

**KsAWWA Board of Trustees Meeting
 May 18, 2018
 10:00 a.m.
 McPherson Board of Municipal Utilities
 McPherson, KS**

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Martha Tasker** at 10:05 a.m.

<u>Roll Call</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Chair	Martha Tasker	
Past Chair	Lester Estelle	
Director	Mike Orth	(By phone)
Director-elect	Steve Randtke	
Vice Chair	Phillip Cooper	
Vice Chair-elect	Andrew Hansen	(By phone)
2 nd Yr. Trustee		Michelle Wirth
2 nd Yr. Trustee		Mike Rudy
2 nd Yr. Trustee	Durward Johnson	(By phone)
1 st Yr. Trustee	Jim Jackson	
1 st Yr. Trustee	Kurt Bookout	
1 st Yr. Trustee	Katie Miller	(By phone)
Secretary/Treasurer	Terryl Pajor	
Section Manager	Hank Corcoran Boyer	

Committee Chairs and visitors present were John Gilroy, Research Committee; Darci Meese, Water Utility Council; Jim Brummer, WARN; Jessica Adams-Weber, Membership Committee; Denise Friday, Diversity Committee; and Brad Ebinger, OTC Committee.

Hank Corcoran Boyer, Section Manager presented the minutes from the March 9, 2018 meeting. **1st Yr. Trustee Jim Jackson** moved the minutes be approved as printed. **Director Elect Steve Randtke** seconded. Motion carried.

Secretary/Treasurer Terryl Pajor presented the treasurer's report. As of May 18, 2018 the assets were as follows: Intrust Bank Account \$79,895.67 and Intrust CD 006 \$31,807.98; and Intrust CD 004 \$36,910.17 for total assets of \$148,613.82. The treasurer's report was accepted and filed for audit.

Director Mike Orth reported the pre-registration for ACE18 was strong. He indicated there was excitement of new memberships to AWWA. He said an ad hoc committee had been formed to streamline the AWWA Board membership. He indicated the AWWA Board was looking to make some smaller changes in the future but nothing major at this time.

Chair Martha Tasker said most of her items would be in future agenda discussions but she wanted to have the Mentors reach out to their Mentees. There was no activity or submission of applications for people to become Mentees in the future so she was suggesting that maybe the current ones would carry over another year.

Section Manager Corcoran Boyer reported she had been working on a number of items including getting the joint conference program finalized; redesigning the exhibitor space/layout because of the joint lunch at the

joint conference; was getting ready to send out presenter confirmations for the joint conference; working on sponsorship opportunities for exhibitors/consultants for the joint conference and asked for suggestions; had purchased a pair of Fitbit headphones for the ACE18 Wheel of Fortune; worked with the AV people for the joint conference to keep the costs to a minimum but they would be higher this year because of the space and configuration of the Topeka Capitol Plaza/Expo Center; worked on and submitted articles for Solution H2O. She also brought everyone up to date on the possible strike of the Hospitality workers in Las Vegas during ACE18. She said AWWA had assured her things would be worked out and everything would go as planned. She also presented the menu for the Kansas Lunch at ACE18.

Vice Chair Phillip Cooper reported the joint conference was moving forward; the program had been completed and all the tracks were full. He said they were currently taking registrations for Moderators and the Hydrant Hysteria would be a contest this year with the winners attending ACE19 to compete against the rest of the AWWA Hydrant Hysteria Section winners.

Committee Reports:

Darci Meese, Water Utility Council sent the following report regarding the 2018 Fly-In.

On April 18th and 19th, the American Water Works Association held its annual Water Matters Fly-In event in Washington D.C. This event is an opportunity for water industry professionals from across the nation to convene and “storm the Hill” to discuss issues with their State’s Congressional delegation. This was the second year of coordination of the AWWA Fly-In with several other water related organizations as part of “Water Week” in D.C. 48 States were represented in the AWWA Fly-In this year, with 160 individuals representing each of those States. On behalf of Kansas AWWA, Darci Meese (WaterOne), Andrew Hansen (Black & Veatch), Ellen Parker (WaterOne), and Julie Stroud (KsAWWA Young Professionals) represented.

