



Board of Trustees Meeting

October 3, 2019 Minutes

Present: Jaime Fleming, Bill Fritz, Wayne Jernberg, Matt Parks, Paul Reinsch, Pat Staskiewicz, Aaron Uranga, Gary Wozniak

Absent: Ken McDonough, Cheryl Porter, Christine Spitzley

Staff: Bonnifer Ballard

Called to Order at 7:52 a.m.

Reinsch welcomed everyone.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Fritz moved with support to approve the agenda as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

July 13, 2019 Board Minutes

MOTION: Jernberg moved with support to approve the July 13, 2019 minutes as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

Sep 12, 2019 Annual Business Meeting Minutes

Ballard reported that there was some missing information. Reinsch asked her to send the draft to all Board members so that they could help fill in the gaps.

Consent Agenda

MOTION: Uranga moved with support to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

The consent agenda included:

- Operations Dashboard 2019
- 2018 Financial Audit final report
- 2019 Financial Statements
- GLSLWR Liaison Report July 2019
- GLSLWR Liaison Report August 2019
- Statewide Drinking Water Advisory Council
- Council Updates
- Draft PFAS Testimony for ERRC hearing 10/3/19

Strategic Session

Partnerships

Joint Funding Agreement status

Reinsch provided an overview. Discussion ensued about the pros and cons of the current agreement and relationship. Negotiation team to meet with Eric to discuss partnership high level. Executive committee permission to proceed with strategic meetings and execute as they determine appropriate. Ballard and Staskiewicz to meet with Oswald.

Strategic Partnership Council update

Jernberg provided an update. John Willemin agreed to be the chair and he is currently identifying members of the council.

Michigan Water Academy

Ballard provided a brief overview of the Academy and reported that a business plan will be presented at the winter Board meeting.

PFAS Rule Making

Fleming reported that the process was very collaborative. Environmental Rules Review Committee was supposed to meet but was postponed.

Workforce Development

Reinsch reported that this needs to be included in the upcoming strategic planning process.

Strategic Planning

Staskiewicz reviewed the timeline for the planning process. Will have vision, mission, core principles to Board for adoption at January. Will have workshop and listening sessions as part of the process. Plan to have draft to Board by July 2020 and rolling out updated plan in Sep 2020 at the business meeting.

Executive Director Performance Review

MOTION: Staskiewicz moved with support to increase the Executive Director's annual salary to \$97,000 beginning with the new fiscal year. Motion approved unanimously.

Board Policies

Investment Policy

Ballard presented the investment policy recommended by the Finance Committee.

MOTION: Fleming moved with support to accept the policy as amended. Motion approved unanimously.

Travel Policy

Parks presented the proposed change. Fleming added that this is a change to offer gender parity across support for contest teams.

MOTION: Uranga moved with support to accept the policy as amended. Motion approved unanimously.

Council Update Discussion

Reinsch provided an update on succession of council leadership and asked that everyone be thinking about this.

Chair's Report

EGLE/MI-AWWA Joint Funding Agreement

MOTION: Staskiewicz moved with support to resolve to approve the Executive Director's signing of the 90-Day Extension to the EGLE-MI-AWWA Joint Funding Agreement. Motion approved unanimously.

Joint Section Research Committee

Reinsch provided an overview of the Association Joint Section Research Committee. The Committee is a collaboration of Sections to help foster sharing of current research projects. Reinsch asked the Board to think about research topics and speakers for the committee's regular calls.

Great Lakes Impact Investment Platform

Reinsch highlighted the platform. Staskiewicz reported that the compact is trying to gather success stories and volunteered to reach out to the Section's rep Dave Koch to get clarification on what exactly is being asked. Reinsch asked for agreement from the Board that the Section communicate about the issue once its better understood. Staskiewicz reported that the Compact will be releasing a scientific report as well and that we may want to promote both at the same time.

WAMC Call for Nominations

Reinsch asked the Board to be thinking about nominations for this group. Fleming shared the purpose of the Water Asset Management Committee and the current committee members. The Board discussed possible names to put forth. Reinsch to work with Ballard to facilitate the nomination process.

Jernberg added that Drinking Water Advisory Council may be looking for additional members as well. The Board discussed possible names. Reinsch asked for additional suggestions in the coming weeks.

Director's Report

Check Signing and Account Access

MOTION: Uranga move with support to resolve to change signing authority to remove Mike Williams and add Christine Spitzley. Motion passed unanimously.

Alternate for WUAC

MOTION: Wozniak moved with support to appoint Clyde Dugan as the alternate Section representative to the Water Use Advisory Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Staskiewicz provided an update on a variety of AWWA activities. Highlights include:

- Christine Spitzley is doing a great job on farm bill implementation and working to find a demo project.
- The Section is undergoing an update to the strategic planning process, including an activity at the Leadership Retreat.
- Association Board is working on pros and cons of having a larger board based partially on the number of members in each Section.
- Section Services is hosting a webinar on protecting your 501(c)3 status.
- There is movement on national front on PFAS with AWWA encouraging members to contact their legislators.

- Association has had staff turn over of a couple key positions.
- The paper recently released by the Environmental Working Group highlights the broader issue of communicating with the public about the true risks of contamination in drinking water.
- The Section may need to consider our role in communicating or facilitating discussion about Legionella.
- Hispanic heritage month is Sep 15-Oct 15. AWWA has a diversity committee that highlights these types of events throughout the year. Staskiewicz asked the Board if they thought the Section needed a diversity policy and there was general support for that effort. Staskiewicz suggested that the Section's diversity committee be tasked with crafting a recommended policy.
- AWWA is hiring people to conduct trainings and Staskiewicz asked Ballard to consider using that resource.

Staskiewicz reminded the Board that he is pursuing a vice president position on the AWWA Board and reported that he made it through the first round. Then, Staskiewicz reviewed the upcoming Association events for leadership.

Executive Director's Report

Ballard reminded everyone to complete their Retention Note cards and either turn them into her or mail them out as soon as they can. She reported on an issue that arose with continuing education credit for membership. There was some discussion and it was clarified that EGLE has a policy limiting the amount of credit an operator can receive from the same source in the same renewal period.

Human Resources oversight

Ballard reported that she is working on a salary schedule by position to include in the Employee Handbook. She also discussed with the Board her efforts at team building and to empower staff to make decisions.

MOTION: Jernberg moved with support to authorize up to \$4,000 on a team building workshop for the staff. Motion approved unanimously.

Board Activities/Calendar

Fall Regional Meetings

10/22 Mt Pleasant – Wozniak to present

10/23 Gaylord – may need to replace McDonough if still on medical leave (Update: McDonough confirmed)

12/5/19 Board Meeting via GoToMeeting

Meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Secretary/Treasurer Christine Spitzley
Bonnifer Ballard, Executive Director