

# MINNESOTA AWWA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Monday, September 22, 2008  
Midi's Restaurant, Duluth, Minnesota

## AGENDA

### 1. **CALL TO ORDER** (Peterson)

Called to order at 1825 by Chair Peterson.

### 2. **ROLL CALL** (Brown)

POSITION	NAME	ATTENDANCE CONFIRMED
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#### **Executive Board of Directors**

<i>Chair-elect</i> .....	Bill Spain, St. Cloud Technical College.....	Yes
<i>Chair</i> .....	Karla Peterson, Minn. Dept. Health (MDH) .....	Yes
<i>Past Chair</i> .....	Scott Anderson, St. Louis Park .....	Yes
<i>Director</i> .....	Dave Schultz, MDH.....	Yes
<i>Secretary/Treasurer</i> .....	Dave Brown, Bluestone Engr .....	Yes
<i>Assistant Secretary</i> .....	Stew Thornley, MDH.....	Yes

#### **District Trustees**

<i>Central</i> .....	Lisa Vollbrecht, St. Cloud (int.) (expires 2010)	No
<i>Metro</i> .....	Carol Blommel Johnson, Ap. Val. (exp. 2008)	Yes
<i>Northeast</i> .....	Vacant (expires 2010).....	Yes
<i>Northwest</i> .....	Brian Bergentine, AE2S (expires 2009) .....	Yes
<i>Southeast</i> .....	Dean Huschle, Northfield (expires 2009) .....	No
<i>Southwest</i> .....	Pete Moulton, St. Peter (expires 2010) .....	Yes
<i>At-Large</i> .....	Pat Shea, St Cloud (expires 2010) .....	No

#### **Councils and Committees**

<i>Administrative &amp; Policy (APC)</i> .....	Bob Cockriel, Bloomington.....	Yes
<i>Conference (Conf)</i> .....	Corey Lubovich, Hibbing.....	Yes
<i>Minnesota Associates (MAC)</i> .....	Tony Belden, Engineering America .....	Yes
<i>Public Affairs (PAC)</i> .....	Myron Volker, Owatonna.....	Yes
<i>Training &amp; Education (TEC)</i> .....	Chris Glassing, ACIPCO .....	Yes
<i>Water Utility (WUC)</i> .....	Bernie Bullert, TKDA.....	Yes

#### **Guests:**

AWWA Representative .....	Jerry Stevens .....	Yes
Minn. Public Works Ass. Rep .....	Bert Tracy .....	Yes

### 3. **CONSENT REPORT**

#### **MINUTES APPROVAL:**

May 2, 2008 – Governing Board Meeting

**Corrections/Additions:** None noted.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT** (Dave Brown)

As of August 31, 2008, section income was \$168,126 and expenses were \$172,207 for a net loss of \$4,081. Investments are down since the beginning of the year by \$32,007.

#### **ASSOCIATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT** (Dave Schultz)

It has been a learning experience for me as a new Director for Minnesota AWWA. My first priority is to learn my fiduciary duties as a board member. It is fascinating to understand how complex and big AWWA is as an organization. This year, AWWA has a 33 million dollar annual budget. Therefore, I understand, there is a big responsibility with my "legal duties" as aboard member.

The following items are submitted as a matter of general interest from the ACE board meeting:

**FUTURE ACE ROTATION PLAN –**

Approved by the board was a well documented permanent plan for a rotation, of the Annual AWWA conference, known as ACE, within the 3 regions: west, central, and east. Several criteria were considered while in the selection of cities for the rotation. A rotation plan was approved by the board for the following cities:

<b>West</b>	<b>Central</b>	<b>East</b>
Las Vegas	Chicago	Orlando
San Diego	Denver	Washington D.C.

Also approved is one wild card city.

Michael Leonard took over the gavel as president of AWWA at the ACE in Atlanta.

2009 President-Elect Nominee are:

Don Degen is from Kelowna, British Columbia, where he is the Water and Drainage Manager for the City of Kelowna. Michael Hooker is from Syracuse, New York, where he works as the Executive Director for Onondaga County Water Authority. Joseph Mantua is from Rockville, Maryland, where he works as a Project Manager for Black & Veatch Corporation. Jerald Stevens is from West Des Moines, Iowa, where he works as the General Manager for West Des Moines Water Works.

We are in interesting times for the water industry and AWWA as an organization. With transition comes change, new opportunities, and new directions. With Jack Hoffbuh's recent retirement and Gary Zimmerman's new appointment as Executive Director for AWWA, we are in a state of transition as an organization. We will always remember Jack's legacy as the "Ambassador for the Water Industry" and for teaching us the "Value of Water." Gary Zimmerman comes from a different background. He has impressed me with his skills in organizational management. I call him the "Change Agent." I believe we will see a new direction in how AWWA conducts business. Especially in the area of new technology, online business, print on demand, and organizational stream lining. Gary's focus is moving a good organization to great. Time will tell.

