

MICHIGAN RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION
Board Meeting Minutes
August 27, 2009
Harrison, Michigan

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by President Chris Kenyon at 10:07 am.

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 and Gerry Burrows. Quorum was present. Cherokee Thompson arrived at 10:05.

Excused: El Wygant

Guest: Fred Morin

Approval of Agenda: Motion by McDonough, seconded by Schroeder to approve the agenda of the August 27, 2009 meeting. Addition was requested by Rolly for New Business F. NRWA By-law discussion.

Vote: All in favor; motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes: Motion was made by McDonough and seconded by Schroeder to approve the June 10, 2009 Minutes as corrected and noted.

Corrections: Bob Masters was not "absent" but had been "excused"

Rolly Olney is not the "Chair" of the International Water Committee

Vote: All in favor; motion carried.

Cherokee Thompson arrived.

President's Report/Executive Committee Report: Chris Kenyon reported that the Executive Committee met on July 23, 2009. Topics discussed included the budget, future vehicle purchase, electronic payment of the building mortgage and the vehicle loan to avoid late fees, update on two new ARRA Circuit Rider positions and an allowance for phones and internet so as to comply with the IRS tax regulations regarding personal use of business phones.

National Director Report: Rolly Olney gave his report. Rolly has been asked by National to travel to do Board Training in other states. In September, Rolly will be the guest speaker at the Massachusetts Annual Conference. At the last DEQ Advisory Board meeting the discussion covered the possibility of fees for operator licenses.

Approval of Financials: The Financial reports for May were presented. Olney moved for approval of the financial reports. Seconded by Schroeder. Discussion and questions followed.

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

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

- A. Program Funding- New EPA Grant begins October 1st and will be a 10 ½ month program. We also have the new grant for Wastewater which is an increase over last year. This program begins on August 1st.
- B. Equipment Expo- The event was successful. Etna Supply and American Flow Control provided the Wednesday lunch. Peerless-Midwest sponsored pop and water. The City of Davison donated water bottles. Raymer provided the lunch on Thursday.
- C. NRWA_IAM Training- Tim attended this training in Oklahoma and praised the session as very effective.
- D. MPSI Institute- Last week of July. Good training session for those operators who would like to move into supervisory positions.
- E. UP Expo- Scheduled for September 10th and 11th in Marquette.
- F. AWWA & MML Conferences- We will be exhibiting at both of these conferences in September promoting trainings, membership and the services we provide to water and wastewater utilities.
- G. Clarifier- Pleasant Graphics is publishing our first “in house” issue of the Clarifier and it should be in the mail shortly. The format will remain the same.
- H. EPA Training Symposium- scheduled in Charlotte for September 23rd. This symposium is part of the requirements for the EPA program.
- I. Training- update included in Board Packet.
- J. Southern Satellite Swing- Scheduled for September 3rd at Wheatfield Golf Course in Williamston. Ryan's Municipal Services is going to sponsor a putting contest and donate the proceeds to us.

Committee Reports:

- A. Conference/Awards Committee – Fred gave the report. July 29th Meeting minutes were included in the Board packet. Next meeting was set for September 22nd in Ionia. Time to be determined.
- B. Training Center Task Force Committee– John Holland gave the report. Minutes for the June 24th meeting were included in the Board packet. Next meeting was set for September 30 in Milford at 10:00am.
- C. Legislative Committee- Rolly gave the report. The July 23rd minutes were included in the Board packet. Recapped Water Rally from this year.
- D.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- A. Conference Committee recommendation to hold the 2013 and 2014 Annual Conference at the Soaring Eagle Resort in Mt. Pleasant. Motion made by McDonough, seconded by Thompson to approve the recommendation of the Conference committee. Discussion followed. Rolly called the question. Roll Call Vote was taken: Yeas- Olney, Schroeder, and Kenyon. Nays: Studt, Holland, Masters, Thompson, and McDonough. Abstained: Burrows. Motion defeated.
- B. 2010 Conference Registration Fee for Attendees- Conference committee recommends a fee increase of \$10.00. Motion was made by Olney, second by Masters to increase the registration fee for attendees at the 2010 Annual Conference. Roll Call Vote was taken: Yeas- Holland, Burrows, Studt, McDonough, Schroeder, Olney, Masters, Thompson and Kenyon. Motion carried.
- C. MRWA Training Center Mortgage and Vehicle Loans- Recommended action: to approve setting up automatic withdrawals for the Training Center Mortgage and Vehicle Loan payments. Motion was made by McDonough and seconded by Studt to allow the electronic withdrawal of the monthly payments. Roll Call Vote was taken: Yeas: Schroeder, McDonough, Thompson, Studt, Olney, Masters, Holland, Burrows, and Kenyon. Motion carried.
- D. Purchase Three Association Vehicles: Recommended action: To provide the Executive Board with the authority to approve the purchase of 3 more association vehicles not to exceed \$65,000. Motion was made by Thompson; seconded by Schroeder to approve the authority for the Executive Board to purchase three new vehicles not to exceed \$65,000. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Burrows, Studt, Olney, Holland, Masters, Schroeder, Thompson, McDonough and Kenyon. Motion carried.
- E. Change the Trustees on MRWA Retirement Plan- Retirement plan signors must be replaced with current Board members. Motion was made by Thompson; seconded by Olney to replace Fred Morin and Marty Reich as signors with Robert Studt and John Holland. Vote: All in favor; motion carried.
- F. NRWA By-Law Discussion- Rolly reviewed the proposed By-law change that will be voted on by the delegates at the NRWA Annual Meeting. Rolly suggested that our delegates vote to table the By-law changes. If that was not an option, he suggested that they vote for Option 1.

Adjournment: Olney moved to adjourn the meeting. Second was made Thompson. Vote: All in favor; motion carried. President Kenyon adjourned the meeting at 1:18pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Gerry Burrows
MRWA Secretary/ Treasurer

GB/pp