

NS-AWWA Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: **September 18, 2018**

Location: Lincoln Water System offices, 2021 N 27th St, Lincoln, NE

Eric Melcher called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM

ROLL CALL:

Board members present:

Board Chairman: Eric Melcher

Chair Elect: absent

Vice Chair: Brittany Travers

Treasurer: John Keith

Secretary: Mary Poe

Director: Bruce Dvorak

Past Chair: absent

Trustee: Marc Rosso

Trustee: Craig Reinsch

Trustee: Jack Satur – via phone

Trustee: absent

Board members absent: Milo Rust, Gary Thurlow, Chad Roberts

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

Others present: Scott Fuhrman – Stifel Investment Services

Approval of May 11, 2018 Board meeting minutes:

Bruce made a motion to approve the May 11, 2018 Board meeting minutes after a few typos are corrected, Craig seconded it, and the motion carried with all present voting aye.

Stifel Investment Services

Scott Fuhrman with Stifel Investment Services was in attendance and confirmed that \$80,000 was invested on June 29, 2018. He confirmed that we have full access to the invested money at any time, and that we always have the option to modify the investments. He explained how the risk is dispersed when the investments are spread out among various funds that act differently from each other.

In January we will evaluate the functionality of the investments and make an informed decision on reinvesting the income.

John will go to the online account and change from mailed documents to e-documents for the investment summary reports and other mailings.

We should also start thinking of ways to use the growing assets – to benefit the Section and its membership.

Chairman’s Report:

The Audit Committee will include Milo, Bruce, Brittany, and John. The next audit will be completed in 2019 for the years 2016, 2017, 2018. An internal audit should also be conducted annually. The committee will prepare to discuss this at the January meeting.

Director’s Report:

Bruce attended the Association Board of Directors meeting in June. Here are the highlights:

- Over 52,000 members and growing
- The Veteran’s Workforce Initiative has four Nebraska volunteers who will be trained on how to assist veterans with obtaining jobs in the water industry. Flyers will be available soon
- AWWAIndia will use AWWA materials for training
- Over 11,500 attendees at ACE18
- Peer-reviewed articles will be published through a new journal called “AWWA Water Science”

Report is attached.

Treasurer’s Report:

There is a correction to the August report. The total of the checking, savings, and pipe workshop should be \$66,327.53 for a grand total of \$146,089.14.

The \$500 donation to Water for People (see WFP report) is contained in the August ledger.

Two of the budgeted amounts for conference attendance in the Leadership Development group were not used this year.

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 approved 2018 budget for reference.

Action via email: On August 1, 2018 Marc made a motion via email to match NWEA’s \$500 contribution to the fund-raising efforts of Gary and Linda Dekock, who were canoeing the Missouri River to raise money for Water for People. Craig seconded the motion with 9 voting yes, and no nay votes. NS-AWWA donated \$500 to the effort.

Committee Reports:

Archives & History: No report

Audit: Discussed in the Chair’s Report.

Awards: Several awards will be announced at the conference.

Budget: No additional discussion.

Cross Connection: The conference will include a backflow track and Ultimate Backflow Challenge. This will be the last year of the challenge.

Report is attached.

Education: There will be no pre-conference this year. The grant was used for other training.

Fall Conference: A discussion was held about who sits at the head table.

Lunch: dignitary, chair, chair-elect, vice-chair, director, secretary, treasurer

Evening Banquet: dignitary, chair, chair-elect, vice-chair, director, secretary, treasurer, and trustees (if room)

Milo is trying to locate a document that tells the order of award presentations at the banquet. It will be distributed to the presenters before the banquet.

Discussed who is bringing laptops and projectors.

A moment of silence will be held at the joint luncheon to honor those water professionals who have passed away recently.

Fuller Award: There will be an award.

Manufacturers/Associates Council: No report

Membership Engagement & Development: AWWA quizzes and webinars are now live, see report on how to access. Chad tested it out. It needs reviewed by Mike Wentink too.

Membership is down a little but expected to pick up for the conference.

Some municipalities are not members. They should be contacted to be advised of the membership benefits.

Report is attached.

