

AWEA Board Meeting

*Wednesday, May 17, 2017
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.*

*Goodwyn Mills & Cawood
Montgomery, Alabama*

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Participants in the Executive Session included: Wheeler Crook, Mike Sims, Dana Raughton, Matt Alpaugh, Christy Perdue, Suzy Lindblom, Rob Coleman, Scott Cummings, and Kimberly Polifka.

Treasurer's Report

Dana Raughton presented the Treasurer's Report. There is a combined total of \$294,697.00 in the AWEA bank accounts at Regions Bank, \$210,102.00 of which is in the Regions checking account.

Matt Alpaugh gave a brief update about moving the account to a CPA firm. He stated that he had requested a formal proposal from Kelli Daniels at Stone Avant Daniels based on the data previously provided. Matt offered to speak with Warren Averette to request a proposal for comparison purposes.

It was determined that a line item in the amount of \$25,000 should be added to the budget for this endeavor. The initial set up fees will go away after year one and the annual cost will be less.

Budget Discussion and Approval

Kim presented the Profit and Loss Report from Quickbooks for the fiscal years 2016 versus 2017, to date, for use in establishing the 2017/2018 budget.

After a review of the income and expenses, the budget was tabled until June 2017 so that proposals from CPAs can be included and a proposed budget can be presented for the Board's review prior to approval.

Committee Restructuring Considerations (consolidation) & Leadership

A flow chart for the committee restructuring was presented. This chart included nominations for liaisons, committee chairpersons, and vice-chairpersons. Board Member Liaisons will be responsible for reaching out to the proposed chairpersons to confirm placement. The chairperson will be responsible for contacting the vice-chairperson and build membership. Any unfilled positions will be listed in an email for further recommendations.

The Advisory Committee will consist of the Past-President, President, Vice-President, and Delegate. The key committee responsibility will include making nominations to the Board for future leaders. Scott Cummings suggested that the Past-President and Delegate solicit nominations for the next incoming Board and 5S and present the nominations to the Board for a vote. The Nominating Committee is a subsector of the Advisory Committee and will be chaired and co-chaired by the Past-President and Delegate, respectively.

Dana will update the committee structure as proposed and it will be sent to the Liaisons for updating and tasking chairpersons. Matt will send the document to Board Members for changes and return. The final structure will be emailed to the Board for approval.

AWWA / AWEA Collaboration Future Plan

Nick Freeman, Dana Raughton, Wheeler Crook, and Brian Shannon have been in discussions with AWWA, who has presented a contract for a joint conference in 2019. Wheeler stated that he had reviewed the contract and had also received comments from Dana and Brian. He further stated that he feels that this is a positive move for AWEA in regard to additional income and reaching more people. Brian said that the contract lays out the collaboration process, but cautioned that the contract seems to be Board heavy on disciplines and that we need to delegate to others so that the Board can continue to focus on our Strategic Plan.

To establish the joint conference, each organization will need to provide start up funds of \$10,000. Any post conference income will be divided Fund gets established with \$10,000 from each organization on day one. Mississippi Water Environment Association (MWEA) will only be required to provided \$4,000 initially. Profit will be split as follows: AWEA 47%, AWWA 47%, and MWEA 6%.

Scott asked if the final decision had been made and if this will be a continuing process. Wheeler stated that the contract says two-year notice will be required to be release from joint annual conference obligations. The contract is for joint annual conferences in 2019 and 2020.

Wheeler made a motion to the Board to correspond with AWWA to enter into a contract based on revisions to be submitted within the next 45 days to agree to the idea of a 2019 joint conference with AWWA and make an effort to review the contract and send revisions to AWWA within a month. Rob seconded. All presented voted in favor.

Strategic Planning Meeting – Fall 2017

Dana suggested that the annual fall retreat be held at The Grand in Point Clear, Alabama so that the Board can review the property for future conferences. Kim will contact The Grand for pricing and available dates. Suggested dates included August 11/12, 18/19, or 25/26.

A brief discussion was held regarding topics for the mid-year meeting. These topics included conference planning, and review of the Strategic Plan—how it is working and how can it be better implemented.

Participants will include the Board and committee chairpersons.

WEF

Mike Sims stated that WEF Liaison, Dianne Crilley, had asked AWEA to present the EPA Initiative through our social media outlets and in the next newsletter.

Mike said that he had signed WEF's Membership Recruitment Initiative, as presented by Rob Coleman. Prior to his signing this document, AWEA was the only member association that had not signed.

GENERAL SESSION

Mike Sims called the meeting to order. Those in attendance signed in on the attached sheet, which is made a part of these minutes.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the Annual Business Meeting held at the Perdido Beach Resort on April 12, 2017 were presented for review. Mike Sims made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. The minutes stand as presented.

Delegate's Report

Rob talked about WEF's Membership Initiative, which offers free membership to new members for one year. He planned to participate in a Nomination Committee Teleconference in the afternoon. He reminded those present that new members need to be added to database and sent welcome letter packets.

Fall Technical Program – Kevin Kennoy

Kevin asked for recommendations for location and Tuscaloosa was suggested in an effort to include members of Mississippi WEA. Mike Sims stated that he had a contact at The University of Alabama and would get that information to Kevin. This event will be held in November, as it has been the last two years.

WEFTEC Planning 2017 – Chicago, Illinois

Christy Perdue stated that tickets are available for games – ranging from \$20 to \$100/seat. Both football and baseball games are scheduled for Sunday and Monday. The idea is to offer a place for members to meet and network—not necessarily recruit members. It was suggested that AWEA purchase 50 tickets and give them to members on a first come/first serve basis. Make it possible to buy tickets to sit together. Frank suggested that the idea be presented that tickets are available. If you want to go to game, you can buy through AWEA. Christy will look into this matter. How will we get paid?

