

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
North Dakota Section of AWWA
January 31, 2007

The winter meeting of the North Dakota Section of the American Water Works Association was held at the Seven Seas Inn of Mandan, ND on January 31, 2007. Present at the meeting were Chair, Dave Johnson; Past Chair, Rick Gillund; Trustees, Tim Paustian, Duane Friesz, Dean Sletten, and Brett Jochim; Secretary/Treasurer, David Bruschwein; and Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, Larry Thelen. Others attending the meeting were Greg Wavra, Brian Blotsky, Deon Stockert, Miranda Kleven, Hazel Sletten and Lisa Ansley.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Johnson at 8:00 a.m.

The Secretary's Report was presented by Mr. Bruschwein. Mr. Gillund moved that the minutes of the October 25, 2006 Board Meeting be approved. Seconded by Mr. Sletten. Motion carried.

Mr. Thelen presented the Treasurer's Report. As of December 31, 2006, the Section had income of \$30,838 and expenses of \$32,136. The Section has \$29,080 in the checking and money market accounts. The Section also has scholarship endowments and a reserve account that total \$80,654. Mr. Sletten moved to accept the treasurer's report. Seconded by Mr. Friesz. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Public Relations (PR) Committee

Ms. Hazel Sletten reported the website is up and running. The PR committee will take the operator awards over from the Education Committee. Other activities that the committee will do include putting together an e-announcement when something new comes out on the website, putting an advertisement in the League of Cities' City Scan, and putting together a packet for universities.

Education and Research Committee

Mr. Stockert reported that the Student Chapter sent 7 students to WEFTEC and one to the NDWPCC to report on WEFTEC. Ron Hendrickson and Kevin Johnson will judge at the science fair for AWWA. There is a concern that a similar situation will happen like last year where the judges from AWWA didn't judge any water projects. Dr. Wei Lin will get 5 volunteers from the engineering program to help judge the science fair so the AWWA judges can concentrate on water related projects. Ms. Kleven reported that there were no applicants for the Fred Clark Memorial Scholarship. Planning for the 2008 Regional Surface Water Workshop is underway and there will soon be a committee meeting. Karla Peterson from the Minnesota Section has stepped down from her position as committee chair for the workshop. Lisa Vollbrecht and Tracy Hodel will take her place. Duane Friesz is the only applicant for the Management Institute Scholarship.

Water Utility Council

Ms. Kleven presented the WUC report for Nate Weisenburger who was unable to attend. Ms. Kleven reported the committee members have the draft minutes of the last meeting. Jack Long and Lisa Ansley are doing the legislative updates for the 2007 session. The AWWA Fly-In is April 17-18, 2007. Wade Hesch and Nate Weisenburger have volunteered to attend.

Mr. Jochim moved to send Wade Hesch and Nate Weisenburger to the AWWA Fly-In or replacements if they are unable to attend. One will attend at the expense of AWWA the other at the expense of the Section. Seconded by Mr. Sletten and the motion passed.

Membership

Mr. Sletten reported that membership is at 243, up from 235 a year prior. The growth came from the Student Chapter and utilities. Mr. Sletten said he is always looking for new ideas. Mr. Johnson agreed and feels that we need to look outside of our normal membership areas. Mr. Jochim suggested the energy field would be one area to look at. Discussion centered on ways to get AWWA's name more widely recognized. Recommendations include doing something in conjunction with operator training and doing something after the banquet at the NDWPCC. Liability with alcohol is a concern with these suggestions.

Water for People

Mr. Thelen reported that the Section raised over \$5,000 and qualifies as a country sponsor. The country the committee picked is Bolivia. The WFP raffle raised \$1,345.25 at the 2006 NDWPCC and the golf sponsorship raised \$2,660.

Director=s Report

Director Jack Long is at the AWWA Winter Director's Meeting in Hawaii. Currently it is sunny and 80 degrees there. For some unknown reason Director Long is not responding to any emails.

Mr. Thelen presented the 2007 budget. He did note that the proposed budget leaves a surplus of \$1,800. Mr. Gillund moved to approve the 2007 budget and the motion was seconded by Mr. Friesz. The motion carried.

Mr. Bruschwein introduced Mr. Greg Wavra and Mr. Brian Blotsky who have volunteered to be Assistant Secretary/Treasurers. Mr. Jochim moved to appoint Mr. Wavra and Mr. Blotsky as Assistant Secretary/Treasurers and to place Mr. Wavra on the signature card for the final accounts. The motion was seconded by Mr. Paustian and the motion passed. Mr. Sletten moved to have the Section pay Mr. Blotsky's AWWA membership. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gillund. The motion carried.

Chair Johnson appointed the following committees;

Fuller – Mr. Gillund (chair), Ms. Ansley, and Ms. Kleven

Trustee Nominating – Mr. Stockert (chair), Mr. Sletten, and Ms. Ansley

Operator Meritorious – Mr. Gillund (chair), Mr. Jochim, and Mr. Blotsky

Mr. Bruschwein reported the RMSO will be held in Omaha, Nebraska this year on April 13th and 14th. Mr. Sletten and Mr. Gillund expressed an interest in attending and the Section is looking for at least one more volunteer to attend.

Mr. Duane Friesz was the only applicant for the Management Institute Scholarship. Mr. Gillund moved to award the Management Institute Scholarship to Mr. Friesz. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jochim and the motion carried.

The 2007 ACE is in Toronto. Mr. Jochim will go as the Section's incoming chair and use the complementary registration provided by the Association. Mr. Gillund will attend as the Section's Fuller award winner. Mr. Sletten moved to cover the entire cost of sending the Fuller Award winner. The motion was seconded by Mr. Friesz. The motion passed.

Mr. Sletten moved to donate \$1,000 to WFP, \$1 per member to AWWARF, \$1,000 to the Gateway to Science Center, and \$750 to the Dakota Science Center. The motion was seconded by Mr. Paustian and the motion passed.

The Board considered a request from Ms. Mary Anderson for a donation to help offset her costs to participate as an alumni mentor for the 2007 Michigan Tech International Senior Design Class volunteer

work in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. Mr. Gillund moved to donate \$875 to Ms. Anderson to cover materials and local expenses for her trip if in return she will do a presentation at the NDWPCC and also for the Student Chapter. The motion was seconded by Mr. Paustian and the motion passed.

Mr. Gillund thanked everybody for giving him the Fuller Award at the last conference. He really had not expected anything like that was very honored to have received it.

It was clarified that this year's audit committee is Mr. Friesz and Mr. Sletten.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

David Bruschwein
Secretary-Treasurer