**DISTRICT REPORTS**

**Northwest District (Brian Bergantine)**

No report.

**Northeast District (vacant)**

No report.

**Central District (Lisa Vollbrecht and Lyle Stai)**

MN AWWA Central District Three Day Training was held at Ruttger's Lodge in Deerwood, MN on June 11-13, 2008. The conference featured great speakers and fun social activities. Registration increased from previous years and attendee participation was excellent. The evaluation and budget summaries are available upon request.

The MN AWWA Central District annual business meeting was held June 12, 2008. Using AWWA Guidance Documentation, District Officer elections were held/position filled:

Interim Trustee	Lisa Vollbrecht, City of St. Cloud
Chair	Kim Larsen, Minnesota Department of Health
Vice Chair	Bill Schluenz, City of Waite Park
Secretary	Tom Vogel, Order of St. Benedict

The MN AWWA Central District One Day Training session will be at St. John's University on October 22, 2008. The planning meeting was August 1, 2008.

### **Metro District (Carol Blommel Johnson)**

The Metro District Education Committee is busy planning the Annual Operators Water School for 2009. The school will be held at the Ramada Mall of America (Thunderbird) April 7-9, 2009. The committee has decided to rotate the location of the school between the north and south metro. Even numbered years like this year (2008) the school will be held at the Earle Brown Center in Brooklyn Center and odd numbered years the school will be held at the Thunderbird Ramada Mall of America.

The Water Utility Council met at the St. Cloud City Hall on June 19, 2008. Reports were received from representatives from MN Rural Water, MN Department of Health, Metropolitan Council, and MN Department of Natural Resources; in addition, reports were received on the WARN system and Plumbing Code Revisions.

### **Southwest District (Pete Moulton)**

The Southwest Section Officers and Education Committee met on August 19 in Mankato and completed preparation for the Fall School to be held in Wells Minnesota on Thursday, October 2, 2008.

October 2, 2008 AWWA Southwest Section Meeting @ Wells Minnesota

8:00-8:30	Registration
8:30-8:40	Welcome
8:40-9:00	Water for People Presentation
9:00-9:30	Operator Questions Competition
9:30-10:00	MDH Updates (Groundwater Rule)
10:00-10:15	Break
10:15-11:15	Lewis & Clark Water Project - Red Arndt, Chairman
11:15-11:45	MNWARN & AWWA Membership Presentation
11:45-12:00	Southwest District Business Meeting
12:00-1:00	Lunch
1:00-2:30	TopOps Competition - Meter Madness & Watermain Tapping Contests
2:30-2:45	Break
2:45-3:15	New Plants - Mankato Water Plant
3:15-3:45	DNR- Water Conservation Rates
3:45	Wrap up, Membership and door prizes and Water for People prizes

Also discussed was the attendance of Southwest Section members at the Annual Conference in Duluth. Positive feedback was discussed and the Southwest Section will make budgeted allocations to assist interested members with attendance. A limited stipend will be allocated to those members who inquire.

The Southwest Section would like to acknowledge four new members they include:

- \* Dave Holland - Bolton and Menk Engineering
- \* Dave Marks from the Marshall Utilities, Dave is also the new Vice -Chair for the Southwest Section
- \* Jim Plumhoff - City of Ceylon
- \* Scott Spencer - City of Lake Crystal

### **Southeast District (Dean Huschle)**

The MN AWWA's Southeast District Operators School was held this spring at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center in Rochester. The 3-day school ran from Wednesday, March 12th to Friday, March 14th. There were 112 full registrations. There was a panel discussion on the Southeastern floods of 2007 and recognition of Owatonna High School students for their Water for People fundraiser. Operators also competed in Top Ops and Water Meter re-building competitions. The vendors display

continues to be a popular item and our guest speaker, Mr. Harvey Ronglien, gave a very informative and entertaining talk at the operator's breakfast. The Water for People raffle raised \$600.

The next fall 1-day operator's school is scheduled for October 31st, and will be hosted by the City of Winona and held in the City of Goodview. Tentative topics for the school include: motor controls, identifying and updating hydrants, a talk from Winona Superintendent Bob Keiper, and a possible plant tour.

**Trustee-at-Large (Pat Shea)**

No report.

**COUNCIL/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Administration Council (Bob Cockriel)**

***Awards (Yasser Abouaish)***

No report.

***Finance Committee (Barb Woolsey)***

The Finance Committee met on September 5, 2008 at the Bloomington Water Treatment Plant. Barb Woolsey (chair), Dave Brown, Christine Meyer, Doug Rovang, and Stew Thornley were present.

