

**IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**March 7, 2014**

The minutes of the Iowa Water Environment Association Executive Committee Meeting, held at the Doubletree Hotel in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on March 7, 2014.

**ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Hershner, at 10:03 AM, with the following Executive Committee members present: Steve Hershner, Jim Rasmussen, Jonathan Brown, Michael Tripp, Rick Graves, Jim McElvogue, Keith Hobson, Paul Horsfall, Dan Riney, Darin Jacobs and John Ringelestein. Also present were: Bob Ranson, Jon Harger, Mark Jones, Pat Ball, Roy Heseman and Marci Whitaker. Introductions were made around the table.

**ITEM II: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Jonathan Brown, and seconded by Keith Hobson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by John Ringelestein, and seconded by Michael Tripp, to approve the minutes of January 17, 2014 as printed. Motion carried.

**ITEM IV: OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**A. Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

The Secretary/Treasurer distributed a report with balances as of January 1, 2014 and March 6, 2014. Most of the accounts are up by interest only. Assets are up \$26,383.12 since the first of the year. Accounts were reviewed as were the results to date for the specialty conferences and short courses. The invoice for the fall Short Course at DMACC was received yesterday. The final results for the spring 2013 Short Course are still not finalized. It was moved by Darin Jacobs, and seconded by Jonathan Brown, to approve the report as presented. Motion carried.

**B. Delegates' Report**

Keith Hobson reported he will be attending the WEFMAX meeting in South Carolina this spring. It was suggested that the president-elect should be attending the WEFMAX meeting. After discussion, it was moved by Keith Hobson, and seconded by Jim McElvogue, that the president-elect be authorized to attend a WEFMAX meeting this spring. Motion carried. Keith is working on a subgroup of the House of Delegates which is drafting documents to improve the House of Delegates meetings.

Dan Riney reported he will be attending the WEFMAX meeting in Michigan. He is participating in a subgroup which is working on improving the relationship between WEF and the MAs.

**C: Regional Directors**

**Region 1:** Paul Horsfall reported Region 1 will be holding a planning meeting during the first week of May. The Region 1 meeting will be held on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Delaware Community Center.

**Region 2:** Darin Jacobs reported the Region 2 spring meeting will be held on April 17<sup>th</sup> at NIACC. The focus will be on wastewater.

**Region 3:** The Secretary/Treasurer reported he is in the process of getting Diane Young, Region 3 Financial Delegate, authorized in the Region account.

**Region 4:** Mike Tripp reported the Region 4 spring meeting will be held on April 4<sup>th</sup> in Carson. Catering will be by Dusty's Barbeque. They also have a new president this year.

**Region 5:** Rick Graves reported the spring meeting will be held on March 26, 2014 at the IRWA building in Newton.

**Region 6:** Dan Riney reported Region 6 will hold their 2014 meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Washington County Fairgrounds.

**D: Correspondence**

a. A letter was received from the Iowa Children's Water Festival asking for a donation. A donation of \$1,000, as budgeted, has been made.

## **ITEM V: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Short Course Contract for Fall 2013 and the future**

A draft copy of the proposed contract has been received. The Secretary/Treasurer discussed the following proposal for Item 13:

13. All invoices will be submitted to the IAWEA Sec./Treas. for payment.
  - a. Short course expenses shall be reimbursed upon request with receipt of invoice detailing the expenses.
  - b. Eligible expenses include conference registration costs, venue deposit and fees, meals, material costs, and other costs directly associated with the short course.
  - c. Revenue remaining after all expenses will be split evenly between the AWWA and the IAWEA.
  - d. Accounting shall be finalized within 30 days following the receipt of the final transaction (invoice or deposit) relating to the short course.

After discussion, it was moved by Jonathan Brown, and seconded by Mike Tripp, to submit the proposed changes to the contract between AWWA and IAWEA to the AWWA for consideration. Jim McElvogue remarked the situation has changed since the original contract. The venue has changed and IAWEA now does all venue and meal arrangements which was done by AWWA before the venue change. Name tags are no longer being printed by AWWA and AWWA is no longer preparing packets for attendees, name tags are no longer needed and materials are distributed at the registration table without being in packets. Approximately two-thirds of the work involved with short courses is now performed by IAWEA. The effort by AWWA has been dramatically reduced since the venue change. The elimination of the split based on CEUs will also eliminate the problem with finalizing the financial results. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 11 AM and resumed at 11:10 AM. Roy Heseman joined the meeting.

### **B. Government Affairs 4-States Meeting Report**

Steve Hershner discussed the situation with a possible water quality trading program in Iowa. There was a considerable amount of discussion of possible strategies and programs in surrounding states. Steve discussed the Regional Conservation Partnership Program contained in the 2014 Farm Bill. The League of Cities is pushing a bill in the Legislature to provide funding for communities that will have affordability problems with new discharge limits. Keith Hobson mentioned the Iowa Clean Water website.

### **C. WEF/NACWA National Water Policy Forum & Fly-In on April 7-9**

Steve Hershner is planning on attending this meeting through the City of Cedar Rapids.

### **D.**

### **E. Other Items**

The group was reminded that the Iowa Children's Water Festival will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup> at DMACC in Ankeny.

## **ITEM VI: COMMITTEE ACTION/DIRECTION REQUESTS**

### **Program Committee**

Jim Rasmussen reported the program is 95% complete. Jim reviewed the draft program. The preliminary budget looks pretty good at this time. The golf outing will be at Gardner Golf Course. It was moved by John Ringelestein, and seconded by Jonathan Brown, to authorize Jay Brady and Jim McElvogue to review the budget for the annual meeting and adjust registration fees, if needed to meet IAWEA goals, before publishing registration materials. Motion carried.

### **Newsletter Committee**

Marci Whitaker reported they have not produced a newsletter since the last meeting. There is one in progress. The committee is in need of at least one more member. Jon Harger is in the process of sending out invoices.

### **Collection System Committee**

Bob Ranson reported the Collection Systems Conference is in progress. There were 184 attendees. Glen Petersen has submitted his resignation as Collection Systems Certification Administrator. The search is on for a replacement.

**Maintenance Committee**

Bob Ranson reported the Maintenance Committee held a very successful conference with 80 attendees. The weather cooperated this year.

The meeting recessed at 12:08 PM for lunch and resumed at 12:46 PM.

**Public Relations/Public Education**

Laurie Twitchell filed a written report which was presented by Keith Hobson. The committee met in January to develop ideas for public outreach. The committee will be judging science fairs for the next 2 weekends and the State Science Fair at ISU at the end of March. Trivia questions are being posted on Facebook. Laurie staffed a booth at the Iowa Rural Water Conference. There have been no updates from WEF on the status of hosting the Stockholm Jr. Water Prize national meeting. Scott Weinands is beginning work on the calendar.

**Water for People**

Keith Hobson reported the committee met a few weeks ago. Bob Main and Keith are going to Xicotepec this spring to work on water projects. A silent auction will be held at the Annual Conference.

**Web page**

Mark Jones reported he has been updating the web page. Administration of the web page is not a user friendly task. He discussed problems he has been having with Envoy, the web page developer. He also discussed several changes being considered for the web page. Facebook page has 62 likes. After discussion, Mark was urged to work with Envoy if possible. If this doesn't work, we can look at other options.

**ITEM VII: ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved by Darin Jacobs, and seconded by Rick Graves, to adjourn the meeting. President Hershner declared the meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Ringlestein, Secretary/Treasurer

Members of the group toured the annual meeting facilities following the meeting.