

NEBRASKA SECTION AWWA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 16, 2004

Meeting was held on September 16, 2004 at the Fremont NE City Council Chambers. Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Present were: Kristine Ranslem, Larry Andreasen, John Olsson, Bruce Dvorak, Joel Christensen, Tony Bilek, Kevin Tobin, Dennis Watts, Mari Matulka, Rob Pierce, Michael Wentink, Dave Jundt, Ben Day and Rich Koenig

Motion made by Larry Andreasen to approve minutes of the July 15, 2004 meeting; seconded by Kris Ranslem. Motion approved by all.

Treasurer's Report

Kevin Tobin presented the current balance sheet (as of September 15, 2004) and income statement. Discussion on statement items – reported income; inquire to WEA about the possibility of cashing checks already submitted for Fall Conference registrations. Mari reported that she is awaiting advertising revenues from a couple of companies. Options to increase revenues were discussed. John Olsson inquired about the possibility of a golf outing for Young Professionals; John will look into it. Motion to approve treasurer report was made by Larry Andreasen; seconded by Tony Bilek. Motion approved by all.

Director's Report

Joel Christensen presented an update on AWWA information regarding lead service line replacement relative to recent national issues involving the lead and copper rule; also the USEPA revisiting and possible revision of the Total Coliform Rule, and ammonia limits.

Committee Reports

Audit

Kristine reported that the formal audit is ready to begin.

Awards

Mike Wentink reported that Steve Kelley and committee will present four Water Industry Service Awards (WISA) at the Fall Conference and those nominating the four individuals have been contacted.

Budget

No report.

Cross-Connections

The joint NSAWWA/LoNM cross-connection control workshops (4) are developed and ready to begin. AWWA manuals will be provided to those individuals in attendance representing water systems serving 3,300 or fewer people.

Education

Mke Wentink reported that a standard operating procedure (SOP) has been developed for the assigning of continuing education hours for water operator training seminars and has been sent to the primary organizations in Nebraska providing water operator training. This applies to organizations submitting material for assignment of hours prior to the scheduled event. This SOP merely records the method that has been used in past years.

The 2005 Training Coalition calendar is under development.

An order was placed with the AWWA Book Store to make use of funds available in the annual \$400 Book Store allotment. The allotment is provided to the Section on October 1 of every year; there is no allotment carry over from the previous year.

Fall Conference

Larry Andreasen reported the Fall Conference development is progressing. NSAWWA Committee membership rosters need to be provided to Kathleen Alexander for inclusion in the official Fall Conference program.

Tony Bilek announced that due to a conflict with another conference, the proposed date of the Joint Fall Conference in 2005 may have to be re-scheduled. Other available weeks in November 2005 will be looked at. A meeting with the other Joint Conference organizations has been scheduled November 4, at 9 a.m. at the Fall Conference to discuss and establish a “lead organization” schedule for future fall conferences. A “Best of Show” plaque will be awarded to the top exhibit.

Fuller Award

Joel Christensen reported that a Fuller Award winner has been selected.

MAC

Tony Bilek reported that approximately 30 exhibitors are registered for the Fall Conference.

Membership

No report.

Nominations

Dennis Watts reported that nominations for officers were published in **Wise Water Words**.

Public Information

Kevin Tobin announced that there is no report.

Publications

Mari discussed with the Board the NSAWWA publications produced, and the website data indicating the numbers and type of visitors to the NSAWWA website. The numbers have increased tremendously in recent years and show an interest in material provided on the Section website.

Research

No report.

Safety

Rob Pierce reported that two safety workshops are planned for 2005. One topic will be barricading. The LoNM, with possible assistance from NETC, will be providing the pre-conference for the 2004 Fall Conference. The theme will be safety. Rob is researching issuance of National Safety Awards for 2005.

Scholarships

Larry Andreasen reported that he received a list of 20 candidates for Section scholarships from one Drinking Water Program geographic field area. He requested that a more representative list of one from each field area be provided from the Program. Eight scholarships (one from each Drinking Water Program field area) of \$250 are anticipated to be awarded through the SRF scholarship component; other scholarships are available through Section funds with the limit established by the Scholarship committee. Board discussed some record keeping aspects and establishing a documented process of awarding the SRF scholarships. Mike Wentink was requested to provide some information to Larry about suggested SRF contract scholarship records to maintain.

Small Systems

Dave Jundt requested that McCool Junction be recognized by some means at the Fall Conference for that water system's contribution to production of the water system management video.

Student Activities

Bruce Dvorak reported on the Seward reverse osmosis treatment plant tour conducted. A wide variety of representation attended; students, consultants, and State representation. Approximately 30 students attended the September club meeting.

Water for People

Joel Christensen reported that the 2004 fall Conference WFP activity will be a raffle for gift certificate prizes. Raffle tickets have been distributed to Section Officers and others to sell. Gift certificate prizes have values of \$250, \$150 and \$100.

Water Utility Council

No report.

Young Professionals

Ben Day reported that a Pump 101 class is under development; possibly a joint project with the Student Activities Committee.

Old Business

Kris Ranslem had nothing to report regarding any issues with the Section Strategic Plan.

Bruce Dvorak reported on the summer workshop. It was well attended and, as was customary, Section pins were handed out. The Nebraska Section pins should be made available for Officers

and others attending meetings with other Sections for the handing out to representative of other Sections.

Another Section promotional idea is the providing of polo shirts with the Section logo. Bruce will look into costs for this possibility.

The Board discussed and reflected on past use of paid staff; some benefits, and costs associated with paid staff.

New Business

Joel Christensen presented the Section customer satisfaction survey produced by AWWA. As of this time, he has received one survey result. Board members were asked to return the surveys when completed to Joel.

John Olsson presented a request for proposal (RFP) through the Altria Foundation. The grant would be awarded in either of two categories relative to water issues; fostering scientific understanding or promote community engagement. The board discussed some aspects of this RFP including the possibility of partnering with others and requirements for matching funds or in-kind contribution. Board made no decision on this RFP.

Bruce Dvorak presented a proposal from NeRWA to house the Section library at the NeRWA office location in Wahoo. Board discussed some housekeeping items involved with such a move, including the handling of shipping costs and the types of Section material to be housed there. In general it appears to the Board as an acceptable idea. Mike Wentink was requested to contact NeRWA to discuss these issues and identify any other issues that may arise then proceed with the transfer if acceptable.

Dennis Watts motioned to adjourn the meeting; Larry Andreasen seconded, and all approved.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 4 at the Fall Conference at conclusion of the Section Business meeting which begins at 1:30 p.m.

Submitted for approval October 25, 2004 by Michael Wentink, NSAWWA Secretary.