The section financial status and investments as of July 31, 2008 were reviewed. Although investments are down by almost \$35,000 since the beginning of the year, section income exceeds expenses by \$12,000. Barb noted that retained earnings of \$24,480 had not been transferred to the equity funds for 2007 year-end. The committee recommended a \$10,000 transfer to the endowment fund and \$10,000 transfer to the operating fund. Recognizing that the section is at the end of its original five year plan, the committee agreed to maintain the general and operating fund goals. The general fund goal is 50 percent of annual expenses and the operating fund goal is 10 percent of annual expenses; the endowment fund goal was revised to \$180,000. If there are excess funds at the end of 2008, the committee will ask the board for a policy decision as to how the funds should be spent. In the meantime, Dave Brown suggested that quarterly reports be initiated and issued to each council and committee.

The committee discussed the investment related comments from the previous board meeting. The group believes that the section maintains a diversified portfolio with an emphasis on long term goals; the portfolio, in fact, is slightly out-performing the S&P and Dow. The committee's recommendation is to be patient and not to unload.

Wells Fargo, UBS and US Bank will be asked to bid on the section's investment management services. Wells Fargo currently manages the section's investments.

The transition from volunteer to professional bookkeeper is complete. Milena Rindal is providing all of the section's bookkeeping services, including processing payables, receivables, reconciling the various bank accounts and preparing reports.

Doug Rovang has concluded his three year term. The finance committee wishes to extend its thanks to Doug for the dedication and diligence he has shown during his committee membership. Stew will ask Terry Neuman to publicize the vacancy in the eBreeze. Because the secretary/treasurer position is transitioning from Dave to Stew, a professional audit will be conducted.

***Information Technology (Carol Kaszynski)***

No report.

***Membership (Gary Warner)***

No report.

***Nominating (Glen Gerads, Myron Volker)***

No report.

**Conference Council (Corey Lubovich)**

No report.

**Manufacturers Council (Tony Belden)**

The July 31, 2008 MAC meeting was held in the conference room of Engineering America, in Oakdale, MN. The meeting was called to order by Council Chair Tony Belden at 9:00 AM.

1. Attendance

A. MAC members present at the meeting: Voting Members - Tony Belden, Dave Scheerer, Todd Bredesen, Rod Ganther, Scott Bredehoft, Greg Johnson, Brian Zinnel, Brad Forester, and Chris Larson. Non Voting Members – Ben Mason, representing the National MAC, Chris Voeltz, representing Water for People, Chris Glassing, representing the Annual Conference Competition Committee, and Todd Butz, representing the Young Professionals Committee.

2. Approval of Minutes

A. David Scheerer, MAC Secretary, presented the minutes from the April 3rd, 2008 MAC meeting. Todd Bredesen made the motion to accept the minutes. Greg Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. MAC Budget 2009

A. The Council Chair presented his 2009 budget to the MAC

1. The 2009 budget totals \$7,500. This compares to a MAC budget of \$4,000 in 2008.

a. The MAC reviewed the 2009 budget

b. A motion was made by David Scheerer to accept the 2009 budget of \$7,500.

c. The motion was seconded by Rod Ganther. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

4. 2008 MAC Roster

A. MAC Chair presented his 2008 MAC membership roster.

B. This current MAC roster is attached to these minutes.

C. The MAC discussed increasing the maximum number of voting members on the MAC from 10 members to 12 members.

a. The following motion was made by David Scheerer to amend the Section by-laws on MAC membership to read as follows: The Council will consist of a minimum of 9 voting members and a maximum of 12 voting members, drawn from the four (4) Associate segments – Manufactures, Distributors, Consulting Engineers, and Manufacturer’s Representatives. Each Segment shall have a minimum of two (2) members on the Council, and no Segment may have more than three (3) members on the Council.

b. The motion was seconded by Scott Bredehoft. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

c. The MAC Chair will present the motion to the Section Board for final approval.

5. Committee Reports

A. Exhibits Committee: Chair Scott Bredehoft gave the report.

1. Scott reported that all is on track and on schedule for the Vendor Exhibition at the Conference.

2. Scott reported that the plan to offer door prizes in the exhibit hall (must be present to win) is in place.

3. The MAC reviewed the 2009 exhibit hall layout. The MAC chair directed the Exhibits Committee to continue to plan for long term Vendor Exhibition growth and that the committee work with DECC staff to ensure we have adequate space for future exhibitions.

