

NS-AWWA Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: **May 8, 2017**

Location: Woodland Hills Golf Course, Eagle, NE

Chad Roberts called the meeting to order at 9:32

ROLL CALL:

Board members present:

Board Chairman: Chad Roberts

Chair Elect: Rick Melcher

Vice Chair: Milo Rust (on phone)

Treasurer: Brittany Travers

Secretary: Mary Poe

Director: Bruce Dvorak

Past Chair: Ben Day

Trustee: Gary Thurlow

Trustee: Marc Rosso

Board members absent:

Trustee: Jack Satur

Trustee: John Keith

Committee Chairs present:

Adam Darbro, Rich Koenig, Teresa Konda

Others present: None

Approval of January Board meeting minutes

It is appreciated that updates or board actions via email that occur after the board meeting, be added to those previous meeting minutes and noted as such, but it was suggested to be sure to include the date of the actions. Bruce made a motion to approve the March board meeting minutes, Marc seconded and the motion carried with all present voting aye.

Chairman's report: The Fall Conference has been moved up a day so as not to conflict with Veteran's Day, observed on Friday November 10. The Preconference will be Monday November 6, with the AWWA portion of the joint conference being Tuesday and Wednesday, November 7 and 8. The visiting dignitary is Mark Coleman of the Michigan Section.

Director's Report:

ACE'17 will be held in Philadelphia June 11-14. Pre-registered booth space is on track with last year but pre-registered attendees is down at this point. AWWAIndia will be holding AICE'17 in Mumbai in November. The summer leadership workshop is July 25-27 in Denver.

Water Training & Educational Resource Exchange (Water-X) is a new website developed by AWWA to be used for sharing each section's educational programs as well as to distribute content developed by the Association. Website is www.awwa.org/waterx

The Nebraska Section is donating a package of steaks from McBride Co. for the Water Equation silent auction at ACE, which will benefit the One AWWA Operator Scholarship. This is a change from the planned \$100 gift certificate to Omaha Steaks because such a donation would likely bring in less than \$100 at the auction, but the McBride Co. offered packages of steaks rather than gift certificates that were a set amount.

Report is attached.

Treasurer's Report:

As of April 30 the total of all accounts is \$145,413.90, which includes \$71,112.76 in checking; \$6,455.54 in savings; \$2,715.63 from the pipe workshop; and \$65,129.97 in CDs.

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

Report is attached.

Committee Reports:

Archives & History: No report

Audit: The association audit has been completed and the fee paid.

Awards: The awards nomination forms have been posted on the website. It is important to be aware of the national awards that exist and to nominate those who are deserving.

A new idea is for the committee to contact large systems and ask if they have any deserving staff members that they would like to nominate for awards.

There is a new Community Engineering Corps (CEC) award with a deadline of October 1st, however no Nebraska communities currently have eligible projects, but it is possible in the future that there may be such projects.

Budget: Copies of the March and April transactions were distributed. See attached.

Community Engineering Corp: Bruce reported that the Community Engineering Corp is going well and he appreciates the leadership of its members. The committee has been meeting regularly and is working to identify communities that may benefit from this assistance.

Report is attached.

Cross Connection: The committee is working to identify potential topics for the four one-day workshops (with LoNM) as well as the Fall Conference backflow track.

Paul Schwartz from USC's Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research will conduct two sessions at the Fall Conference.

Report is attached.

Education: Fifty-seven are registered for the Small system training on May 11th. Twelve workshops (with 255 participants) have been held so far this year in conjunction with LoNM, with eleven more scheduled.

The Section is in charge of the pre-conference at the Fall Conference this year, which will be conducted using a grant from EPA.

The committee is continuing to explore the possibility of obtaining CEUs for online training.

Report is attached.

Fall Conference: There will be three tracks at the Fall Conference. If you know of any possible presenters or presentations please let Rick Melcher know. Rick will send out a draft agenda soon.

The board, committee chairs, and National dignitary Mark Coleman will meet at the Alley Rose for dinner at 6:30 on Monday November 6 (Mark's birthday).

The children's poster contest voting will close on Tuesday November 7 at 9:00 pm. Top Ops is from 4:00 – 5:00 on Tuesday, followed by water-tasting contest from 5:30-6:00.

