

MICHIGAN RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION
Board Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2009
Ithaca, Michigan

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Chris Kenyon at 12:05 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers at Ithaca City Hall.

Pledge of Allegiance: Board Members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Board Secretary, Gerry Burrows called the roll. Present were: Rolly Olney, Andrea Schroeder, Bob Studt, Bob Masters, John Holland, Chris Kenyon, Ken McDonough, Cherokee Thompson, El Wygant and Gerry Burrows. Quorum was present.

Guest: Fred Morin

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Thompson, seconded by Schroeder to approve the agenda of the December 10, 2009 meeting.

Vote: All in favor; motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes: Motion was made by Thompson and seconded by Holland to approve the August 27, 2009 Minutes.

Vote: All in favor; motion carried.

President's Report/Executive Committee Report: Chris Kenyon reported that the Executive Committee had met on July 23rd and November 2, 2009. Reports were included in the board packets. Topics included the attorney opinion regarding the voting rights of the Associate Board Members. Until the By-laws are changed, the Associate Board Members do not have voting rights at the Board Meetings. The Ad Hoc Committee will discuss and make recommendations concerning this issue for the Annual Meeting in March. From this meeting on 5 of the 7 Community Board Members are required to be present to achieve a quorum.

Executive Director Evaluation was conducted by the Board. Consensus was that the recommended raise and bonus will be dealt with at the approval of the budget later in the meeting.

National Director Report: Rolly Olney gave his report. Rolly has just returned from San Antonio and will be the guest speaker at several other state functions representing National as a member of the Executive Board. The NRWA Finance committee recommended the new national budget.

Approval of Financials: The Financial reports for June through September were presented. Thompson moved for approval of the financial reports. Second made by Wygant. Discussion and questions followed.

Roll call vote: Yeas – Studt, Olney, Holland, Schroeder, Thompson, Wygant, and Kenyon. Motion carried.

Executive Director's Report: Tim Neumann gave his report.

- A. Vehicles- order has been placed for three (3) Ford Terrains.
- B. UP Expo- Successful year with additional vendors. ASDWA Conference- conference was good.
- C. DEQ/DNR Merger- coming soon. Will be the DNRE.
- D. Operator Certification Fees- Meeting scheduled for December 16th to discuss the pending fees for operator licenses.
- E. Texas Hold 'em- Monday was good, Tuesday slow and Wednesday went well..
- F. Training- Neumann updated the Board on past and future trainings.
- G. Sam from National Rural Water- State Board Members are required to participate in the National Board Training. Utility management Program is being developed.

Recess for Lunch: Moved by Olney; Seconded by Thompson to recess for a lunch break. Vote taken: All approved. Break at 12:45pm.

Resume Board Meeting- Motion by Schroeder; Second by Thompson to return to the Board Meeting at 1:01pm. Vote taken: All approved.

Committee Reports:

- A. Conference/Awards Committee – Fred gave the report. The Committee met in Milford in September; Midland in November and Milford again in November. Scholarships are being limited to high school seniors this year. The committee has recommended Midland Valley Plaza Resort and Shanty Creek Resort as alternative sites to the Grand Traverse Resort.
- B. Ad Hoc Committee- Fred will call a conference call meeting to discuss the Associate Member voting rights in the by-laws and to discuss policy for the succession of board officers in case of vacancy.
- C. Legislative Committee- Rolly gave the report. The committee will meet prior to the Water Rally scheduled in Washington DC for February 2010.
- D. Training Committee- John gave his report:

Old Business: None

New Business:

- A. Attorney Opinion- Tim spoke with our attorney who had reviewed the current by-laws and learned:
 - a. Associates do not have voting rights at the present time.
 - b. A "full time employee" receives a paycheck and benefits and cannot be considered full time to more than one organization.
 - c. Clean up of these issues is given to the Ad Hoc committee for their recommendations

- B. Cell phone policy was reviewed by the attorney and presented to the board. Motion to accept the cell phone policy (as presented and corrected with the typo on page two) was made by Thompson. Seconded by Studt. Roll call vote was taken: Yeas: Studt, Holland, Thompson, Kenyon, Olney, Schroeder, and Wygant. Motion carried.

- C. Internet Service Policy was reviewed by the attorney and presented to the board. Motion to accept the Internet Service Policy as presented was made by Thompson. Seconded by Olney. Roll call vote: Yeas- Holland, Studt, Schroeder, Olney, Wygant, Thompson, and Kenyon. Motion carried.

- D. EPA/ Sourcewater Operating Plan approval- EPA Operating Plan for October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010 was presented. Motion to accept the plan as presented was made by Olney, second by Schroeder. Vote taken: All in favor; Motion carried.

- E. Conference Committee Site Recommendation- Recommended action in Board Packet: to approve alternating sites between Midland Valley Plaza Resort in 2013 and 2015 and Shanty creek Resort for the 2014 and 2016 conferences.
Motion was made by Olney and seconded by Thompson to accept the recommendation as presented in the board packet.
Roll Call Vote was taken: Yeas: Studt, Olney, Holland, Thompson, Wygant and Kenyon. Motion carried. Rolly expressed appreciation to the committee members on the additional work done on this site review.

- F. Ad Hoc Committee: Recommended action: To change the by-laws regarding Associate voting rights as included in the board packet. Motion was made by Thompson; seconded by Studt to accept the committee recommendation as presented.
Vote taken: All in favor; Motion carried.

- G. Letter from a member- This letter was received by all board members and Executive Director Neumann. Tim has sent a response to the individual and will follow up with the concerns.
- H. Approval of the Proposed Budget for 2010- Tim presented the proposed 2010 annual budget (included in board packet). Motion to accept the Budget as presented was made by Thompson; seconded by Kenyon. Discussion followed. Roll call vote was taken: Yeas- Schroeder, Thompson, Wygant, Olney, Holland and Kenyon. Motion carried.
- I. Board retreat dates were discussed. April 28th for half a day and April 29th for a full day was suggested.

Other:

Rolly encouraged the certification program offered by National for all board members.

EI Wygant presented the board with \$382.00 proceeds from the Long John Classic Golf Outing held in October to help with scholarship costs.

Adjournment: Wygant moved to adjourn the meeting. Second was made Kenyon. Vote: All in favor; motion carried. President Kenyon adjourned the meeting at 2:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Gerry Burrows
MRWA Secretary/ Treasurer

GB/pp