- B. Annual Conference Program Committee Report: Committee Chair Jay Whitaker was absent, Tony Belden gave the report.
1. Tony reviewed the Conference program and reported that all is set to go.
  2. Chris Glassing reported that a "Meter Madness" competition is set to go during the Vendor Exhibition at the Annual Conference.
    - i. Chris suggested that the MAC form a "Competition Committee" to manage and coordinate competition activities at District Schools and at the Annual Conference.
    - ii. The MAC sees this type of committee as a Section associate member driven committee operating as part of the MAC. Chris volunteered to chair the committee for one year - in 2009. A future chair would need to be selected to serve after 2009.
    - iii. Another suggested competition would be a pipe tapping competition.
    - iv. A suggested strategy would be to hold meter and pipe tapping competitions at district schools. Winners from these competitions would compete at the state conference. Perhaps state winners could proceed to the ACE to compete at the national level.
      1. This progression of competition would be dependent on a funding mechanism being put in place.
- C. Social Committee: Chair Todd Bredesen gave the report.
1. Todd reported that the Wednesday evening MAC social event at the 2008 Annual Conference in Duluth are developing per plan. The 2008 activities will be pretty much the same as the Wednesday evening events in 2007.
- D. Endowment Committee: Chair Rod Ganther gave the report.
1. Rod reported that the Endowment Fund Committee has set a goal of raising \$2,000 at the 2008 Conference and fund raising events and activities are ready to go.
- E. ACE Meal/Social: Tony Belden gave the report.
1. Tony reported that the MN Section breakfast at the ACE in Atlanta, GA in 2008 went well.
  2. Attendance was fairly light this year with 26 people attending the breakfast.
    - i. The light attendance has required the Section to contribute approx. \$875 to make up for the amount not covered by the breakfast entrance fees.
6. Minnesota Section Update: Report given by Tony Belden
- A. Tony reported that he attended the AWWA Regional Meeting of Section Officers on May 16-17, 2008. Tony reported that RMSO is great for gaining national exposure for the Section. It was also good for Tony to gain some National AWWA experience and knowledge.
7. National MAC Report: Ben Mason gave the report.
- A. Ben presented an update on National MAC activities.
1. See Ben's written report attached to these minutes.
  2. Ben reported that National MAC meeting minutes can also be found on the National AWWA website.
  3. Ben reported that the National MAC sponsors a group of technical sessions at the ACE. He suggested that the MAC sponsor 2 or 3 technical sessions at the MN Section Annual Conference.
- B. Ben made a suggestion that the MAC consider setting up a Section associate member award. Ben suggested the award could be similar to the Leonard Thompson award or the George Warren Fuller award. Only associate members would be eligible to receive the award.
1. A discussion followed Ben's suggestion but no action was taken.
8. Young Professionals: Report given by Todd Butz
- A. Todd Butz replaced B. Zinnel as YP Committee Chair
- B. Todd reported that YP is set to go with their 2008 Section Conference activities.
9. Water For People: Report given by Chris Voeltz
- A. Chris reported that WFP will sponsor a sporting clays shooting event at the 2008 Annual Conference.
1. Chris also reported that other WFP Conference activities are ready to go.

B. Chris reported that WFP is investigating methods to broaden their fund raising activities beyond the water industry.

1. Ideas include sponsoring events that have an entry fee but are open to the general public, such as concerts or a marathon.

10. Next Meeting

A. The next MAC meeting is scheduled for 9:00 AM, Thursday, December 4th, 2008, at the Engineering America offices, in Oakdale, MN.

11. Adjourn

A. Todd Bredesen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Brian Zinnel seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Minnesota Associates Council Meeting

7/31/2008

National MAC Report

Presented by Ben Mason

1. Minutes of MAC meetings are posted on the AWWA website. Navigate to Manufacturers/Associates Council, Documents to find them.

2. Atlanta ACE

a. MAC sponsored 3 sessions:

- i. How Low Can You Go: Is It Bid Day or Limbo?
- ii. Trenchless Technology: Replacement or Rehabilitation-Options for the Water Industry
- iii. Best Practices for the Use of GIS in Treatment Plant Environments

b. New MAC members

- i. Michael Simpson-M.E. Simpson Co., Valparaiso, IN
- ii. Christopher Jarrett-Acipco, Pittsburg, PA

c. Attendance (as of noon Wednesday)

- i. 11,846 registrations
- ii. 1,210 exhibit booth spaces representing 568 companies

3. New Service Provider Director-at-Large-Joel Neulight, Severn-Trent Services, Colmar, PA

4. 4 MAC openings in 2009-MAC preference is to have them filled by Section MAC candidates.

5. Next MAC meeting is in Denver, Oct. 8-9, meeting jointly with the Standards Council.

6. MAC Sessions at ACE San Diego June 2009

- a. Green Initiatives in the Water Works Industry
- b. Emerging Contaminants
- c. Preventative Maintenance on Distribution Systems

7. AWWARF name change-Water Research Foundation

How can MAC better support/communicate with Section MAC's?

