

82nd Annual Association of Western State Engineers Conference

Business Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 7, 2009

Whitefish, MT

Members Present:

Gary Prokosch – Alaska
Herb Dishlip (retired) – Arizona
Vicki Whitney – California
Hal Simpson (retired) – Colorado
Gary Spackman – Idaho
Jan Langel – Montana
Tom Schultz – Montana
Hugh Ricci (retired) – Nevada

Tracy Taylor – Nevada
Michael Turnipseed (retired) - Nevada
Dale Frink – North Dakota
George Robison - Oregon
Herman Settemeyer - Texas
James Kowis (retired) - Texas
Kent Jones - Utah
Jeff Fassett (retired) - Wyoming

No state representatives were present from Hawaii, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota & Washington.

President Jan Langel from Montana called the 82nd Annual Business Meeting to order. Roll call was taken with the above listed members present.

I. OLD BUSINESS

Jan Langel attended the AWSE 2009 Spring Workshop in Spokane, Washington. He stated that overall it was a good conference with an interesting tour of hydropower facilities, good conference topics and roundtables.

II. NOMINATIONS

Nominations for leadership of AWSE

Motion: Hal Simpson moved to nominate Ken Slattery from Washington as President for 2010, seconded by Jeff Fassett. The motion carried.

Motion: Hal Simpson moved to nominate David Barfield of Kansas as President for 2011, seconded by Jeff Fassett. The motion carried.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

2010 Spring Meeting in Kansas – chaired by Gary Prokosch.

The committee suggested agenda items for the 2010 Spring Meeting:

- Hearings – when are they required & preparation for a hearing
- Tracking consumptive use (real time) – Idaho
- Water rights for the creation of wetlands/environmental projects
- Rain water use – permits required, or not.

2010 Fall Conference in Washington – chaired by Gary Prokosch.

The committee suggested agenda items for the 2010 Fall Conference:

- Fines/Penalties
- Water right administration
- Standards used to permit uses for fish/wildlife and other public interest uses that may preclude other uses.
- Rain water use: permits required, or not
- Mine dewatering/water for mineral extraction (or other problems).

Other topics:

At the state roundtables each state will address the topic of:

- State relationships with attorneys – AG's office and their own.

Costs of Spring/Fall Conference:

- Decrease costs to increase participation – use portion of \$6,000 that is in savings account to offset costs for states. Host states may also decline due to no participation.

Positions and Resolutions – chaired by Vicki Whitney

The Positions and Resolutions were each reviewed separately, and the following action was taken:

- Water Transfers - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Discharge Permits – amended and approved
- Dam Safety – amended and approved
- Drought Preparedness – resolution was dropped
- Landsat Data Continuity Program – resolution was dropped.
- Federal Payment of Adjudication and Administration Costs – amended and approved.

- Funding of the USGS Cooperative Program – amended and approved.
- Endangered Species Act – amended and approved.
- Drought Assistance – amended and approved.

Motion: Dale Frink moved that the committee adopt the resolutions as proposed, seconded by Herman Settemeyer. The motion carried.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Organization's Finances

President Langel reviewed the organizational finances. The organization is solvent and has money in the bank.

A check was received from Idaho in the amount of \$7,875.15. \$1,775.15 was money that was left over from the conference in Idaho last year and was used by Montana this year to off-set costs and keep registration costs down. The remaining \$6,101.08 (which includes interest accumulated) was kept in savings and will be transferred to Washington, as the next host state for the 2010 Fall meeting.

The group discussed the possibility of using some of the money in savings to cover expenses for some states to attend next year.

The issue of the Tax ID number was brought up. Currently the Tax ID number is in the name of Dave Tuthill, who has retired from the State of Idaho and the address is also that of the state of Idaho. President Langel suggested that the group apply for a new tax ID number but it will have to be tied to an official address, not through a state government office. Hal Simpson and Dale Frink will be check with Western States Water Council (WSWC) about the possibility of using their address.

It was also noted that at the Fall meeting next year the committee needs to review and update the AWSE Constitution (By-Laws).

Review Honorary and Mailing lists:

The committee went through both the Honorary Membership list and the email/mail list state by state, and updated it accordingly.

It was noted that the past presidents' list had a couple of misspellings of names. Corrections were noted and will be made

With no further business before the committee, President Jan Langel adjourned the business meeting at 9:30 AM.

