NSAWWA Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: March 16th, 2015

Location: Miller and Associates Office, Kearney, NE

Chair Doug Woodbeck called the meeting to order at 9:32 am.

ROLL CALL

Board members:
Board Chairman: Doug Woodbeck - Present
Chair Elect: Ben Day - Present
Vice Chair: Chad Roberts - Absent
Treasurer: Eric Melcher - Present
Secretary: Jim Shields - Present
Director: John Olsson - On Phone
Past Chair: David Lathrop – Absent – arrived later
Trustee: Mary Poe - On Phone
Trustee: Milo Rust – Absent
Trustee: Brittany Travers - Present

Committee Chairmen present:
Cross Connection Chairman: Rich Koenig
Education Chairman: John Keith – on phone

Other Attendees:
Mike Wentik, State of Nebraska

Approval of previous minutes:
Motion to approve by Melcher, seconded by Day, all present voted aye. Motion passed.

Chairman’s report:
Not much new.

Directors Report:
Winter Board Meeting highlights. (See attached)
**Treasurers Report:**

The treasurer presented the 2015 Budget. Day made the motion to accept the budget, seconded by Shields, all present voted aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Shields to approve the Treasurers report, seconded by Day, all present voted aye. Motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Archives & History**
  No Report

- **Audit**
  No Report

- **Awards**
  No report

- **Budget**
  Presented with Treasurers report.

- **Cross Connection**
  Planning for the 2015 year is in progress. Will have 4 workshops, coordinate Backflow track at Annual Conference and the “Ultimate Backflow Challenge”. See report.

- **Education**
  The committee has done some investigation of the costs associated with putting on workshops with the LONM. The committee members feel that there is significant cost sharing and that the program meets the terms of our agreement with the LONM.

  EPA Small Systems Grant Area 1 training will be held May 7th, 2015 in Ashland.

  See attached

- **Fall Conference**
  A conference call was held with NWEA and NE APWA to discuss fall conference planning.

  Joint planning meeting will be held at Great Plains Conference.
See attached.

-Fuller Award
No Report

-Manufacturers/Associates Council
No Report

-Membership
We currently have 343 active members. See attached report

-Nominations
No Report

-Public Information
No Report

-Publications
No Report

-Research and Student Activities
No Report

-Safety
No Report

-Scholarship
No Report

-Small Systems
No Report

-Water for People
No Report

-Water Utility Council
Reported on AWWA Fly-in. Discussion on whether or not to reimburse Chad Roberts for unused airplane tickets was tabled until next month.

-Young Professionals
See attached report

-By-Laws Ad Hoc
Included in unfinished business.

-Total Water Solution Ad Hoc
Two meeting have been held and another one scheduled. Exploring ways to partner with other water groups.
See attached.

-Wise Water Words Ad Hoc
JEO is going to layout free of charge. Printing and mailing will be done by them also but billed to the Section. Gongol will still do articles and publish on web.

Unfinished Business:
-All materials sent to satisfy subpoena from Homonichl vs Minden Schools lawsuit.

-Logo “B” was selected. Lathrop made motion to select option “B”, Melcher seconded, all present voted aye. Motion passed.

-Bylaws Update: Discussion over some minor changes including adding a Table of Contents and some grammatical and spelling errors. Motion to approve with changes that were discussed was made by Melcher, seconded by Travers. All in attendance voting aye, motion carried.

New Business:
Drinking Water Week proclamation ceremony will be held April 8th, 10:00AM at the State Capitol. Chairman Woodbeck will give a short speech. All members invited to attend.

World of Water will be September 12th at Werspahn Lake. Teresa Konda will head up having an AWWA booth with help from the Young Professionals group.
Committee liaison appointments were made as shown below.

Archives & History: SHIELDS
Audit: WOODBECK
Awards: ROBERTS
Budget: MELCHER
Cross Connection: ROBERTS
Education: WOODBECK
Fall Conference: DAY
Fuller Award: UNASSIGNED
Manufacturers/Associates Council: TRAVERS
Membership: POE
Nominations: UNASSIGNED
Public Information: POE
Publications: POE
Research and Student Activities: DAY
Safety: RUST
Scholarship: SHIELDS
Small Systems: MELCHER
Water for People: DAY
Water Utility Council: SHIELDS

Next Meeting:
Friday, May 15th, Woodland Hills Golf Course, Eagle NE. meeting will start at 9:00am.