**Public Affairs Council (Myron Volker)**

**Public Information (Terry Neuman)**

No report.

**Publications (Rod Volker)**

No report.

**Water for People (Bernie Bullert)**

No report.

**Scholarship (Jon Eaton)**

The Scholarship Committee is responsible for the activities (scholarship guideline/criteria review, gathering applications, scholarship scoring/ranking, and review & update bylaws, policies, and/or procedures that apply to the scholarship committee) related to the current scholarship programs.

In 2008, the following scholarships/grants were distributed:

*Bachelor/Advanced Degree Scholarships* – The 2008-2009 school year winner is Matthew Kline, Lakeland.

*Water Utility Management Institute Scholarships* - The 2008 scholarship winners were Tom Ozzello, Oak Park Heights; Steve Gilberg, Eagan; Sean Diercks, Montrose; Brian Young, Richfield; Daniel Curley, Shoreview; Jedd Braunwarth, Waconia.

*Reduced-Cost Educational Materials* – The St Cloud Technical College purchased school textbooks for the WETT Program through the Mn Section saving over \$2700. The college has been purchasing textbooks through the Section and saving students significant educational material expenses for the past 6 years.

*Educational Equipment/Materials Grant*– No requests were received or grants given this year.

*Student Memberships* – The Section continues to support 50% of the AWWA Student Membership. For the specific number of students supported contact the Membership Committee Chair or Secretary/Treasurer.

In 2008-09, the committee plans to review and update all current scholarship programs, increase the committee size to ten members, and develop a plan to propose and implement other new scholarship programs.

***Young Professionals (Todd Butz)***

No report.

**Training Council (Chris Glassing)**

***Education Committee (Stew Thornley)***

The following AWWA schools were held this spring:

- Southeast District, March 12-14, Ramada Hotel and Conference Center, Rochester (110 attendees)
- Southwest District, April 2, Redwood Area Community Center, Redwood Falls (89 attendees)
- Metro District, April 14-16, Earle Brown Heritage Center, Brooklyn Center (246 attendees)
- Northeast District, May 14-16, Grand Ely Lodge, Ely (46 attendees)
- Central District, June 11-13, Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge, Deerwood (60 attendees)

In the future the Metro School will alternate between the Ramada Mall of America in Bloomington (in odd-numbered years) and the Earle Brown Heritage Center in Brooklyn Center (in even-numbered years).

Twenty-two teachers attended the 2008 Drinking Water Institute, which was held August 4-6 at the Lakeville Water Treatment Plant. The 2009 Institute will be August 10-12 in Oakdale.

The Urban Water Cycle CD-ROM, being produced by the Hamline University Center for Global Environmental Education, is nearing completion. Hamline is also working out an arrangement to have the CD-ROM distributed by AWWA. A prototype of the program is now available at <http://www.health.state.mn.us/water/urbancycle/index.html>, and it will also be available in the near future on the Minnesota AWWA web site.

***Management Schools (Scott Anderson and Glen Gerads)***

The 2008 Midwest Regional Water Utility Management Institute was held March 10-12, 2008. The attendance at the 2008 institute set a record with 43 attendees. The variety of the group added to the learning experience. Many different positions in the industry were represented (administration, superintendents, foreman, operators, chemists, engineers, regulatory and the private sector). A

discussion format was emphasized and the participation from the attendees was great. A special thanks to the U of M gang for their help, the MNAWWA sponsorship and the SUSA group for their continued support through scholarships.

The 2009 Institute is scheduled for March 9-11, 2009 at the U of M Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul campus. The input from last years attendees was great and we are incorporating some suggestions and ideas into the '09 schedule. Please continue to support this great program through attendance and word of mouth advertising.

A special thanks to Mike Bramwell and Dave Lemke for joining the Institute committee.

***Research Committee (Doug Lubben)***

The Surface Water Treatment Workshop was held April 29, 2008 through May 1, 2008 at the Marriott Courtyard in Moorhead, MN. The workshop was extremely successful. The research committee organizes this workshop every other year (even years), so look for another great Surface Water Treatment Workshop in 2010.

At the Annual conference in Duluth, the Research Committee developed a Thursday Session on emerging contaminant issues, particularly Endocrine Disrupting Compounds (EDC's) and Pharmaceuticals & Personal Care Products (PPCPs).

Our Annual Committee meeting will be Thursday Morning, September 25, 2008 in the St. Louis Room. New members are welcome!!!

***Safety Committee (Tom Ozzello)***

No report.