Nominations: Elections will be held at the annual membership meeting (see below). In the board meeting (that follows the annual membership meeting) the plan is to appoint Marc to the open Trustee position, if Craig has been elected Secretary.

2018/2019 Officers and Nominee Roster:

Chair: Milo Rust

Chair Elect: Brittany Travers

Vice Chair: Mary Poe

Secretary: Craig Reinsch

Treasurer: John Keith

Director: Teresa Konda (term begins June 2019)

Past Chair: Eric Melcher

Trustee: Mike Koenig

Trustee: Ryan Hurst

Trustee: Brian Gongol

Trustee: Open

Highlighted indicates no election needed

Public Information: Water-tasting contest and children's poster contest will be held at the Fall Conference. Door prizes will be given at water-tasting contest during the happy hour.

Publications: No report

Research and Student Activities: Committee members volunteered at the golf scramble on May 11; NWEA scholarship golf outing on August 20; and World O! Water festival on September 8. The committee has collaborated with NWEA to develop a mentoring program for students – 24 mentors and 20 mentees have been recruited.

Report is attached.

Safety: Approximately eight safety awards will be awarded.

Scholarship: Have not received any One AWWA Operator Scholarship applications, so considering extending the deadline to October 15 and announcing the available scholarships at three operator trainings before then. Leisen scholarships are due October 5. T-shirts will be given to all scholarship recipients and Mary and Craig will coordinate to order them.

Small Systems: No report.

Top Ops: A flyer has been developed and will be sent to encourage participation.

Total Water Solutions: Bruce and Dale have been discussing ideas for the committee.

Water for People: Jim Person attended the WFP workshop in Denver in July. On August 9 the Paddle with Purpose Missouri River Voyage event was well attended and \$500 was donated from the Section for the cause. The NWEA and AWWA young professionals in Iowa and Nebraska raised a total of \$2,000 for WFP at this event. Information on the voyage can be found here: https://www.mi-wea.org/docs/Missouri_River_Voyage_2018.pdf.

Registration sits at 25 for the clay shoot on September 28. There will be a raffle again at the Fall Conference.

Water Utility Council: No report.

Young Professionals: Bruce suggested to encourage firms to send their YPs to the conference. NRDs should also be encouraged to attend and engage at the conference. The report details the following events:

- YP committee continues to collaborate with UNL student chapter, to increase committee interest, and to aid YPs in the transition from student to workplace
- Texas Hold 'em tournament will be held at conference, with proceeds going to WFP
- Session at conference for YPs preparing to take PE exam
- The Committee co-hosted the Paddle with Purpose event with Iowa's YP Committees in August for Gary and Linda DeKock, who paddled the length of the Missouri River to raise money for Water for People. The event was well attended and with the combined donations from NWEA, NSAWWA, and Iowa AWWA, Gary and Linda were able to exceed their fundraising goal of \$23,000.

Report is attached.

Community Engineering Corps: The application for a project in Liberty, NE has been approved. A draft report has been prepared, but edits are required. Based on how this project goes, decisions can be made about future projects. It is interesting that none of the communities have sought treatment addition or distribution system upgrades, only low cost

well options. It may help to identify communities whose nitrates are trending upwards, for future projects.

Finance Ad Hoc Committee: Since the investment decisions have been completed, the ad hoc committee is no longer needed. A motion to dissolve the committee was made by John, seconded by Marc, with all present voting aye. Future investment decisions can be made by the Board.

Unfinished Business:

Finance Ad Hoc Committee: Previously discussed.

ACE18 poster competition: Putri Brikke attended ACE18 and presented her poster on the benefits of rainwater harvesting.

New Business:

Fall Conference details: Previously discussed in the Fall Conference committee report.

Miscellaneous Items: Bruce received an email during the Board meeting stating that Jim Williams had a conflict and our visiting dignitary is now David Rager, current AWWA President. David also attended our Section conference in 2013 when he was AWWA Treasurer.

Adjournment: At 12:10 John made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bruce, with all in attendance voting aye, motion carried.

Next Meeting:

Date: November 8, 2018 - following the 1:30 PM Annual Business Meeting at the Fall Conference

Location: Younes Conference Center, Kearney, NE

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Respectfully submitted by:

Mary Poe, Nebraska Section AWWA Secretary