objection.		
<b>Chair's report</b>	John Keith reported on regulatory updates on PFAS and copper. Changes on public consumer confidence reports are also imminent.		
	John Keith, Ben Day, and Steve Owen are planning to attend ACE. Nebraska will have a Top Ops team at ACE, but no Best-Tasting Water sample.		
<b>Director's report</b>	No report.		
<b>Treasurer's report</b>	On a motion by Brian Gongol, seconded by Jessica Johnson, the treasurer's report as electronically submitted by Angel Lowery was accepted.		
<b>Committee reports</b>	<b>Archives &amp; History:</b> Rob Pierce reported that he intends to continue serving as		

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chair of the committee only through the end of the year. A new chair should be recruited.

**Audit:**

John Keith reported that the audit has been returned and the section has been invoiced for the work. Our next audit takes place at the end of this year.

**Awards:**

Rob Pierce reported that he intends to continue serving as chair of the committee only through the end of the year. A new chair should be recruited. Award applications have not been widely circulated yet.

**Budget:**

**Cross Connections:**

Greg Brekel reported that four classes are scheduled for August. They are seeking presenters for the Fall Conference.

**Education:**

John Keith reported that no spring training event was scheduled because grant funding was not available.

**Fall Conference:**

No report.

**Fuller Award:**

No report.

**Manufacturers and Associates Council:**

No report.

**Membership Engagement:**

No report.

**Nominations:**

Marc Rosso referred the board to his report from March. The committee members coincidentally present for the board meeting (Rosso, Keith, and Gongol) agreed to submit the 2024 section of the preliminary report from March as a formal nominations report for publication.

**Philanthropy:**

Joe Roberts reported that the committee intends to revive "Wine for Water" in January 2025. The golf outing is underway today; the committee can get a discount on the cost of the event if the invoice is paid promptly, which

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would return a larger total net collection from the event.

**Public Information:**

Submitted by Mary Poe: *"Thanks to the AWWA reps who attended the Governor's Proclamation for Drinking Water Week -- John Keith, Ryan Hurst, and Chuck Seufferer. Brian Gongol previously sent out a copy of the signed proclamation and the picture."*

**Publications:**

Written report submitted by Brian Gongol.

**Scholarship:**

Angel Lowery reported that the committee has had no activity to report.

**Small Systems:**

No report.

**Top Ops:**

John Keith reported that a Top Ops team will represent Nebraska at ACE.

**Water Utility Council:**

No report.

**YP and Student Activities:**

No report.

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**Membership challenge report**

No report.

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**Old business**

**1. SOP update**

Angel Lowery reported that about half of the SOPs were submitted for updates. On a motion by Jessica Johnson, seconded by Marc Rosso, the updated SOPs circulated electronically by Angel Lowery on March 12th were approved.

**2. Review incorporation filings**

John Keith reported that he believes all incorporation filings are current.

**3. Update committee one-sheet**

John Keith reported that the sheet has not yet been updated.

**4. Rob Pierce retirement**

John Keith reported that the individual membership dues for Rob Pierce would be covered by the section for 2024 in

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order to preserve continuity for the two committees he currently chairs. Successor chairs need to be recruited for both committees.

## **6. Drinking Water Week**

John Keith reported that the proclamation signing ceremony was completed and publicized on the website.

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### **Strategic plan**

#### **Strategic Plan Item 4: "Collaborate"**

John Keith noted that the new regulatory standards forthcoming from the EPA particularly underscore the need for collaboration in the water sector, particularly among the state regulatory agencies and public water systems. The section should put some attention on supporting this collaboration.

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### **New business**

#### **1. Policy for acknowledging retirements and other major life events**

John Keith discussed the call to formulate a policy regarding the board's discretionary gifting and donations policy. He will solicit feedback from Maggie Vulman regarding the practices of other sections, then formulate a draft SOP for the board to review.

#### **2. Choose custom feature for updated Section logo**

The board discussed a range of iconic images that could be submitted to AWWA for consideration for a section logo:

- Corn
- Beef/cattle head
- The Sower
- Cottonwood tree/leaf
- Buffalo
- Sandhill cranes
- Steam locomotive/railroad tracks
- Meadowlark
- Platte River
- Windmill and water tower
- Chimney Rock
- State Capitol

#### **3. UNL summer workshop for teachers**

John Keith noted that NWEA's announcement about the summer workshop included reference to stipends from NWEA and AWWA, but noted that our announcement should be clear that funding is available for educational materials only.

Torey Zuver left the meeting at 11:46 am.

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John Keith will prepare an invitation to be shared directly with school districts and on the website.

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**Announcements**

No announcements were made.

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**Upcoming meetings**

The next meeting will be held on July 16th via videoconference. This is an off year for the retreat schedule, so no off-site retreat is being planned.

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**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:51 am.

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**Attest**

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian Gongol

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