***Small Systems (Chad Troitte and Rick Wanner)***

The Small Systems Committee will meet on September 25, 2008 at the annual conference in Duluth. The committee would like to implement a plan to attract more participation from small system operators in the annual conference. This plan would involve structuring a scholarship program offered to individuals through the Minnesota Section Districts. We will develop a plan and schedule follow up meetings to implement that plan at our on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Water Utility Council (Bernie Bullert)**

**WUC Meeting Date:** Thursday, June 19, 2008

**Location:** Saint Cloud City Hall, Saint Cloud, MN

**Attendance:** Bernie Bullert, Bob Cockriel, Chris Elvrum, Steve Gleason, Ruth Hubbard, Carol Blommel Johnson, Kurt Johnson, Dennis Martenson, Bob Peplin, Laurel Reeves, Dave Schultz, Pat Shea, Bob Smude, Ed Sorensen, Dave Wagner

In attendance via conference call: Allen Lamm, Cliff McLain

Excused: Dick Nagy, Doug Rovang, Shahin Rezania

**Housekeeping:**

Bernie Bullert chaired the meeting.

**Minutes:**

The minutes of March 27, 2008 were approved.

**Congress, EPA Update – Bob Peplin**

Bob reviewed 5 items as follows:

1. Most significant regulatory effort that will impact all drinking water systems is revision to the Total Coliform Rule (TCR). The proposed rule is due in 2010. Final rule expected 2011 or 2012. Tentative outcomes emerging:
  - a. MCL for total coliforms will be substituted with a treatment technique.
  - b. MCL for E.Coli will remain same
2. Security efforts are currently focused on cyber security.
3. Decision tree for selecting candidate contaminant/pathogens... under peer review.
4. There is some discussion about creating an infrastructure bank or "trust fund" for distribution system improvements. AWWA is not supportive. Historically trust funds have not proved efficient, effective. National WUC is proposing funding mechanisms it can support.
5. After 2nd 6-year review process, EPA considering enhancing/revising following regulations:
  - a. Nitrification in Distribution systems
  - b. Lead and Copper
  - c. Fluoride

Three WUC members attended 2008 DC fly-in, Bernie Bullert, Pat Shea and Cliff McLain.

**Legislative report from LMNC Representative** – No report. Craig Johnson was absent.

#### State-Related Water Issues

1. Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Ed Sorensen:
  - a. Ed recommended members review the website [eqb.state.mn.us](http://eqb.state.mn.us) /ongoing project and studies/ water availability project.
  - b. A recent EQB charge is to prepare jointly with DNR a water availability and sustainability study based on existing data and information. The report is expected in fall 2008.

#### Reports

1. Minnesota Rural Water Association. – Ruth Hubbard
  - a. A farm bill has been approved that includes \$120M for rural development and small water and wastewater projects. Minnesota should get some \$20M. These monies will be available as a 40 year, 2.7% interest rate loan.
  - b. Clean water revolving fund will receive \$850M
  - c. MRWA sought to help small systems by participating in a National Proclamation effort to minimize water loss.
2. Minnesota Department of Health – Bob Smude
  1. Manager - expect a successor to Doug Mandy to be named in approx 1-month.
  2. Total Coliform Rule
    1. MN currently offers quarterly monitoring. New rule may require monthly monitoring. If monitoring frequency increases, the service connection fee will need to be increased.
  3. Budget: Water connection fee may need to increase. Members suggested desirability of making this a dedicated fund.
  4. MPCA plans to collect samples around fire training centers ... especially near wells.
3. Metropolitan Council - Chris Elvrum
  - a. The Master Water Supply Plan draft report should be available end of August 2008. The master plan advisory group has established a self imposed target date for final plan publication of Dec 31, 2008.
    - i. No surprises are anticipated. Findings re-affirm that current and future raw water sources should be OK to meet demand. Local areas of shortages especially during peak demand are anticipated as they occur currently.

