

Minutes
Southern Section A&WMA Conference Call
September 10, 2015

PRESENT: Haleigh Barlar, Andrea Gardiner, Laura James, Pleas McNeel, Maya Rao, Joan Sasine, Justice Manning

The meeting was called to order by Maya Rao at 1:04 p.m. EDT.

Consent Agenda: No changes. It was approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Total Funds	\$19,582.30
Investment CD at First Tennessee	\$10,368.96
Available Balance	\$9,213.34

Scholarship awards and student travel expenses of \$3,540.51 have been deducted since the August call.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Section

No report.

AL Chapter

Haley: A newsletter was sent out in August. The Barons Baseball dinner meeting was held on August 26, 2015. The regulatory update is schedule for September 24, 2015 in Montgomery. Cost will be \$175 for non-members and \$150 for members. Five student members from the University of Alabama will be able to attend Smoke School for free as arranged by Kyle Flowers of ADEM. There are plans to start another student chapter next year (school to be determined – potentially the University of South Alabama). Two undergraduate scholarships were given away this year by the Chapter.

GA Chapter

Joan: The Chapter has a board meeting planned for 9/18/15. A brown bag meeting will be held after the board meeting. The speaker is from GA World Congress Center and the topic will be on sustainability at the new Falcon’s stadium. The nominating committee has compiled a slate of candidates for Vice-Chair, 2 Directors and a Secretary for the Chapter.

MS Chapter

Laura: There is a brewery tour planned for this month. A webinar presentation on condensable particulates PM 2.5 (was first prepared in May) from A&WMA will be held on 9/17/15 and it will be shown at DEQ. A DEQ regulator will attend to answer questions after the presentation. DEQ and Chapter members can attend for free while non-members will have a reasonable fee. Also, the first newsletter was sent out last month. Two scholarships were given out. One winner, Edith Martinez, attended the Southern Section Annual Meeting where she presented a summary of her research.

E TN Chapter

No report.

W/M TN Chapter

No report.

Education Committee

Pleas: There are plans to provide information on scholarship winners for the next newsletter. Both Section winners presented at the Southern Section Annual Meeting as did the MS Chapter winner (see above). Pleas asked if other persons could provide additional information for the Chapter level winners.

Young Professionals

Laura: GA had a large group of Young Professionals attend the Southern Section Conference where a hike around Callaway Gardens was planned between the showers. Plans are to get the MS YPs engaged next year at the Conference.

Membership

Justice: see Consent Agenda for the latest.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Elections:** A&WMA Board of Directors positions are open as is the Section and Chapters Council Vice Chair position. Every member of A&WMA is eligible to vote for candidates for the Board. Each local unit that has filed an Annual report for 2014 is eligible to cast one vote for the S&CC Vice Chair. The Southern Section is fortunate to have a candidate for both the Board (Maya Rao) and the S&CC (Chris Hurst). Please be sure to vote.
- b. **Justice's Resignation:** Justice has submitted his resignation effective December 31, 2015. As part of this he has provided a few names of persons who might be interested in providing support to the Section.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Annual meeting debriefing:** The room quota for the hotel was met easily. The hotel was expensive and the food cost was difficult to predict. It is hard to figure out the number of people that need food. There were issues about how to charge presenters. Justice commented that the first four presenters were some of the best he had ever heard in successive plenary presentations.

The tours were also very good. There was good connection between the student members at the conference. The students were also very appreciative of the opportunity to attend the conference and have the Section/Chapters provide financial assistance. There were issues with the amount of information for the final day and it will be important to figure out how to give the regulators enough time to give their presentations next year. Maya, Chris, and Justice got information that the presentations from the Conference will be posted soon on the web site, www.awma-ss2015conference.com. Also, Maya is looking into seeing if the website can be maintained for future conferences. The next Southern Section Annual Meeting will be 9/20-9/23/2016 in Biloxi, MS

- b. **Tax Exempt Status:** MS is working on getting the Tax Exempt status established for next year's Annual Meeting. There were some issues with GA's tax exempt status and that the hotel would not accept it. That may be due to fact that the notification of the status from the IRS was delayed until after the bill had been paid.

The **next meeting** is scheduled **October 8, 2015 at 2 pm (EDT)**.

The meeting was **adjourned** at approximately 2:43 p.m. EDT.

Action Items:

1. Maya will contact Chris about setting up a committee to look for a replacement for Justice.
2. Pleas will provide information on the Section scholarship winners to Justice for the next issue of the newsletter. Chapters who awarded scholarships are requested to do the same so that we can recognize all scholarship winners.
3. AL, MS, & W/M TN are requested to vote for Vice-Chair of the Sections and Chapters Council (one vote for each Chapter; the Section & GA have already cast their ballots).

September 10, 2015

Consent Agenda
Southern Section AWMA

Item #1: Secretary's Report and Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the August Meeting at Callaway Gardens after the Annual Conference were sent to the web master on September 4 for posting.

Item #2: Treasurer's Report

Total Funds	19,582.30
Investment CD at First Tennessee	\$10,368.96
Available Balance	9,213.34

Item #3: Committee Reports

- a. [Section report by Chair]
- b. [Alabama Chapter]
- c. [GA Chapter report]
- d. [MS Chapter report]
- e. [E TN Chapter report]
- f. [W/M TN Chapter report]
- g. **Education/Scholarship:**
- h. **Young Professional:**
- i. **Membership report:** The number of members at the end of August was 258, an increase of 8 during August. However, the data downloaded from the HQ web site

continue to contain anomalies and no logical explanation seems to be available as to why member data seems so difficult to track. For example, 20 members had their membership lapse in August, none of whom show a renewal by September 8 at the time of roster download; we had only 6 new members, with 8 renewals. Why membership increased with so many lapses and a less number of new and joiners is not readily evident.

Item #4: Old Business

- a. The GA Chapter will provide will provide a debriefing on the **Annual Meeting** held in Callaway Gardens August 19-21. About 150 persons attended.
- b. **Tax Exempt Status:** On September 2, Shelley received an August 28 notice from the IRS that the Section is again a 501(c)(3) tax exempt Corporation. All chapters also should incorporate within their state if they have not already done so to be eligible for tax exempt status, which generally is not allowed if a nonprofit is not incorporated. Filing for incorporation is rather painless but a fee is associated with the incorporation. TN is the most expensive.

Item #5: New Business

- a. **Elections:** A&WMA Board of Directors positions are open as is the Section and Chapters Council Vice Chair position. Every member of A&WMA is eligible to vote for candidates for the Board. Each local unit that has filed an Annual report for 2014 is eligible to cast one vote for the S&CC Vice Chair. The Southern Section is fortunate to have a candidate for both the Board and the S&CC. Please be sure to vote.
- b. Justice's Resignation: Justice has submitted his resignation effective December 31, 2015. As part of this he has provided a few names of persons who might be interested in providing support to the Section.
- c. Other?

Item #6: Next Meeting Date and Time

The next Board meeting will be a conference call on **October 8, 2015** at 2 p.m. EDT (1 p.m. CDT).