



## **Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Teleconference

**Present:** Bartley, Coleman, Dugan, Fritz, Maier, Marczak, Roost, Spitzley, Steglitz, Thurston, Vail, Willemin

**Staff:** Ballard

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 pm.

### **Attendance**

Marczak welcomed board members and confirmed that everyone was on the line. She reminded everyone that the primary purpose of the call was to update everyone on activities and to address actions needed to keep moving forward with lead-related activities.

### **Approval of Agenda**

MOTION: Coleman moved with support to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Flint Water Crisis Update**

Steglitz, Marczak, and Ballard provided an update of recent activities taken on behalf of the Section.

- The Association and Section are now holding weekly or bi-weekly calls to coordinate activities and share information.
- Both the Association and the Section have been providing resources and information to DEQ staff as they put together a short and long term strategy for addressing the Flint water crisis.
- As a result of our letter to the Governor's Office as well as increased collaboration with the Association, Bill Maier has been invited to participate on the Governor's subcommittee on infrastructure.

Thurston added that a Karegnondi Water Authority Start Up Task Force is in place and that he is a member of that team.

### **Participation at Other Meetings**

Ballard provided a summary of Section participation in other meetings. Maier and Steglitz provided feedback on their participation on a panel on water for the Michigan Society of Association Executives. The audience with association executives and policy professionals. Strong positive feedback afterward. There is discussion of a repeat of the panel for the Air and Waste Management Association. The Section also received an invitation to participate in a panel at the Illinois Section's annual conference and Clyde Dugan will be representing the Section.

### **Lead Strategy Update/Review**

Marczak gave an overview of upcoming events, which include:

- March 16 – AWWA Webinar
- March 24 – Michigan Water Summit
- May 6 – Michigan Lead and Copper Workshop
- May 25 – AWWA webinar: Lead and Copper Rule – Potential Revisions and Steps to Prepare
- June – ACE – Special Track on Lead
- September ACE – Lead Track is being discussed

Ballard introduced the budget request from the Education & Training Council and explained that although the Board approved in concept to the Lead Strategy, no specific budget was approved.

MOTION: Thurston moved with support to approve a revenue budget of \$ 10,000, which represents a \$35 member rate for the summit and a \$110 member rate for the workshop, and an expense budget of \$6775 for a member summit and a training workshop designed to help members address their knowledge of the Lead & Copper Rule. Motion passed unanimously.

Marczak led a brief discussion on Safe Drinking Water Week. Steglitz reiterated that from his participation on the MSAE panel, it is clear that the public is very unaware of what it takes to run a water utility. It was agreed that the Communications Council would be tasked with creating a plan to publicize Safe Drinking Water Week either through the Section or through encouragement of member actions. The Board asked Ballard to follow up with the Council.

Steglitz raised the issue of the possibility of hiring a communications company. Ballard will forward all information she has collected so far. He and Spitzley will work to gather information and bring it back to the Board for discussion.

### **ACE16 Bus Trip**

Ballard and Fritz provided a brief update on the planning to date. The trip will have two routes developed based on membership clusters. One will start in Saginaw and the other will start in Detroit. Ballard is awaiting the final approved registration form and then will begin marketing the trip.

### **One AWWA Scholarship**

Willemin provided a brief summary of the specific requirements for the One AWWA Scholarship program. This was referred to in the Director's Report at the January Board meeting but has since had some more structure added to it. After some discussion about possible mechanics, the Board agreed that the details can be worked out by the Conference & Recognition Council in accordance with the guidelines laid out by the Association.

MOTION: Coleman moved with support to authorize the Executive Director to execute the agreement with the Association and to fund a \$500 One AWWA Scholarship during 2016. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Councils Conference Call**

Marczak reminded everyone that she will be holding a conference call for Council leaders and reported that most of the Board has indicated that they would call in also.

### **Nominating Committee**

Marczak reported that she has received a number of names of at-large members for the Nominating Committee and asked if there was any preference for how to select the participants. Coleman suggested that he and Marczak worked together to finalize the committee roster.

### **Waukesha Diversion**

Marczak reported that she had listened in on the public comment of the Waukesha, Wisconsin diversion request. It is clear that many people are against it. However, that does not change the Section's position. She will be sending a letter to the Great Lakes Council of Governors in support of the process for hearing such requests, an action approved by the Board in January.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.