Adjourn
Motion to adjourn was made by Lathrop, seconded by Shields, all in attendance voting aye, motion carried.
AWWA Directors Report – March 2015

- Highlights from Winter Board Meeting – Santa Fe, NM
  - Elections: President Elect – Jeanne Bennett-Bailey, Virginia Section
  - Action Item: Addition of dues category for International Members
  - Membership: Discussion about membership structure (see attachment)

- ACE 2015 – Anaheim, CA, June 7 -10.

Ad-Hoc Committee Report – Total Water Solutions

- Meetings Held - December 17, 2014; January 30, 2015 (notes attached).
- Next Meeting – March 31 @ 11 am, Olsson Associates, Omaha
- Over the course of the meetings I'm developing the impression that we need to better understand how drinking water overlaps with other water interest areas. As such, I suspect our committee will be doing well to open the dialogue with other water stakeholders in order to gain appreciation of their interests, and in turn share our interests with them.

I envision our short term goals to be nothing more than networking and seeing what possibilities exist for partnering. My initial thought ahead of creating the committee in the first place was that we could create some tangible and measurable goals from the onset. As we have investigated and discussed how we can add value to our membership it seems we need to first understand what we don’t know and discover some possibilities. This will take some time to explore.

Respectfully Submitted,

John S. Olsson
Nebraska Section Director
Board Special Session
AWWA 2015 Winter Board of Directors Meeting

21st Century Membership Model Overview

Purpose
During the upcoming Board Special Session (BSS) segment entitled Membership Structure, you will be asked to consider and provide feedback on options relating to AWWA's membership structure. This overview provides context for the issues and potential solutions you will discuss at the session.

Background
Membership at AWWA is both a means and an end. Membership dues account for nearly 40% of the association’s total revenue. More significantly, 80% of all association revenue is derived from members. AWWA members contribute not only their financial resources, but also their intellectual capital to the work of the association. AWWA’s representation of the water industry and the population-at-large influences the association’s ability to affect positive change.

Issue
Since 2006, when AWWA’s number of members reached a pinnacle of 60,000, membership has declined due to economic and other factors. In 2010, the membership count had dropped to 55,000. At the end of 2014, the AWWA membership count totaled just over 50,000. These declines in membership and dues revenue represents a vulnerability for AWWA’s overall financial and intellectual well-being.

AWWA research and analysis suggests several reasons for these trends, one of which will be highlighted during the BSS: confusion over membership status and benefits. This confusion results in the following:

- Potential members may not join or existing members may not renew because of a mistaken belief that they are already members;
- Current members struggle to explain the AWWA membership proposition, resulting in reduced recruitment since the decision to join is highly influenced by supervisors and colleagues; and
- Section leaders find the current structure difficult to understand and describe, complicating administration of the program and undermining their attempts to grow and retain members.

Solution
AWWA’s plan for a 21st Century Membership Model, as envisioned in the 2013 Five Year Strategic Membership Plan, creates a path to solve this and other issues adversely affecting the AWWA membership program. A key step along this path is the investigation of improvements to the AWWA membership model that will reduce confusion, provide the potential for increased dues revenue and increased number of members (including international), increase operational and Section effectiveness, and facilitate opportunities for member engagement.

Your role at the BSS will be to:

- Gain a greater understanding of AWWA’s membership program and the challenges it faces;
- Consider a set of options for improvement based on criteria that advances AWWA’s vision and mission; and
- Provide feedback that will narrow the selection of options under consideration.

Your insight and experience will be invaluable components of this session. Thank you for participating.
AGENDA

1. Review Possible Mission (our purpose, why we exist)

2. Discuss planned objectives/goals/activities

3. Open Discussion & Next Steps

4. Adjourn

Possible Mission – Communicate and create awareness through partnerships that water is water and is valued in quantity and quality. Work to better understand our states regulatory framework and how that impacts water in consideration of its need for municipal, agriculture and energy uses (nexus).