The event kicked off on Wednesday morning with a briefing on the issues and question and answer session in preparation for travelling to Capitol Hill to begin meeting with Congressional Delegates. The member meetings can be intimidating and the AWWA Government Affairs group does an excellent job of preparing the State representatives for the experience. The issues for discussion this year were as follows:

- *Support for reauthorization of the Water Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act (WIFIA)—requesting a boost of funding for the program from the \$63 Million that was allocated in FY 2018.*
 - *Support for doubling the appropriations for the drinking water state revolving loan fund to \$1.7 billion.*
- Over the course of the two-day event, the Kansas group had the opportunity to meet with 5 out of 6 offices: Senator Pat Roberts; Senator Jerry Moran; Congressman Kevin Yoder; Congressman Roger Marshall, and; Congressman Ron Estes. The Kansas Delegation is a key group to reach during the Fly In event as Roberts holds the position of Chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee and Marshall serves on the House Agriculture Committee. Moran and Yoder serve on the Senate and House Appropriations Committees, respectively. Our meetings were productive and the support we were seeking seemed very well received.*

Research Committee John Gilroy reported he had met with KDHE and Cathy Tucker-Vogel regarding the lead and copper rule. He expressed KsAWWA had the opportunity to draft a letter expressing concerns with long term intent of this program and give comments on the materials. It was decided John would draft the letter, have the Research Committee look it over, ask Darci Meese to review and then send it to the Board for approval. He indicated he would have the draft letter available before ACE18.

Scholarship Committee Andrew Hansen reported the Scholarship committee had reached out to different people to drum up interest in the scholarships available through KsAWWA. There was

discussion regarding eligibility of an applicant and whether an applicant could receive the scholarship in more than one year? Based on previous practice this was deemed a “yes.” Tuition also need to be clarified – **Director-elect Steve Randtke** made a motion that Item E be deleted. Item E states that “An applicant receiving financial aid from the applicant’s employer which constitutes more than 50 percent of the applicant’s annual costs for tuition and fees is not eligible for scholarship aid from the TLMSF of the KsAWWA.” This requirement likely discourages applications from highly qualified full-time students because those employed as graduate research or teaching assistants may believe they are ineligible because their employer, a university, is paying for some or all of their tuition. Historically, this requirement was interpreted to apply to only to part-time students whose full-time employer was already paying their tuition, and whose living expenses were covered by their salary. Full-time students may be receiving tuition assistance, but some are also taking out large loans to cover their living expenses and could use additional financial assistance. **Secretary-Treasurer Terry Pajor** seconded. Motion carried.

Jim Brummer Warn committee reported he had attended the National WARN Chair meeting in Houston, Texas and represented the Kansas Section. At this meeting there was a lot of discussion concerning the hurricanes in Texas, Florida and Georgia. Nine communities responded through KSMAP to help Orlando, Florida.

EPA is wanting to set up a Region 7 workshop in the Kansas City area with a goal of figuring out how to provide aid across state lines.

He also said EPA will release a new WARN video in 2018 that is expected to address and debunk WARN “myths.”

Brad Ebinger reported for **OTC** who held their meeting on May 9. The NE subcommittee is working with Fred Jones in Garden City on putting together an advanced operator workshop in September. The SC subcommittee is working with Jim Jackson on training in the SC area and the NE subcommittee had recently completed at workshop at WaterOne with 33 attendees.

He also reported they had worked on getting the OTC portion of the joint conference organized and obtaining speakers and moderators.

Jessica Adams-Weber, Membership committee reported she had been involved in several membership engagements and attended workshops to encourage operators to become involved in AWWA membership. She indicated next year she was going to achieve a higher goal of new memberships.

She had been visiting with Andy Chase, AWWA who is interested in getting utilities to become AWWA members and those he is targeting are Salina, Manhattan, and Wichita. She also addressed the AWWA program of recruiting veterans into the water sector.

Diversity Committee Denise Friday reported her committee had been busy and had also been meeting – they are looking for different opportunities to expose themselves and AWWA to the community. They had recently participated in the Tower 2 Tower 5K and H2O poster contest.

She reported Martha Silks was looking to do a workshop in the Kansas City area on Women in Water.

Tonya Bronleewe reported the **Customer Relations Committee** had developed a newsletter article and also social media posts for Drinking Water week. While the social media posts didn’t go viral as they had hoped

there some great posts by KsAWWA and Michaela Rempkowski and the messages and graphics are up and available to used, shared in the future.

Old Business:

There were sharing's from those who had attended the recent RMSO meeting in Charleston, SC. Some of the information from the meeting included personal connections should be a part of who we are as a section and what we offer members; need to establish specific goals for chair of each committee and work with them to be successful; develop your elevator speech to promote KsAWWA and then use it frequently; Florida schools are getting participation with the school districts to put a water curriculum in the high schools; how can the Section engage with the RCCP projects; and finally KsAWWA should be a technical resource for water issues and topics for both legislature and regulators at the state level.

New Business:

Several people indicated they were interested in the Summer Workshop in Denver. People would need to look at their schedules and see who was available to go.

1st Yr. Trustee Jim Jackson made a motion to adjourn. **Past Chair Lester Estelle** seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Hank Corcoran Boyer
Section Manager