Fuller Award: No report

Manufacturers/Associates Council: No report

Membership Engagement & Development: Membership at 354, up 13 from last year. AWWA is still working on obtaining credit hours for online training and should have this in place by the end of the year, which will be an added benefit of membership.

Report is attached.

Nominations: Ben is working on getting the slate of candidates together so that it can be published as required in the by-laws.

Public Information: Planning the children's poster contest and water-tasting contest at Fall Conference. Mary asked Adam German with the Village of Cortland to become a member so that he can submit a sample at the Best of the Best Taste Test at ACE.

Publications: Content is still greatly needed for the next issue. Please send committee reports, officer columns, and other updates to Brian Gongol. It was discussed how it would be helpful to have set deadlines for each issue from year to year so we become familiar with when content is due. It was suggested that committees be assigned to submit content (in addition to regular committee reports) on an annual cycle. This can be discussed at the upcoming retreat. Other content suggestions included DHHS regulatory updates and periodic articles from laboratory staff.

Report is attached.

Research and Student Activities: Some students are helping today at the golf tournament. New leadership is being sought.

Safety: Safety surveys and applications have been mailed out to the membership and will get the information to Brian for the website. Working on a safety article for the newsletter.

Report is attached.

Scholarship: Craig attended a conference call regarding the ONE AWWA Operator's Scholarship; see notes in attached report.

A question the committee has for the board is what to do if the expenses are already incurred prior to the scholarship award (like if a certification class was already attended)? Ben made a motion to allow prior expenses to be reimbursed, motion was seconded by Rick, and the motion carried with all present voting aye.....pending confirmation from National to reimburse the awardee.

Report is attached.

Small Systems: Planning for a workshop in July. Let Adam Darbro know of suggested topics for small system operator training and make small systems aware of the training.

Water for People: Golf event is today after the board meeting; 70 golfers registered, 10 sponsors. A change this year is that the tournament is on a Monday instead of a Friday.

Some reasons for the change include conflicts with Friday dates and less expenses with a Monday date. Will see how the new day of the week works out this year.

There are two new committee members and one departing member. Jim Persson is planning to attend the WFP workshop in Denver in July.

Report is attached.

Water Utility Council: Jim Shields attended the Washington Fly-in, but the other two planned attendees (Chad and Milo) were not able to go. Jim was able to meet with all of the Nebraska congressional offices and even got a private tour. See attached report for this year's objectives.

Report is attached.

Young Professionals: The committee has been working with the NWEA young professionals and has been developing a survey to gauge interest in various events.

Finance Ad Hoc Committee: Committee will meet this week with Scott Fuhrman of Mutual of Omaha to discuss the investment plan. Brittany and Bruce will attend in person, with Rick and Milo calling in.

Top Ops Ad Hoc Committee: The AWWA guidelines for the national competition were sent out to the committee and the committee will decide whether to use them or create our own. The final guidelines should be published in the Wise Water Words.

Total Water Solutions Ad Hoc Committee: Article prepared by the committee was published in *The Nebraska Farmer* magazine. Here is the link to the article:
<http://www.nebraskafarmer.com/water/understanding-nebraskas-water-supply>

Report is attached.

Unfinished Business:

Section Insurance Update: Mary checked with Terry Walters on two specific questions about event insurance needs for the annual trap shoot and Wine for Water events. Here are the responses:

Trap shoot – “Yes, the section will still need to secure a separate special event policy. Trap Shoot events are not covered under the AWWA insurance policy. Separate coverage can be purchased at <https://www.phly.com/products/SpecialEventsIns.aspx>. The cost of the policy should be around \$175.”

Wine event – “This event would be covered under the main AWWA policy so separate coverage is not required as long as Section members/volunteers are not serving the alcohol.”

Online training for AWWA members: This item was discussed in the Membership Engagement & Development committee report.

New Business:

AWWA Shirts: Discussion was held on what to do with extra Section t-shirts that were given to members at the 2016 Fall Conference. Will hold onto and give to new members.

Section Retreat: Discussed possible dates and locations for the Section retreat in August, which will be announced when finalized.

Adjournment: At 11:28 Marc made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Brittany, with all in attendance voting aye, motion carried.

Next Meeting:

Date: TBA (July ?)

Location: TBA



Respectfully submitted by:

Mary Poe, Nebraska Section AWWA Secretary