Possible Goals

- Identify practices that maintain or improve quality and quantity within the nexus.

- Of the practices identified above, which ones can we influence and how might we go about doing that?

- Provide a forum to bring water users together (within the nexus).

- Learn more about the active projects and research occurring within NE. Engage in conversations with NRD’s, UNL, other.
Meeting Notes

Attending: Masters, Christensen, Wentink, Dunnligan, Olsson.
Absent: Bilek, Day, Jacobson

Revised Possible Mission -- Communicate and create awareness through partnerships that water is water and is valued in quantity and quality. Work to better understand our states regulatory framework and how that impacts water in consideration of its need for municipal, agriculture and energy uses (nexus).

- Perhaps engage Al Laukatis (Lincoln Journal Star) to write a story about this collaborative.
- Integrated Management Laws – ground breaking and created success. Learned how to manage a combined resource. Brian shared “Water Management in Nebraska”, a flyer prepared by DNR.
- Technology is in play to monitor, in real time, how much water is needed for crops. Some data suggests crops do better with less water. Dawson Public Power is one ex.
- Leverage technology. Don’t be prescriptive…allow producers to figure it out.
- Discussed the need to get out and “mingle” with those in other water industries. Some possible touch points include:

  Drought Mitigation Center  
  UNL – Mohammed Dahab, Bruce Dvorak, Dr. Ras – Water Center  
  NARD – Dean Edson  
  Lee Orton – Well Drillers and State Irrigation Assoc.  
  Jay Rempe – Farm Bureau  
  Jack Daniel – Retired, HHS  
  Rohric Pohlman – use of technology, NE Water Balance Alliance
NE AWWA


Treasurers Report

Account Summary as of 3/13/2015:

- Checking Account $23,678.78
- Savings Account $5,963.84
- Pipe Workshop $2,713.74
  Subtotal $32,356.36
- CD’s Total $65,129.97
- Total of all Accounts $97,486.33

BUDGET REPORT:

Bills:

Ogden Ins. Agency, Inc. – Bond Renewal Fee $100.00
Secretary of State – Non-Profit Biannual Report $20.00
NWEA – Reimbursement for AC Awards, Inc. (Awards Banquet) $76.74
Region 12 ABPA – 2013 and 2014 Backflow Challenge $1,440.00
Water for People Donation – Wine for Water Event $670.00
Christian New – Reimbursement for Wine for Water Event Exp. $395.00
State House Post Office – Post Office Box Rental Fee $58.00

Total $2,759.74

Deposits:

NSAWWA Multi Section Allotment $84.15
Christian New – Wine for Water Event $1,065.00

Total $1,149.15

(NSAWWA split for the 2014 Annual Conf. is expected to be $14,631.00 bringing total of all accts to $113,266.48)

Taxes:

There has been a request for an extension submitted to the IRS in filing the 2014 taxes.
NSAWWA Accountant; Janalee Crouch has submitted and Ben will assist through the process.

Audit:

There will be no formal audit required in 2014. The Audit Committee may perform an
informal/internal audit of the Treasurer Records for 2014.

2014 Budget:

Once we have received the 2014 Fall Conference disbursement I’ll work to provide the year end
budget report.
2015 Budget:

The changes have been entered within the Budget as requested during the January NSAWWA meeting. If there are no other corrections or additions I recommend approval of the 2015 Budget.

Respectfully Submitted:
Eric Melcher, Treasurer
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
SUPPLEMENT TO TREASURER'S REPORT

2014

AWWA  92
NWEA  96
APWA  22
FULL CONF  97
Reg. Att.  307  0  0  0  0

EXHIBITORS  62

INCOME

2014

Registration  $ 39,130.00
Exhibitors  $ 36,088.82

Preconf Reimbursement

$ 1,200

Total Income  75188.82

EXPENSE

Vendor Poster  $ 62.60
Conf Brochure  $ 1,174.86
Postage  $ 123.06
Holiday Inn  $ 33,516.84
AAA Rents  $ 2,163.38

Penal Scholarship  $ 55.00

Total Expense  37084.73

Net Income  $ 38,114.09

$  -  NWEA Scholarship  $ 35.00
AWWA Scholarship  $ 5.00
APWA Scholarship  $ 5.00
Lapel pins  $ 10.00

CONFERENCE INCOME BREAKDOWN

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<th></th>
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<th>% NAPWA</th>
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Total after discount is taken out, scholarships and pins added in, and divided proportionally, gift taken from APWA and added to NWEA.