- b. Comprehensive plans are due by the end of 2008 for all 7 metro counties. The comprehensive plans should make reference to water supply plans.
- 4. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Laurel Reeves:
  - a. Water supply plan reviews are in progress and are current DNR priority.
  - b. Water use fees were increased by the legislature. Monies raised go to the General Fund.
  - c. The 2008 legislation requires public water suppliers serving more than 1,000 people to have a water conservation rate structure. The date of this requirement is 2010 for the TC Metro area and 2013 for others. DNR is developing further information on these rates and implementing updates to plans. DNR welcomes suggestions as it develops specific descriptions.
- 5. Association Director. Dave Schultz
  - a. Attendance at ACE met expectation. Conference went well.
  - b. New executive director of AWWA is Gary Zimmerman. He succeeds Jack Hoffbuhr. The association has a \$37M operating budget.
  - c. AWWA website will be revised.
  - d. Due to need for large venue ...future ACE conferences planned for 6 fixed sites. Two western US, 2 central US, 2 eastern US.
- 6. WARN Update. Allen Lamm
  - a. A website affiliated with Minnesota Rural Water Association has been established @ mnwarn.org
  - b. MN WARN (Water Agency Response Network) exists. Eleven communities have formally executed mutual aid agreements.
  - c. The mutual aid agreement was developed with help of LMC. It cannot be changed and must be accepted by all participating communities as is.
  - d. Anticipate need for clarification about "private entity" vs "public entity" membership.
- 7. Minnesota Plumbing Code Revisions. Allen Lamm
  - a. Several provisions contained in the public water supply chapters of the State Plumbing Code are being revised. Al summarized several and stated his intent to send summary of changes along with a description of the approval process to Bernie for distribution to WUC membership. Al suggested Cliff McLain might be able to articulate how helpful the new provisions will be for public water supply operations. Cliff stated: "should work pretty good".
  - b. Al stated his belief public water suppliers must have an interest in the state plumbing code. Accordingly, Al requested a good showing at the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of plumbing code celebration being held at the Labor and Industry building @ 7<sup>th</sup> and Lafayette in down town Saint Paul, 2:00-3:30 on July 15, 2008.
- 8. Gopher State One-call. No report. Adam Kramer was absent.

#### Discussion/Action Items

##### Review Council make-up:

- a. WUC by-laws call for 11 utility members and 8 commercial/consulting members. Considering pending resignations (Al Lamm, Ed Sorensen), there is a need for three utility members and two commercial/consulting members. All members are requested to assist with recruitment. However, perhaps Ruth Hubbard and Dave Schultz can seek to recruit small system membership/representation.
- b. WUC by-laws call for appointment of Secretary. Next meeting the WUC will seek to fill this position.
- c. Members agree it may be helpful to invite MPCA as a regular, informational member and request MPCA offer a quarterly report of activity affecting the water community.

### **Next WUC Meeting:**

Next WUC meeting will be held at the Annual Conference of the Minnesota Section held in Duluth MN September 24-26. The exact time and place TBA.

*Motion to approve the consent items except MAC report was made by Moulton, second by Bergantine, and approved unanimously.*

#### **4. CONSENT DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Item 4 from the Minnesota Associates Council Report, regarding a proposal to amend the section by-laws regarding membership on the Council, was discussed by Belden. It was not clear if this was a by-law, which would require an amendment and have to be approved by the Association board, or a policy change. It was determined to have Ben Mason bring the issue up at the Association level to determine the proper action. Belden will address the issue with Mason at the post-conference board meeting on Friday.

*Motion to approve the consent discussion item was made by Moulton, second by Bergantine, and approved unanimously.*

#### **5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Seven Measures of Success (Schultz)

The *Seven Measures of Success* book has been distributed to board members. Schultz will lead a facilitated discussion at the winter board meeting and working session.

B. NE District Trustee Vacancy (Lubovich)

John Thom has identified a potential candidate from Duluth, Howard Jacobson, and will contact him. Even without a trustee in place, the district had a successful operator school last May.

C. Survey Regarding Bussing to Annual conference (Spain)

Trustees were to poll members about interest in having a bus to take them to the conference. Moulton reported that there was little interest in the Southwest District. Bergantine said that members of the Northwest District indicated that the time commitment was more significant than travel issues. Peterson asked board members to continue to consider ways to increase attendance at the conference.

D. 2009 Association Award Nominations (Cockriel)

Cockriel said he sent out materials but did not receive any responses. He suggested that we now start soliciting candidates for 2009. A new chair of the Awards Committee is needed and will be dealt with by the new Administrative & Policy Council Chair. Schultz suggested that we get a list of the awards and begin aggressively seeking candidates.

#### **6. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Municipal Utilities Inspectors School – (Bert Tracy)

Tracy made a presentation on a Minnesota Public Works Association (MPWA) Municipal Utilities Inspectors School (MUIS). A previous school, conducted from 2000 to 2003, was a two-day course that averaged approximately 100 participants. The MPWA Education and Training Committee hopes to re-establish this school through the development of training modules to be conducted throughout the state. Tracy said they are looking for co-sponsors for this school to develop the modules and inquired about interest within Minnesota AWWA to be a co-sponsor.

MPWA is now committed for \$10,000, but Tracy said he did not have a specific dollar amount in mind for Minnesota AWWA. He will have a better idea of the overall cost of the module development in two months. They will also be seeking instructors for the modules. It was suggested that Tracy work with the Training & Education Council Chair, Chris Glassing, and the trustee assigned to this council, Pete Moulton.

The consensus was that the school fits our section mission and that we should actively explore means of participation.

*Motion by Schultz, second by Lubovich, to Minnesota AWWA will support the MPWA program. Motion passed unanimously.*

B. 2008 Association Meeting Review – (Peterson)

Annual Conference and Exposition, Atlanta, June

Peterson thanked Belden and the MAC for arranging the breakfast and the speaker who talked on the droughts in Georgia. Belden said that the attendance turned out to be sufficient, but he had early worries about whether we'd be able to cover costs. For the future, he raised the question of having the breakfast at a place other than the conference hotel. The conference hotel has advantages, such as convenience and ability to have it on the conference program, although the costs are high. MAC budgeted \$1,500 for the breakfast and ended up spending \$875.

Summer Workshop – Denver, July

Spain, Thornley, and Bergantine attended the workshop. Bergantine thought the session on dashboard reporting was valuable. Affiliation agreements were discussed at the workshop. Stevens gave an overview of the agreements, which allow sections to have their activities covered by association liability insurance. Stevens added that logos and intellectual capital, such as publications and training materials, need to be protected. He said the agreements were a gradual process. Schultz does not foresee the Minnesota Section having any issues with the agreements. Spain said he appreciated the interest in the association on what it could do for section members as well as discussions on section direction.

Regional Meeting of Section Officers (RMSO) – Dearborn, Michigan, May

Thornley, Belden, Schultz, Huschle, and Volker attended. Belden thought that, as a new board member, the meeting was informative and helped to understand what happens at the association level. Volker had the chance at the meeting to talk about the program put on by Owatonna High School students that raised more than \$15,000 for Water for People. Thornley thought that the networking opportunities with members from other sections within our region were valuable and that the food was good.

C. Fall Conference Update (Lubovich)

Lubovich discussed the work that went into planning the conference and recognized the efforts of subcommittees and others. There were many new people involved in the planning and execution of the conference. A new feature of this year's conference is having the opening sessions in the OmniMax theater that is connected to the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC). This year's conference program is in full color. Brown asked about getting conference program and "Conference in a Glance" feature onto the section's web site. There are approximately 65 vendors exhibiting at the conference, which is greater than last year. Volker said feedback from vendors has been positive regarding the conferences from recent years. We will try to get into a larger room for the vendors in the coming years. Glassing asked board members to encourage attendees to sign up for the Texas Hold 'Em tournament, which the Young Professionals is putting on for the third year in a row. Money raised supports the David Morris Endowment Fund, and the goal is to top \$1,000 this year. Glassing also noted that Meter Madness is going to be a part of the conference for the first time this year and that they hope to have a pipe-tapping competition in future years. He thought a committee may be necessary for coordinating these activities. Glassing raised the possibility of having a taste test competition at the conference in the future and said he could add it to the agenda for the forthcoming committee.

D. Board support of Adam Kramer as Director at Large (Schultz)

Naeem Qureshi nominated Adam Kramer for director-at-large. The association told Schultz that normally nominations for this position come from the board. Cockriel raised the question of whether Kramer is eligible for this position since he has not served on the section board. Belden will call Nancy Sullivan to check on this. This will be discussed at the Friday board meeting with the overall discussion postponed until then since Kramer is also a candidate for section chair with the election on Thursday. Brown checked on the issue of eligibility and later noted that membership on the section board was not a pre-requisite for the director-at-large position. The section would have to financially support travel expenses to association meetings for the director-at-large.

- E. Board support of Dave Schultz as Vice President (Thornley)  
Thornley noted Schultz's distinguished service to the section and recommended that the board support his candidacy. The election will be at the winter board meeting in January. If elected, he would begin his term at the annual conference in June.

*Motion by Volker, seconded by Lubovich, to support Schultz's candidacy and to put forth his nomination.  
Motion passed unanimously.*

Peterson will send a letter to the association with the nomination.

- F. Promotion of CEO/GM Forum (Brown)  
Brown discussed a forum for chief executive officers and general managers of water utilities that will be held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, December 3-5.
- G. Participation of Multi-section Members (Brown)  
Schultz said that he voted in favor of a proposal to allow to multi-section members to vote and hold office in any section in which they are either a primary or multi-section member provided that they be allowed to hold office in only one section at a time.
- H. 2009 Business Plan & Budget Review (Anderson/Spain/Brown/Thornley)  
The meeting will begin at 8:00 Tuesday in Room 202 on the Harbor Side.

7. **NEXT BOARD MEETING**

8:00 a.m Tuesday, September 23, 2008 at the DECC in Duluth, MN

7:00 a.m. Friday, September 26, 2008 at the DECC in Duluth, MN

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2112.