

MICHIGAN RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION
Board Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2010
Traverse City, Michigan

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Chris Kenyon at 4:01 pm at the Grand Travers Resort in Traverse City, Michigan.

Pledge of Allegiance: Dispensed- no flag present in the room.

Roll Call: Board Secretary, Gerry Burrows called the roll. Present were: Cherokee Thompson, El Wygant, Andrea Schroeder, John Holland, Gerry Burrows, Chris Kenyon, and Bob Studt (en route). Quorum was present.

Excused: Bob Masters and Ken McDonough

Guest: Fred Morin

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Thompson, seconded by Schroeder to approve the agenda of the March 16, 2010 meeting.

Vote: All in favor; motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes: Motion was made by Wygant and seconded by Schroeder to approve the December 10, 2009 minutes.

Vote: All in favor; motion carried.

2009 Audit Presentation: Shannon Wilson of Weinlander Fitzhugh presented the 2009 audit. An unqualified opinion was given by the audit firm and a more in depth explanation was offered..

President's Report/Executive Committee Report: Chris Kenyon reported that the Executive Committee had not met since the last meeting. Reports were included in the board packets. Topics included:

The three new vehicles are on the road for MRWA.

Reminder of the Board Retreat scheduled for April 28th and 29th at the McCamly Plaza Hotel in Battle Creek.

Date for the Annual Golf Outing is May 27th

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

Roll call vote: Yeas – Schroeder, Thompson, Wygant, Studt (arrived at 4:40pm), Holland, and Kenyon. Motion carried.

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

- A. Vehicles- picked up three new GMC Terrain vehicles. Ron Perry, Brian Minor and Joe Little are driving these new vehicles.
- B. Legislative Update- "dear colleague" letters were discussed
- C. Utility Management Certification- Water University has launched the Utility Management Certification program which could be a revenue enhancer to MRWA as well as provide recognition and certification.
- D. Enhanced Board Recognition- was designed to recognize the State Association Board Members who attend NRWA provided training. A plaque from Water University is available.
- E. DNRE- Tim reviewed the new structure for the newly formed DNRE
- F. Operator Training and Certification Fees- the Governor did NOT include the proposed fees by the operating and training certification unit in her budget.
- G. Texas Hold'em Event- The February event made \$1,505. The next scheduled event will be held on April 26th – April 28th.
- H. Training- Tim reported that 1,583 people attended training sessions put on by MRWA last year. He reviewed upcoming class offerings.

Committee Reports:

- A. Conference/Awards Committee – Andrea gave the report. The Committee met in Mt. Pleasant on February 18, 2010.
 - a. Classes and hands on training are set to go.
 - b. 2010 award winners were chosen
 - c. Rolly Olney Lifetime Achievement Award was determined. This award will recognize the longtime service and commitment to the MRWA organization and its membership.
 - d. Scholarship winners were chosen
 - e. Next meeting set for March 31, 2010
 - f. Fred reviewed the long range conference committee plans and goals including the new locations and raffle plans.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- A. Approval of the Audit: Shannon Wilson of Weinlander Fitzhugh CPA firm gave the 2009 audit report. Motion to accept the report as given was made by Schroeder; seconded by Thompson.
Roll call vote taken: Yeas: Studt, Holland, Schroeder, Thompson, Wygant and Kenyon. Motion carried.
- B. Employee Vacation Request- Motion to approve Paula Pratt's request to carry over an additional 32 hours above the 40 hours provided by the

MRWA vacation policy to be used by February 18, 2011 was made by Studt; seconded by Holland.
Vote taken: motion carried.

C. Approval of the MRWA Retirement Plan Amendments Resolution: Motion to approve the amendments to MRWA retirement plan as required by IRS regulation was made by Schroeder; seconded by Thompson.
Vote taken: motion carried.

D. Approval of the USDA Operating Plan- Motion to approve the USDA Operating Plan as presented was made by Thompson; seconded by Schroeder.
Vote taken: motion carried.

Other:

- Cherokee complimented Tim on the Clarifier issues now “in house”
- Gerry requested a moment of silence in memory of Rolly.
- Chris requested that, since he was up for reelection, Gerry would take over the election at the Annual Business Meeting. Appointed Bob Studt, Bob Masters and John Holland to count the ballots.
- Cherokee commented that he was proud of all that the Board has done over the last six years.

Adjournment: Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting. Second was made Wygant. Vote: All in favor; motion carried. President Kenyon adjourned the meeting at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Gerry Burrows
MRWA Secretary/ Treasurer
GB/pp