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<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td><strong>Regional Officer's Meeting/Officer Training</strong></td>
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1. Possible calendar of activities for 2015 and assignments (target 3 - 4 per year)
   a. Proposed 2015 Activities:
      i. WTP Tours: (see below)
         1. Nebraska City – Justin *(NC is currently in the middle of projects and Justin will contact again, potential tour in early Summer/July)*
            a. NCU is still open to receiving a tour.
            b. Target date: Spring 2015; late March/April
         2. Seward RO Plant – joint event with NWEA YP *(will send email to NWEA to check back in)*
            a. Target date: early 2015
         3. Snyder Tanks in Lincoln (Andrew) *I asked around the office about this and I got zero responses from people who would attend. All I kept hearing was that they were plastic tanks and they had no interest in going. Thoughts on keeping this versus soliciting for new ideas?*
            a. reschedule for April 2015 or earlier
      ii. Look into zoo (aquarium) tour again in the winter – January-March 2015 (Rory/Billy) – *Rory and Billy is still working on this but hasn’t gotten a response. Ideally, this tour would be in May with a social after.*
      iii. Other ideas of tours or presentations?
         a. Technical Presentation and social gathering in early 2015 – Ideas?
         b. Possible presentations for CEU credits (could this tie together with the technical presentation and social gathering?)
         c. Manufacturer tours – Flowserve, Vulcan (with NWEA)
         d. Everyone; ask co-workers what would draw them out of the office on a Friday afternoon. The tours and the events we have hosted in the past are excellent educational opportunities, however, let’s stir it up a little and draw a few new members within our firms, groups, and industry.
         e. Jake – New water tower at PRSP at Louisville (Ben Day/Craig Reinsch) likely in Fall
         f. ISCO – Lincoln
   b. Groundwater Festival (GI) – looking to 2015
      i. May 12 (Andrew will coordinate with JEO GI office)
         1. Mike Schultes is coordinating JEO’s effort at this event with the help of GI/Hastings Utilities Employees. Anyone interested in assisting at any point throughout the day contact Andrew. *Brittany to attend with Public Education Committee*
   c. YP at AWWA Fall Conference Poker Night (Kearney) – Anyone like to volunteer to chair this event in conjunction with NWEA YP? *(Set up room, M/C, prizes and donations. Nominate someone in May to assist)*
   d. YP at NeRWA Conference (GI) - do we want to have a presence there?
      i. Brittany will be attending as an exhibitor – will try to recruit any potential YP’s
   e. E-week: Water tasting contest – Friday April 17
      i. May not do drinking water tasting contest – Vince & Allison update? *Vince was thinking the drinking water contest would be eliminated. Demonstrations about water treatment processes and treatment videos. Xu Li looking for recommendations for videos. This year’s E-Week will be at the Innovation Campus. Would be beneficial to have a YP there with the students on the morning of Friday April 17th. Andrew to contact Craig and see if he would help.*
      f. Student Chapter/Activities
   g. World of Water – Saturday September 12, 12-4 PM Omaha (Andrew)
i. In the past we have hosted a booth that included a groundwater model as a visual. We will be looking to do this again this year and would like a volunteer or two to assist. Justin has groundwater model and Xu Li has removal of contaminants using activated carbon. Talk to Teresa about the attendees and potential activities from her past experiences at World of Water.

2. Other items
   a. Membership Opportunities
      i. Potential to start UNO chapter – Andrew to work with Marc Rosso and JEO intern to get started
   b. Professional Development Conference
      i. 4 state region with AWWA YP and NWEA YP
      ii. Possible CEU’s for operators and engineers
   c. Great Plains Conference – April 22 & 23
      i. On April 22 NWEA YP and AWWA YP will host a 2 hour track geared towards YP’s
   d. Potential social somewhere between Lincoln and Omaha in the next month.

