

Alabama's Water Environment Association Quarterly Board Meeting – October

Submitted: Scott Cummings/President
Jonathan Childs/ Vice-president
Sonja Massey/Treasurer

Copies: Calvin Cassidy/Past President
Zane Hood/Director
Ed Moore/Director

Attendees: Scott Cummings
Jonathan Childs
Bruce Branum
Sabre Sutton
Jimmy Junkin

Drafted By: Jimmy Junkin/Secretary

Date: October 31, 2003

The following is a summary of the meeting of the Alabama's Water Environment Association (AWEA) officers, directors and committees for October 30, 2003. The meeting was conducted at the offices of CH2MHILL in Montgomery, Alabama. Scott Cummings/President (Scott) called the Quarterly Board Meeting to order at 1:00 PM. There were only three officers in attendance. There was no quorum present and therefore, no actions were taken which required a vote by the board of directors.

Meeting minutes from the previous board meeting were held until the following board meeting for action.

Treasurer's Report

No treasurer's was available for the meeting.

2004 Annual Conference Planning

Jonathan Childs provided a status report for the upcoming conference. **See the copy in Attachment A.** Additional recommendations for modifications were made to the price structure portion of the conference brochure.

Sabre referenced that Lt. Governor Lucy Baxley would need her expenses other than her room to be paid for her appearance as a keynote speaker. She will be invited to the Board of Directors dinner.

The Operator Training contract with ADEM was reviewed. **See the copy in Attachment B.** It is currently awaiting the governor's signature. Discussion over what means the association has to legally bill for all services provided to set up the training sessions. Jonathan instructed Jimmy to contact Lischkoff and Powell (AWEA's accounting firm) and ask them what can be done to bill for volunteer services. Two questions were posed: 1) Can volunteer time be billed? And 2) Can individuals invoice AWEA for the time they spend and in turn be allowed to donate funds to the association if they choose to?

There was also question over how to address the opportunity to do a training session at the annual conference to get credit for one of the sessions AWEA commits to under this contract. The wording has changed in the contract so that anyone who wishes to participate must be given free admission in order for the session to meet ADEM criteria. Previous the wording had indicated that free admission had to be given for operators for the session to qualify. This restricts the way in which we do combine training sessions with the annual conference. It may reduce the cash totals AWEA can generate from paying participants.

There was discussion over whether we could front load the contract charges in a manner different from that implied by the contract - \$50,000 the first year and \$70,000 the second year. A conference called was placed to ADEM and the answer was no. The federal government does not guarantee these funds. ADEM will only pay out what the federal government actually approves.

The proposal from Stone River for their help in the upcoming year on the strategic marketing plan was reviewed. **See the copy in Attachment C.** Sabre indicated the proposal outlines steps AWEA can fulfill with active members. Scott noted it would take 220 new members to cover the cost of the proposal in the first fiscal year. Jonathan indicated the association would fulfill these items and that we would not utilize an outside consultant at this time. Scott indicated AWEA should not do things that do not pay for themselves in a reasonable length of time.

Discussion moved to talks about the AWEA database development. Jonathan indicated that all databases currently in the possession of AWEA needed to be combined into one. Some additional beneficial databases need to be included such as the Alabama Professional engineers and the watershed based groups such as the Alabama Clean Water Partnerships, the Friends of Hurricane Creek and the Alabama River Alliance, etc. Sabre indicated she would provide the Alabama Clean Water Partnerships database for inclusion.

Jimmy asked if the annual conference needed to develop watershed resources and stormwater sessions for the annual conference to draw in membership from groups interested in water resources and stormwater issues. Scott asked Sabre to draft a list of topics for this niche as a first step.

Committee Reports

Scott indicated the old Operator's Workshop Committee and the old Education Committee would be combined into the Education and Training Committee. While Bruce Branum will continue to work this function, Doug Smedley will assume duties as the Chairman of the new committee.

Scott indicated a new committee needed to be established to recruit and sustain interest from college students and young professions. No one has been appointed at this time to chair this committee..

Jonathan will assign committee liaisons for all committees. Jonathan asked all officers were asked to review the list of committees and assess which ones they desired to work with.

Awards Committee (Ed Becker)

No report.

Collection Systems Committee (Phillip Guin)

Jimmy requested the board provide specific desires for the Collection Committee efforts if they have any.

A write-up on the Golden Manhole Award has been forwarded to Ed Moore for inclusion in the WAVE.

Education and Training Committee (Bruce Branum)

These items were covered in the training contract discussion above..

Government Affairs Committee (Open)

No report.

Hazardous Waste Committee (Jim LaMoreaux)

No report.

Industrial Waste Committee (David Gilbert and Charles Horn)

No report.

Laboratory Committee (Open)

No report.

Long Range Planning Committee (Mike Godfrey)

No report.

Membership Committee (Phyllis McAlleer)

No report.

Publications committee (Ed Moore)

No report.

Residuals Management Committee (Celeste Lachenmyer)

See the report submitted in Attachment D.

Watershed Committee (Sabra Sutton)

No report. However, pertinent issues related to growing the service to this niche of the organization were discussed above.

Web Site Committee (Zane Hood)

No report.

Old and New Business

Not much discussion other than that reported on above. Scott summarized by saying there were three goal areas he wanted to focus on in the remainder of his term:

Increase Membership

- Watershed/Stormwater/Water Resources Area
- Re-focus on base membership and in-active members
- Young Professionals
- Students

Technical Training

- Survey members for needs

Wave

- Self Supporting and get Stone River to produce it
- Increased production efficiency
- Setup distribution as e-WAVE
- Get Committees more active in WAVE needs

Scott indicated he would send out a list of goals to all officers and active committee members. Scott indicated the details for these goals would be fleshed out at the next board meeting.

Jonathan recommended AWEA focus on a select few committees that have the most support in terms of interest from the membership served.