



NEVADA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION
MONTHLY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, July 22, 2009 11:30am – 1:00pm



NORTH
SPB Utility Services
430 Stoker Avenue, #207
Reno, NV 89503
Phone (775) 329-7757 Fax (775) 329-3218

SOUTH
MWH Americas, Inc
3010 W Charleston Blvd, Suite 100
Las Vegas, NV 89102
Phone (702) 878-8010 Fax (702) 878-7833

Conference Call No. 1-866-203-7023; ID No. 1954998

MEETING MINUTES

- Attendees**
- North:** Linda, Peterson, Stephen Long, Suey Huey, Gary Hutchinson
 - South:** Dave James, John Solvie, Charles Trushel, Angela MacKinnon, Mary Carr Portillo, Jill Christiano, Ken Lykens
 - By phone:** Jennifer McMartin, Keni Whalen, Rob Davies

NWEA Board Decisions are shown *in italics*. Action items are underlined.

Dave James called the meeting to order at 11:35 am. A quorum was present.

1. Review and Approval of NWEA Board Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2009

Motion was made by Stephen Long, seconded by Linda Peterson, to approve the May 20, 2009 minutes as corrected. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Board Reports – Voting Officers

Past - PresidentLinda Peterson

The annual NWEA Conference will be held April 13 – 15 in Reno at John Ascuaga’s Nugget Casino Resort.

PresidentDave James

Dave checked the UNLV Academic Catalog for 2011 NWEA Conference and mid-April does not conflict with Spring Break or Exams. Action Item: Dave will check that the South Point Hotel Casino and Spa will be available for the annual conference on April 19 – 21, 2011.

President - Elect.....Stephen Long

No report.

SecretaryAngela MacKinnon

Angela attended a WEF Database Management workshop at WEF headquarters. The Member Agency (MA) representatives will be Beta testing the new software. Angela will share upcoming information with the NWEA Board and Suey will also to help with Beta testing. Charles mentioned the need to be cautious when syncing our database with the WEF database.



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TreasurerGary Hutchinson

Gary ran through Treasurers Report and will include a report for the Newsletter. Approximately \$20K will be moved to the reserve account, which will leave between 25K and 35K remaining in the account.

Motion was made by Stephen Long, seconded by Linda Peterson, to accept the treasurer’s report. The motion was approved unanimously.

PWO RepresentativeCharles Trushel

Charles thanked Starlin, whom provided information for the proposed Safety Event. CLV changed their staffing shift from 8 hours to 10 hours, with operators on all shifts, morning, night, and graveyard. This has made training and practice for the Ops Challenge more difficult.

The Ops Challenge Team has been cancelled in the North. Starlin will be going to the Safety Event for the Ops Challenge. Starlin will get back to NWEA about the budget for sending another person to WEFTEC to help with this event.

WEF DelegateRick Warner, Eric Leveque – not present

No report.

3. NWEA Operations Committee Reports

Certification BoardBill Shepherd, Jennifer McMartin, John Solvie

Jennifer reported that a Certification Board meeting will be held on August 13 at Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility. The Water Lines newsletter will be sent to all wastewater operators. Jennifer has been using the new email address. She can only email 40 recipients at a time; however, there are no limits on how many emails she sends out daily. John mentioned that the email looks very professional.

Association of Boards of CertificationJohn Solvie

The next ABC Conference will be held January 26-29, 2010 in Jacksonville Florida. John will be attending the conference, with funding from either his employer or ABC. The NDEP contract requires sending someone and NDEP will fund Jennifer’s travels. In the past, NWEA agreed to fund Jennifer plus one Board member. Dave requested that if the Certification Board thinks that they should send another Board member, they should provide a ballpark estimate on cost.

The current NDEP contract ends November 30, 2010 and it was suggested to get the contract approved by NDEP as soon as possible. Jennifer will contact NDEP soon to see if contract negotiations can begin. It was mentioned that it may be beneficial to set up a Contract Negotiation Team to make decisions. Linda, Gary, and some others from the Certification Board should be on that team.



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Constitution & BylawsDave James (needs a replacement)

No report.

WEF/PWO DelegateStarlin Jones – not present

No report.

4. Services to the Professional Community and the Public

Goal: integrate needs of professional community into all outreach activities, and make membership materials and a membership coordinator available at all events.

Communications

PublicationsRob Davies

A draft of the newsletter will be available by the end of this week; any additions need to be provided to Rob by that date. The newsletter will be an electronically distributed publication. New advertisements that are received will start in the first quarter of 2010. Dave will prepare a Presidents’ Preamble. Rob requested more information from North to be included in the next newsletter. The next newsletter will be distributed in October and will include info on the conference. Action Item: Rob will contact Jake and Tom to get vendor interest. Action Item: LP will send Rob info today.

Website.....Suey Huey

Suey needs to update sponsors page on website and requested the current sponsor information from Rob. Action Item: Rob will get the update information to Suey from the new campaign.

Suey has received requests to post photos on website. It was mentioned that this could be one of the next upgrade modules. Action Item: Gary will check on budget for website and will send it to the Board Members.