3. Next Conference Call: May?

Committee Members (attendees in bold): Rory Sudbeck, Brittany Travers, Justin Stine, Craig Reinsch, Andrew Synhorst, Billy Kaufold, Teresa Konda, Vince Kuppig and Allison Speicher (UNL Student Chapter), David Stuart, Jake Miriovsky, Mary Poe, Xu Li, Brittni Stephens-Yates, Kyle VanDyk
Online Training Grants

I propose that $500 by allocated every quarter to assist Nebraska Section AWWA members in obtaining online training from AWWA offerings. Unused allocations may roll-over to next quarter.

Every quarter I suggest an email be sent out with latest available online training offerings going out six months to all NSAWWA members. *(Who would do this email? A member of education committee, e.g. Mike Wentink or John Keith?... or David Lathrop for first year?)*

Requests will be accepted for two weeks from notification.

Requests may be made for any online trainings up to six months in advance.

All the requests will be honored until the $500 allocation is exhausted. Training requests will be prioritized based on the following criteria in order of precedence.

1) Individuals who have received an approval memo for training in the past year will be given lowest priority and put at the end of the request list.

2) Groups of three or more will be given higher priority than individuals. All group requests must agree to host at least six individuals. The host must agree to notify water operators (AWWA members or non-members) in surrounding area.

3) Individuals or groups will not be awarded more than one training grant each quarter.

4) Requests will then prioritized based on a first come first serve basis.

Requests will be officially approved by NSAWWA by a memo.

Training must be paid up front and it will be reimbursed with a record of attendance and receipt of the invoice.

If a group watches an online offering the group must register at the group AWWA rate.
NEBRASKA SECTION AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION
2011 COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee: Cross Connection Committee Date: March 16, 2015
Chair: Rich Koenig Vice Chair: Leroy Kramer

Total Members: 6 Active Members: 6
Executive Board Liaison: Chad Roberts
List of Active Members: Rich Koenig, Leroy Kramer, Chad Roberts, Rob Pierce, Terry Vail and Doug Meyer.

When and where has the committee met in the past year (include conference calls): Committee met March 11, 2015 and provided potential topics for the 4 - 1 day workshops co-sponsored with LNM along with potential topics for the NeSAWWA Fall Conference Backflow Track.

Proposed changes in committee membership: None

Deliverables/Activities: 4 – 1 day workshops co-sponsored with LNM
Develop and oversee the Backflow Track at the NeSAWWA Fall Conference which includes “The Ultimate Backflow Challenge”
Assist with selection process for the following awards:
“Cross Connection Control Program of the Year”
“Cross Connection specialist of the Year”

How might the Executive Board assist your Committee in accomplishing its work? Working OK

Plans/Projects for upcoming year: 4 – 1 day workshops co-sponsored with LNM
Provide CCC Training at the Annual Conference with a Backflow track which includes the “Backflow Knowledge” and “Ultimate Backflow Challenge”

Anticipated Budget Expenditures for 2014: $1500.00 - LofNM cost share
$ 720.00 – Ultimate Backflow Challenge
$ 80.00 – Misc.

Budget Request for 2014 (include a short justification) $2300.00
Help fund the “Ultimate Backflow Challenge” session and various other expenses as described above

Other Items:
To: NSAWWA Board
From: John Keith, Chair
Education Committee
Date: March 16, 2015

Education Committee Report

Committee Members
John Keith, Chair
Nick McElvain       Brian Gongol
Rob Pierce          Steve Kelley
Mike Wentink

Happenings

1. Rob indicates there have been 9 water workshops events including 117 paid operators/registrants in attendance. Ten (10) more training sessions are scheduled in 2014.

2. Committee members Keith, Lathrop, Peirce Wentink are still working together on the EPA Small System Grant “Area 1” training. This training will be held May 7, 2015 at Camp Carol Joy Holling Center outside Ashland Nebraska. So far there has been 13 people who have registered. A minimum of twenty (20) is required but that should not be an issue.

3. I have been in discussions with Rob Pierce (LONM) concerning costs associated with LONM training events conducted as part of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NSAWWA and LONM. I am waiting for information from LONM to verify training costs and expenses but everything appears to meet the purpose of the MOU.