

MISSOURI WATER and WASTEWATER CONFERENCE  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
November 7, 2006

Chair Gene Thurman called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held at the office of the Missouri Water and Wastewater Conference Training Center in Jefferson City. Present at the meeting were Chris Klusmeyer, Rob Trivette, Don Rea, Ken Hogan, Jim Hopkins, Tena Hale-Rush, John Betz, Lori Cook, and Sandi Miller.

Gene Thurman asked if everyone had read the minutes of the Fall Board meeting and if there were a motion to waive the reading of the minutes. Don Rea made a motion to do so. The motion was seconded and approved. The minutes were accepted as submitted.

Sandi Miller gave a report on the September 12 – 14, 2006 Annual Meeting at the Holiday Inn in Columbia. Income for the Conference was \$78,458.80. Expenses were \$37,852.81. Net income for the three-day meeting was \$40,605.99. Registration for the meeting was 419. The Board wanted to pass along its appreciation for the excellent support of the Annual Conference breaks. Mississippi Lime Company, Aqua Missouri, Douglas Pump Service, and R. H. Tauser donated \$1,126.80 to help sponsor the breaks. The six sections donated a total of \$2,900. Chair Gene Thurman brought to the attention of the Board the success of all the meal functions. The annual banquet and the awards luncheon were the largest in the Conference's history. The Wednesday night banquet had a total of 160, the awards luncheon the next day totaled 137. There was a consensus by Board members that the 2006 meeting was successful.

Jim Hopkins of Ressler and Associates gave a report on the exhibits. Jim said that he thought the Board had discovered the best "set up" for the exhibit hall and that a majority of the exhibitors were pleased with it. He suggested that the Board go with the same room set up for next year and work to refine it.

Sandi Miller asked about the possibility in the future of holding the Higgins Breakfast in the exhibit hall along with the exhibitors' breakfast. Ken Hogan and Rob Trivette responded by saying that the Breakfast was a special way of honoring retirees and the current Board members for their hard work and dedication and thought that the Conference should continue to host a separate breakfast from the event in the exhibit hall. A majority of the Board agreed. Chris Klusmeyer and Gene Thurman thought we needed to have someone give a brief welcoming presentation at the breakfast each year. Rob Trivette agreed and said we should have an agenda.

Gene Thurman and the Board discussed future Conference contracts with hotels. Because the 2008 meeting is being held at a new location, The Lodge of the Four

Seasons, Jim Hopkins thought some of the Board should travel there this spring to look at the set up for the exhibits and the technical sessions. The Board agreed.

The Board discussed possible reasons for the increased attendance at the meal functions this year. Sandi Miller thought the cost of the meals being included in the registration might be an explanation.

Chris Klusmeyer reported that he was already making preliminary preparations for the 2007 technical program. John Betz said that he wanted to continue being responsible for the Wednesday afternoon "Operators Workshop" session for water operators. He made a suggestion that the Board talk to Tom O'Connor about handling the wastewater session.

Rob Trivette said that he wanted to pass along his and the Board's thanks to Ron Betz, Todd Baslee and other city of Boonville employees for handling the annual meeting's audio-visual needs. He said that he wasn't aware of a single a/v problem during the three-day meeting. The Board expressed its thanks to Ron, Todd and the city of Boonville for their help.

Sandi Miller said the silent auction was a great success. It was very popular with the members and there were a huge number of items that had been contributed during the meeting. A total of \$900 was collected. Tina Hale-Rush said that one of the Columbia employees was an auctioneer and she thought having a live auction, as opposed to a silent one, might prove to be a big draw. The Board said that it would investigate the possibility of this.

Jim Hopkins said he thought the annual social hour had been a real success. He reminded the Board that they might want to ask for exhibitor donations several times to ensure that a large number are helping to sponsor the event. He also thought the Board should do a little more to recognize the exhibitors who help sponsor the social hour: he suggested more signs.

Chairman Thurman said he thought we needed a sub committee to look into the ideas for improving the silent auction and the social hour. He appointed Rob Trivette and Donnie Parsons to look into the possibility of holding a live auction the night of the social hour.

Recording Secretary John Betz gave the financial and membership report. Income as of the end of September 2006 was \$187,268.85. Expenses were \$171,025.69. Net income totaled: 15,643.16. In the reserve fund account was \$12,402.80. Membership on September 30 totaled 2,224.

Chairman Thurman asked if there were any old business that needed to be dealt with. There being none, he asked if there were any new business. Sandi Miller and John Betz

gave a report on their thoughts about the long-term financial condition of the MWWC. Both of them talked to the Board about rising operation expenses and the need to pursue grant money in the years to come. John Betz expressed his concerns about holding on to a professional office staff without the ability to compensate them properly and also offer a degree of security that is usually offered by a good employer. The Board discussed the dues structure, which has not been raised in a number of years. The Board thought an increase of \$10 in the membership fees was a reasonable idea and would greatly help to provide some financial security to the operation. A motion was made by Don Rea to increase the membership fees from \$20 to \$30 in 2008. The motion was seconded and approved.

The next Board meeting was set for March 14, 2007.

Chris Klusmeyer made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved.