

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, September 27, 2011, 11:00 a.m. Central Time
Duluth Entertainment Convention Center, Room 202

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER** (Tracy)
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 21, 2011 GOVERNING BOARD MEETING** (Tracy)
2. **ROLL CALL** (Vempati)
3. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
4. **NEW BUSINESS**
Introduction of AWWA Representative, Wayne Stiver, and Special Guests (Tracy)
5. **NEXT BOARD MEETING**
Tuesday, September 27, 2011 in Duluth, 6 p.m.
6. **ADJOURNMENT**

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, September 27, 2011, 6:00 p.m. Central Time
Pickwick Restaurant (in Fitger's Building), 508 East Superior Street, Duluth, 218-623-PICK

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER** (Tracy)
2. **ROLL CALL** (Vempati)
3. **CONSENT AGENDA**
From Director Bill Spain
 1. **Communities of Interest COI**
A program designed to provide AWWA members and outside parties a platform for information exchange and interaction opportunities. The objectives is to setup communities to focus on like interests related to the water industry. Plan to provide new volunteer opportunities. Enable networking and align AWWA resources to individual interests. Ultimately lead to a more diverse membership and get AWWA name and purpose in front of more people.
 2. **Website Redesign:** Focus is to make the website more user friendly, easier to navigate. Internal team is evaluating recommendations. COI's will be a major player in the new format. Budget is being watched closely.
 3. **WIFIA – Water Infrastructure Finance And Innovation Authority:** AWWA is working with WEF to advance a new infrastructure lending concept in D.C. WIFIA would lend money to SRF. This program is planned to be pushed at the next Fly-In. Members are being asked to promote the concept at the local level with the thought that this will garner greater support in Washington. A new concept to provide low interest loans for infrastructure repair and replacement at a very low risk. Refer to handout for more information.
4. **CONSENT DISCUSSION ITEMS** (Tracy)
5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
Cash Prizes (Eaton)
Questions have been raised about gifts and door prizes and when the section should get a recipients name, address, and social security number for the purpose of issuing a 1099 form.

Excess Income (Eaton)
The Finance Committee was directed to create a policy regarding excess income (per a motion at the July 14 meeting).

Minnesota Idea Open (Shea)
Shea was to check the explore opportunities to participate in The Idea Open, which “brings everyday Minnesotans together to help solve our state’s most critical issues.”
6. **NEW BUSINESS**
2012 Budget Review and Approval
Members of the executive board, trustees, and council and committee chairs submitted budget requests for 2012. The Finance Committee met and revised some of the requests, followed by a similar process involving the executive board. The proposed budget was then distributed to the entire board.

Conference Registration (Tracy)

Because of having on-line registration through the section website, no registration application for the annual conference was in the Conference *Breeze*. Do we want to continue this practice? We didn't offer on-line registration with a credit card this year because of the cost, but this will still be considered for future conferences if lower-cost options are available.

Travel Policy and/or Policies & Procedures Revision (Glassing)

The MN Section AWWA encourages all areas of membership to volunteer to be considered for Section and National AWWA positions. Due to the current climate and increased scrutiny of public agencies, it will be increasingly difficult to get highly qualified and talented public employees to be eligible to run for national positions. The MN Section should consider changing the "Travel Policy" to include language that provides financial assistance for travel expenses for national positions.

Motion: Revise the Section Travel Policy and/or Policies & Procedures to include the following: The MN Section of AWWA will reimburse National Board of Director members for expenses incurred while attending national association events that are not covered by the National AWWA or the employer. Qualified expenses must meet MN Section guidelines as outlined in the Travel Policy.

2011-2012 Meeting Dates (Blommel Johnson)

December 7, 2011 (Training)

January 25, 2012

April 20, 2012 (Board Appreciation Dinner / Water for People Concert)

July 18, 2012 – Meeting Conference Call

September 12, 2012 – Meeting Conference Call

September 18 – 21 – Annual Conference

Executive Committee Conference Call - 1st Wednesday 7:15 a.m. Monthly

Great Lakes Conference (Spain)

A member of the Pennsylvania Section is trying to gauge interest in a regional conference for sections adjacent to the Great Lakes.

Change in Procedures for Life Members and Student Mentorships (Spain)

Life member changes:

1. Current Life members will be grandfathered in regardless of age. Renewal fee will be \$85/year.
2. Future Life Members will need to meet criteria of 65 years of age and 30 years or more of membership in AWWA. Renewal fee will be \$85/year.
3. Current cost to AWWA is \$112/year.
4. Attachments/handouts will show how numbers of life members and future implications.
5. Membership fee in future will be subject to change as all other categories.
6. Changes go into effect January 2012. Notices will go out starting in October 2011.
7. Attachments/handouts will show dues increases for other membership categories.

Attendees at summer workshop in Denver briefly discussed a student mentorship program for the MN Section. Bert and I have discussed the idea a couple of times since. Thoughts now basically would be to start with students at St. Cloud Technical & Community College (both St. Cloud and Eden Prairie sections). It would be up to mentor's responsibility to sign student up as AWWA member. Mentor would also be available to student for questions probably via email, get to know student to hopefully serve as a reference in job hunting. Provide feedback to student on interviewing skills, and resume proofing. Student would be responsible for paying membership dues. Partial paid by MN Section. Student would need to actively participate in an AWWA event hopefully in attendance with mentor. Student would need to be a member of student club at SCTCC. Student would be encouraged to continue membership after graduation and participate in MN AWWA.

Plan would be to expand program to Vermillion Community College and also to other educational institutions such as U of M. Program could be linked into YP Group.

7. **NEXT BOARD MEETING**
Friday, September 30, 2011 in Duluth, 11 a.m.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**