

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees
Spring Meeting
North Dakota Section of AWWA
Zoom
May 20th, 2024 1 pm**

The spring meeting of the North Dakota Section of the American Water Works Association was held on May 20, 2024 at 1 PM. Present at the meeting were Chair, Jim Kershaw; Past Chair, Troy Hall; Director, David Bruschwein; Chair-Elect, Alan Kemmet; Trustees, Dan Overmoe, Mark Paddock, Jared Huibregtse; Secretary-Treasurer, Maggie Sahr; Section Staff, Linda Fisher; Education & Research Committee Chair, Marisha Lunde, Investments Committee Chair, Dean Sletten; Water for People Chair, Miranda Kleven. NDSU Student Chapter AWWA/WEF: Selah Mueller, President; Tajrin, Secretary; Atik Fayshal, Public Relations Officer.

I. Call to Order - The meeting was called to order by Chair Kershaw at 1:02 PM.

II. Secretary's Report - A motion was made to approve the 2024 minutes previously given to the board. (Hall/Overmoe, carried).

III. Treasurer's Report - 2024 income as of April 23, 2024 is \$34,760.90, and expenses of \$9,742.67. There is \$88,944.91 in student support endowments and reserves. There is \$107,564.48 in the checking and money market accounts. Motion to accept the report (Huibregtse/Hall, carried).

IV. Committee Reports

- a. **Water Utility Council** – No report
- b. **Public Relations** – Mr. Kemmet reported they have been working with Maggie Vaulman on establishing a social media toolbox. He would like to start actively seeking a new PR committee chair, notably someone with social media inclination.
- c. **Education and Research** – Ms. Lunde reported cash prizes were sent to state science fair division winners. Regional fair winners also received prizes. SWTW planning has started for 2025. *Ms. Lunde clarified at the 1-30-25 board meeting that a planning meeting regarding hotel pricing packages had occurred May 16th. Invitees included Maggie Sahr, Tyler Fode, Greg Wavra, Jacob Henne, Casey Danielson, Lisa Volbrecht, Meredith Quinn, Alan Kemmet, Erin Steever, Zac Ranisate, and Linda Fisher. However, participants could not be confirmed.* Contact will be made with MN and SD for input.
- d. **Water for People** – Ms. Kleven reviewed fundraising plans for this year: letter campaign, golf tournament and 50/50 raffle. She will be canvassing the committee for additional promotional ideas, and requesting giveaways and a banner from national.
- e. **YP/Student Chapters** – Ms. Mueller stated the student chapter is in the process of evolving, with plans to be more active in 2025 activities. Members will be working on touching base with WEF to establish a joint chapter. Mr. Hall requested a possible meeting with Ms. Mueller, Mr. Huibregtse, and Ms. Sahr this summer.

- f. Membership** – Chair Kershaw reported the membership was at 206 as of the latest distribution of the Membership Dashboard from the Association. In June of last year, membership was at 122. Ms. Sahr stated the Section is signed up for the Membership Bonus Challenge. Activities that create brand/section awareness or promote membership may be reported to AWWA to qualify for quarterly swag bags.
- g. Investments** – No updates.
- h. Policies & Procedures** – Committee has not met since 2023, but plan to meet in June. Mr. Sletten requested a meeting with Chair Kershaw. Chair Kershaw reminded that new trustee bags should be ordered this year.

V. Director's Report – Association budget is currently about \$500,000 above budget (~300K income, ~200K expenses). New PFAS legislation content is being reviewed. CCR revisions include biennial reporting and systems are still allowed to use the word “safe” to describe drinking water.

VI. Section Staff Report – Ms. Fisher and Mr. Kemmet are awaiting a social media toolbox from national. A PR Committee meeting will be scheduled. State logos are being re-vamped. Any input on the re-design may be shared with her to communicate to AWWA. The transfer of QuickBooks users has been going well.

VII. Business

- i. Confirmation of e-votes from 4/25/24** – Motion to support the Western North Dakota pH Stabilization Storage Facility Initiative. Chair Kershaw reported 5-6 water systems have proposed to jointly fund a facility capable of holding 300-400 tons of CO2, approximately 30 days’ worth of usage, for times of shortage. (Bruschwein/Hall/carried).
- j. Summer Workshop** – Motion to send Alan and Linda to the Summer Workshop. (Bruschwein/Overmoe/carried).
- k. NDWPCC** – It was suggested to have the DEQ PIO present on media relations, as it pertains to public works and the water sector. Mr. Kemmet volunteered to review abstracts for the conference committee, with Mr. Kershaw as a backup.

VIII. Other Business/Announcements

Chair Kershaw and Ms. Sahr spoke about their DC Water Matters Fly-In experience.

IX. Adjournment

Chair Kershaw adjourned the meeting at 1:43 PM.

Maggie Sahr
Secretary/Treasurer