It was decided to buy \$5,000.00 in tickets for the Cubs game and give them to members at no charge. Christy Perdue will arrange for the purchase and develop a plan for making these tickets available to members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Government Affairs – Scott Cummings

Scott talked briefly about Executive Order 13777 for which EPA is seeking response on enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda. This information has been presented by email to AWEA membership as well as posted on social media accounts.

AWWI offers scholarships to Jacksonville State Operator Program. They voted to include AWEA because of our membership with AWWI. The scholarship amounts to \$14,000 max for 3 years and is available if AWEA has scholarship candidates that want to go to JSU. In the future, this \$14,000 could have fewer strings attached. Scott offered to work with Frank Eskridge and Jim Miller to prepare communication for membership about this program. A discussion was held about public outreach to operators about this program and the need for operators.

Communications – Christy Perdue

Since the scavenger hunt held during the conference, participation has increased. There has even been interaction from WEF nationally. Christy stated that it was Infrastructure Week and asked for any suggestions.

Christy mentioned that the content deadline for *The Wave* content deadline was Friday, May 19, 2017 and that we already have a lot of content for this issue.

Collection Systems Committee – Steve King

Steve stated that the next CSC workshop had been planned for June 30, 2017 in Auburn, Alabama. He asked if the Board allow the CSC to have its own Facebook page or if content should be added to AWEA's established page. The Board was in agreement that items should be added to existing accounts.

Wastewater Treatment / PWOD – Wes Cardwell & Suzy Lindblom

Wes wasn't able to attend, but he offered the following by email:

This committee was set to host a chlorine training workshop on July 26, but the instructor informed him that he can no longer commit to that date due to health issues. The instructor is waiting on test results, which could mean that he will require surgery. If surgery is required, this workshop will be postponed until possibly September.

AWWA is still interested in participating in this workshop. Wes said that he anticipates that this workshop will cost AWEA around \$1,800.00. To keep the cost per person reasonable, this amount will need to be managed. This class will be limited to approximately 50 persons at a cost of \$30 to \$40/person. The residual cost will be split with AWWA.

If the chlorine training does not happen in July, this committee will hold a workshop in Fairhope. Wes is currently planning this workshop as well.

Wes said that he had spoken with Virgil White who has agreed to serve as co-chair of this committee.

Suzy stated that she and Lennette West are setting up lab operations training around the state. This training involves hands on training for lab procedures. Lennette is providing equipment through Hach for use in this training.

Water Resources – Dan Ballard

Dan said that they had partnered with the Alabama Stormwater Forum and sponsored the first annual RUNoff 5k. This event raised \$170 for AWEA scholarships and gave two presentations on WEF, AWEA, and member benefits.

They are discussing state stormwater association through NMSA, with AWEA as potential sponsor/host.

Dan will ask Barry Fagan of Volkert to vice-chair the Water Resources Committee

Scholarships Committee – Lennette West

Kim stated that 11 applications had been received. This committee is reviewing the applications for award.

Membership Committee – Lindsay Tucker

No Report

Kim will work with Lindsay to show her where to download member data from WEF.

Sponsorship – Dana Raughton

Dana stated that a total of \$50,050 was raised in sponsorships. This is the most ever. Wheeler said that these monies help AWEA toward Strategic Planning tasks – executive staff, backlog of cash, and preparation for potential collaboration events.

Student and Young Professionals – Alex Leslie / Joshua Boltz

Mike Sims stated that he had visited the University of South Alabama and had a lot of participation. Alex has contacted The University of Alabama and Auburn University. He is championing and delegating. There are ongoing talks between AWWA and AWEA about collaborating for a social event to get more schools and more young professionals involved.

Annual Conference – Dana Raughton

Dana stated that she had compared registration lists from the 2016 and 2017 conferences and offered the following comparisons:

- 2016 – 397 attendees; 201 of which did not come back for the 2017 conference
- 2017 – 353 attendees; 160 of which were new to the conference
- 198 persons attended both the 2016 and 2017 conferences
- 13 less vendors in 2017, as compared to 2016

A proposal for the 2018 conference has been requested from The Grand. AWEA already has a proposed contract from Perdido Beach Resort, but it has not yet been signed.

NASSCO Training Opportunity – Matt Alpaugh

Matt said that he is negotiating with NASSCO to honor the same deal that they are proposing for the ITCP (Inspector Training) with the PACP (TVI Training). He has a conference call scheduled with Ted Deboda and plans to present the intent of both contracts to the Board in the near future.

ADEM Liaison Update – Jim Grassiano

ADEM's budget has been set at the state level. With an influx of BP money, the General Fund is worked out from that state side, but they are still waiting on the Federal Budget as they depend on Federal funding. A few new engineers have been added at ADEM. The Land Division chief has retired. ADEM is looking at operator training opportunities and modeling this program after one implemented in Tennessee.

There being no further business, this meeting was adjourned. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 27, 2017, at the offices of CH2M in Montgomery.

AWEA GENERAL SESSION

5/17/17

IN ATTENDANCE

FRANK ESKRIDGE 256 777 8646

JIM GRASSIANO 334-279-3071

Scott Brown 334-618-0503

CHRISTY PERDUE

DANA RAUGHTON 334-321-1862

STEVIE KING 205-944-9149

Kevin Kenney (615) 806-2837

Andrew Green 205-224-3977

Scott Cummings (334) 329-0795

Suzy Lindholm 251-222-9678

Lindsay Tucker 251-895-7594

Wheeler Crook (205) 566-8181

Rob Coleman (205) 821-2511

Brian Shannon (205) 966-5340

Michael Sims (251) 463-7042

Kim Polifka