

Minutes
Southern Section A&WMA Conference Call
January 16, 2013

PRESENT: Dallas Baker, Arup Bandyopadhyay., Steven Burns, Andrea Gardiner, Justine Harrison, Chris Hurst, Tom Lotz, Laura James, Maya Rao, Pleas McNeel, Shelby Stringfellow, & Justice Manning

The meeting was called to order by Shelby Stringfellow at 1:06 p.m. CDT.

Consent Agenda: No changes. Approved as is (see attached).

SECRETARY'S REPORT

See Consent Agenda

TREASURER'S REPORT

Total Funds	\$17,386.40
Investment CD at First Tennessee	\$10,348.25
Available Balance	\$7,038.15

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Section

Board members did an introduction of themselves to the board for the benefit of new board members. No major updates.

AL Chapter

Steven: The Chapter Board has not had a meeting this year. The Southern Section Conference for 2014 has been discussed with respect to venue and time (Maya reminded the Chapter that a local agency meeting was planned for September 11-12, 2014). The meeting will be after Labor Day in Birmingham, or nearby. Location will be selected in the near future; a decision will be made soon. No theme has been developed. A lot of help has been given from previous conference planners.

GA Chapter

Justine: The first board meeting of the year was conducted on January 10. New committees were added: social media, outreach and filled the YP position. The main discussion was working on getting better participation from members in GA. The first brownbag of the year was held and the discussion was on the new Phase I ASTM Standards.

MS Chapter

Pleas: There has not been a board meeting yet but a meeting is planned for this month. The Chapter is working on a student chapter at Jackson State University (revived or started, depending on the charter).

E TN Chapter

No Report.

W/M TN Chapter

Arup: No board meeting has been planned yet. A December member meeting was held at Barge Waggoner Sumner and Cannon, Inc. on December 19, 2013. The speaker was Eric Flowers from TDEC. The meeting was well attended. There are plans to have chapter meetings every few months.

Education Committee

Pleas: The plan is to get the applications out early in the year (February 2014). Pleas sent out the university contact list and is asking for additional contacts. There needs to be a discussion on the number and the amount of scholarships to be awarded in 2014. Also, a schedule needs to be made. The scholarship application would be due in May.

Membership

In addition to the Consent Agenda, **Dallas Baker**, as outgoing National Membership Chair, had some contributions. A&WMA has developed a multipage guide on member benefits accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation that can be used by local units. It will be downloadable from the HQ web site. A welcome video is being prepared also. Additional emphasis will be placed on recruiting student members to form the basis for future growth of the Association. All of this is expected to help with marketing the Association.

Young Professionals

Laura: Mississippi is working on getting the YP together soon to host a meet and greet function. Laura is going to work on getting in touch with YP in other chapters.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Chapter and Section reports are due to be completed by March 1 & 15, respectively. The reports will be filed electronically again this year. An announcement that was posted on LinkedIn will be sent to the appropriate Section & Chapter people.
- b. Chris Hurst brought up the question as to the number of students needed to form a Student chapter. A couple of people assured him it was a minimum of 10, rather than 25. Justice committed to sending information to confirm that.

OLD BUSINESS

- α. Board elections were conducted and the positions filled (see Consent Agenda for detail).

The next call is **scheduled for February 13, for 1 p.m. CST (2 p.m. EST).**

The meeting was **adjourned** at approximately 2:07 p.m. CDT.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Two chapters, AL & W/M TN, have yet to submit their new slate of officers for posting on the website.
2. Any contacts for scholarship announcements need to be sent to Pleas McNeel.
3. The Section and Chapters need to begin gathering information for the 2013 Annual report. Online forms are available at <http://annualreport.wcsawma.org/>.
4. Justice to notify appropriate Section and Chapter reps about a webinar on the Annual Reports to be conducted on February 11, 2014. (DONE)
5. Justice to send the most recent information on Student chapter requirements to Chapter Chairs. GA & MS Chapters have an organizing effort underway.

January 16, 2014

Consent Agenda Southern Section AWMA

Item #1: Secretary's Report and Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the November meeting were sent for posting on January 13; they should be posted soon. Minutes of the December 12, 2013 have not been completed.

Item #2: Treasurer's Report

Total Funds	\$17,386.40
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Item #3: Committee Reports

1. [Section report by Chair]
2. [Alabama Chapter]
3. [GA Chapter report]
4. [MS Chapter report]
5. [E TN Chapter report]
6. [W/M TN Chapter report]
7. **Education/Scholarship:**
8. **Young Professional**
9. **Membership report:** The number of members at the end of December was 219, a decrease of 4 from October. Justice has written headquarters again regarding correcting a number of member reporting inconsistencies that have been existent for several months. The **Board** needs to give some attention to means to stem the continuing decline in membership in the Section. From past experience personal contact and invitation appears to be the most effective means for gaining new members.

Item #4: Old Business

- a. The Section membership approved the slate of candidates put forth by the Nominating Committee of Chris Hurst, Elizabeth Keen, and Justice Manning. As a result of a little over 10% of the membership voting, the following persons will serve the Section for the indicated time. Christopher Hurst will be Section Vice Chair for 2014; Shelley Forbes will continue as Treasurer through 2015; Maya Rao will serve as Director for MS through 2016; and Arup Bandyopadhyay will serve as Director from TN through 2016. Since the incoming Chapter Chair for MS has another position on the Board, the MS Chapter Vice Chair is eligible to serve on the Section board representing the MS Chapter (Bylaws Article VI, Section 3, last sentence). The same will be true for the M/W TN Chapter once their Chapter elections are complete.

Item #5: New Business

- a. Any?

Item #6: Next Meeting Date and Time

Next Call is to be determined by the Board during this conference call.