Dave has looked into using a website, such as Flickr, but would prefer people to go to NVWEA.org.

Membership Development

Membership.....Northern NV: Stephen Long
.....Southern NV: Thomas Rura – not present

Stephen will plan to do some recruiting for the annual conference. Action Item: Stephen will get NWEA membership materials to Keni for Tri-state.

Young Professionals.....Northern NV: Candice Siwarga – not present
.....Southern NV: Hannah Wilner – not present

No report.



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Professional Development and Continuing Education

Tri-State Conference.....Keni Whalen, Bruce Dacko, Eric Leveque, Dave Ruegge

Keni will forward the questions and comments from Dave on to others. Tri-State has planned to continue with, “on-the-River”, in the conference title, but Keni will check again with other conference organizers. Bruce Dacko is the incoming Chairperson and will take over in 2010 (for a two year term). Keni mentioned there is a need for volunteers to help with scanning and will get out a request for volunteers. Action Item: Keni will prepare a written description for Tri-state (with a request for volunteers) and will email it to Rob.

Monday night will be the 25th anniversary celebration. Last year, Tom Rura organized the hospitality suite: budget, reservations, etc and NWEA will try to do the something again, as this was included in budget. Action Item: Dave will contact Tom to get this started.

Action Items: Gary will check on budget for YP luncheon. Dave will check with Hannah about putting on a YP luncheon and will have her contact Keni.

Circuit Rider.....Linda Peterson, Starlin Jones

The State has agreed to fund Circuit Rider for the next 3 years, starting in October.

College of Southern NevadaBill Shepherd – not present

No report.

Professional Development.....Northern NV: John Buzzone – not present
.....Southern NV: Margaret Regan – not present

No report.

Public and K-12 Outreach

Public EducationNorthern NV: Dave Bruketta, Candice Siwarga
.....Southern NV: Maria Stosich, Jill Christiano

Worldwide Water Monitoring Day (WWMD) is September 18, 2009. WWMD is an international education and outreach program that builds public awareness and involvement in protecting water resources around the world by engaging citizens to conduct basic monitoring of their local water bodies. WWMD can be celebrated on September 18, or anytime from March 22 until December 31. Action Item: Maria will purchase kits from WEF and contact a few schools to conduct testing and be part of WWMD.

Stockholm Junior Water PrizeMaria Stosich, Candice Siwarga

Stockholm Junior Water Prize National Competition was June 25-27 in Anchorage, AK; Kirsten Perry and Teacher represented Nevada there. A thank you card was received from Kristen thanking NWEA:

"Dear Ms. Stosich/NWEA



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Thank you for sponsoring my trip to Anchorage, Alaska to attend the Stockholm Junior Water Prize Competition. I met diverse, new people and learned all sorts of new things regarding the aspect of water. It was a great experience; without you, it wouldn't have been possible."

Sincerely,

Kirsten Perry

Maria received pictures and forwarded them to Rob to include in the newsletter.

Water for PeopleVacant (did we have a volunteer or a name)

No report.

Topical Committees

Safety CommitteeRudy Rincon – not present

No report.

Collections CommitteeJake Jacobson, Tom Rura, Kent Vian – not present

No report.

Nonpoint Source CommitteeAngela MacKinnon, Candice Siwarga

Angela discussed forming a Water Quality Committee, which will include both point and nonpoint sources. This will be discussed next week for approval. Action Item: Angela will contact Candice about taking this on for the North.

Reuse CommitteeMichael Drinkwater, Mary Carr Portillo

- a) Reuse Nevada.....Northern NV: Dwayne Smith
.....Southern NV: Mary Carr Portillo
- b) Water Reuse AssnMichael Drinkwater

No report.

Cal/Nevada AWWA Liaison.....Vacant

Linda mentioned that Joe Crim would do a great job in this role. Action Item: Linda will ask him if he wants to fill this position.

5. Old Business

- a) Stockholm Jr Water prize – did the student go? Payment?

See above.

- b) Other old business



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None.

6. New Business

- a) Proposed agreement between CWEA, AZ Water and NWEA

Not discussed.

- b) Planning for Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) workshops for voluntary certification categories? – How do we build a set of resources that facilitates continuous offerings of CPC hours? Tri-state is big fall opportunity; NWEA conference is spring opportunity. Is that enough, or should we attempt to offer something at least quarterly?

Committee members will look the plans to offer CEUs at upcoming Conference. Starlin does a 2-hour training every Thursday for the examinations, on his own time. Action Item: Jennifer will give information to Rob to include in the Newsletter, link and blurb.

- c) NWEA committee structure and operation – Should we consolidate, and if so, how?

It was recommended to have fewer, but more active, committees. This discussion will be postponed until next meeting.

7. Next Meeting Date and Location: Thursday, August 27, 2009.

North: SPB Utility Services, 430 Stoker Avenue, #207, Reno NV 89503
Phone: 775-329-7757

South: MWH Americas, Inc., 3010 W Charleston, Suite 100, Las Vegas NV 89102
Phone: 702-878-8010

8. Adjourn: 1:05 pm

Respectfully Submitted By,

Angela MacKinnon
Secretary