

Minutes
Southern Section A&WMA Conference Call
November 21, 2013

PRESENT: Julie Aslinger, Andrea Gardiner, Richard Holland, Chris Hurst, Laura James, Tom Lotz, Pleas McNeel, Joan Sasine, Larry Spann, Shelby Stringfellow, and Justice Manning

The meeting was called to order by Julie Aslinger at 1:04 p.m. CST.

Consent Agenda: No changes, except the date. Approved with date change. (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

See Consent Agenda for some important notes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Section

Justice, Christ Hurst, and Elizabeth Keene served as the nominating committee. There was a call to discuss the vacant positions: Vice Chair from GA, Treasurer, Director from MS and Director from TN. Maya Rao was nominated as the director from MS. Arup Bandyopadhyay was nominated for Director from TN. Chris Hurst was nominated for the Section Vice Chair vacancy. Shelly Forbes was nominated as Treasurer but she would be willing to relinquish if someone else is interested. Notices will be sent out to the nominees. Any additional nominees need to be sent to Justice by mid-December.

AL Chapter

Shelby: They are working on another dinner meeting. Working on financial from the air regulatory update and once they have them they can start planning additional events/scholarships. They are also working on the location and date of the next 2014 Section Meeting.

GA Chapter

Chris: There was a fall conference last month. There was a low attendance, but it was a very interesting conference. The Chapter sent out nominations for officers and there was positive response. Most of the committee and officer positions were filled. Progress seems good on re-establishing an A&WMA student chapter at GA Tech. The young professional committee has been formed. A holiday social will be held on December 12, 2013 at a new restaurant on the Atlanta Beltline. This meeting will have a speaker whose topic will be the new Atlanta Beltline.

MS Chapter

Laura: This month there was an energy luncheon with about 45 members in attendance. Coal gasification at the Kemper Plant was the topic of the meeting. There are 3 officer positions open for nomination. The YP group is looking to have a networking event in the downtown area over the holidays.

E TN Chapter

No Report. There was a discussion that the chapter could be deactivated if need be. Justice was going to review information to see what the steps for deactivation would be.

W/M TN Chapter

Julie: Arup discussed with Julie what position will need to filled and what nominations need to be made. There are plans to have a meeting in mid-December at Barge Waggoner Sumner and Cannon. Eric Flowers from the State Dept. of Environment & Conservation will be the speaker.

Education Committee

Pleas: There was a Jackson State University meeting with faculty and students concerning reforming a Student Chapter. This meeting occurred during the Chapter meeting on the Kemper coal gasification project. 2 students were very interested in starting a student chapter. The students went to meet with DEQ to work on applying to the EPA storm water contact. There was discussion on how to reapply for the chapter's charter. The students will update the bylaws. The MS chapter will subsidize the students' membership dues for the year to get the chapter going.

Andrea: At this time there is limited desire to start a student chapter at Vanderbilt, but hopefully it will occur in the future.

Membership

(see Consent agenda) We need more members to keep the Section going as a viable entity.

Young Professionals

Networking events appear popular among YPs. Most effort has centered around students at this stage. Laura to send GA a list of Young Professionals who are members of the Section.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Justice will contact the nominees of the board positions. He will also ask for bios of the nominees.

OLD BUSINESS

- α. No call has been set for passing of information between the Alabama and W/M TN meeting. Julie is working on setting up a call, which has interest from several people other than the Board. Justice recommended that the next board meeting call would be a good time for this call. Once Julie determines the number of lines, an invitation will be issued.
- β. The bylaws were approved by approximately 10% of the Southern Section members and have been posted on the Section webpage, <http://www.ss-awma.org/documents/Approved%20Bylaws.doc>.

The next call is **scheduled for December 12, 2013 for 1 p.m. CST (2 p.m. EST).**

The meeting was **adjourned** at approximately 2:01 p.m. CST.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Justice to send an invitation to Southern Section members to submit other nominees for positions becoming vacant next year. A ballot will be prepared and mailed by mid-December. Also, candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee will be contacted for their bios to be included on the ballot.
2. The Alabama Chapter needs to decide on the venue and date for next year's Annual Technical Meeting.
3. Justice to obtain Student Chapter information from HQ and send to Chris and Pleas. (DONE!)
4. Pleas, and others, to continue working with students at Jackson State University to reactivate that Student Chapter.
5. Chris, and others, to continue with activities at GA Tech to reactivate that Student Chapter.
6. Laura to send a list of Section YPs to Chris Hurst.
7. The W/M TN Chapter (Laura, Arup, and Eric) to decide on date for their December meeting.
8. Julie to send meeting notification for next call. Plan to discuss lessons learned from hosting the annual meeting. Plan to include others involved with planning that are not currently on the Board.

November 21, 2013

Consent Agenda Southern Section AWMA

Item #1: Secretary's Report and Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the October meeting were sent for posting on October 30, after no comments were received from Board members. They have been posted.

Item #2: Treasurer's Report

Total Funds	\$17,386.40
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Available Balance	\$7,038.15

Justice asked that I mention the status of the following:

- 1) Tom has not cashed ET Chapter checks.
- 2) I have not received any 2013 funds from HQ. The last check was in April for last half of 2012.
Note: Funds from first half of 2012 were not received until Feb 2013.
- 3) Need to file IRS forms....tax exempt status expired. I need to look into what needs to be done as soon as I make the time.

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 September was 223, an **increase** of 1 from September. 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 appears to be the most effective means.

Item #4: Old Business

- b. The Section membership approved the revised bylaws by the announced deadline of October 28. Twenty one members took the time to vote for approving the bylaws; no negative votes were received. The effective date for the revised bylaws is October 28, 2013. Now Justice must forward these to HQ and post them on the Section web site.

Item #5: New Business

- a. Any?

Item #6: Next Meeting Date and Time

Next Call is scheduled December 12 at 1:00 p.m. CST (2 p.m. EST).