

NEWARN Board of Directors Meeting, August 19,2014 @ Aurora City Hall, Aurora,Ne.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Eric Melcher at 10:10 am. Board Members present were Eric Melcher, Bob Smith, Dennis Watts, Doug Pollack, Jim Green and Ken Swanson. Advisory Committee Members present were Richard Koenig and Rob Pierce.

Chairman Melcher presented the agenda and asked for a motion to approve it. Dennis W. made a motion to adopt the agenda and Bob Smith 2nd, motion carried.

Chairman Melcher then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on May 6th. Bob S. made the motion to approve the minutes and Doug P. 2nd, motion carried.

Next the Treasurer's report was discussed. Treasurer Cope Clark was unable to be at the meeting but Dennis W. made the comment that as far as he knew there was no activity since the last meeting and the balance should be the same, \$1645.75. Dennis W. made a motion to accept this report and Jim G. 2nd, motion carried. Chairman Melcher then wanted to clarify that the transition from retired Chuck Schmid to Cope Clark as treasurer was going ok and we didn't need to make any alterations on how account activity is handled. Rob Pierce called his office at the League to verify how deposits and how payments are taken care of. The League takes care of handling the account and we send invoices for payment once approved by the Board, Deposits and Donations to Shirley at their office. After either Eric Melcher or Cope Clark authorize payment of bills she will then pay them and keep track of current balances.

Discussion on the newsletter was brought up next. Kristin had sent a sample copy to review and make any changes. It was decided to remove the Humphrey article and add articles on the Wayne and Pilger tornados and some information on the preparation that was made for the flooding in Western Nebraska along the Platte River last year due to heavy rainfall in Colorado. The date for getting the newsletter out has been delayed until the 1st of November so there is time to get articles about Pilger and Wayne put together. Dennis was going to get the information about the Wayne tornado, Rich was going to do the Pilger tornado and Rich was going to talk to Tony Martinez about supplying information about the Western Nebraska flooding. Dennis was going to check on prices to get 300 to 500 copies printed so they could be handed out at the AWWA Convention in November and see if it is possible to do a mass e-mail of the news letter to all of the NEWARN Members. Rich gave a report about events from the Pilger tornado. He has found a You Tube video of the event that he is going to use for some of his seminars dealing with disasters. Eric asked if it would be possible to get permission to post this video on our website. Rich said he would see if that could be obtained or not. He also was going to have discussion with Jack Daniels and Doug Woodbeck about when towns are going thru their sanitary surveys the question will be asked if they are a member of NEWARN. If not on the recommendation comment sheet DHHS would strongly recommend that the town become NEWARN Members.

Dennis W. then gave an update on the web-site. From 1/1/14 to 8/16/14 there were 380 hits on the web-site averaging 2 minutes and 47 seconds in length. Since 6/1/14 there has been 132 hits averaging 49 seconds. The corrections to which field area some towns are in has been corrected but he asked for board members to check them out to make sure they are now correct. Rick asked that any time assistance is given to other communities to make sure it is documented on the non-emergency tab on the website so we can establish a history of the NEWARN emergency activities..

Eric then asked for suggestions or assistance for power point presentations for the AWWA conference this fall. Rich said that he would help put one together highlighting the Wayne and Pilger disasters, the Western Nebraska and the Missouri River flooding and what is involved in the process of handling and managing disasters when they

occur and the importance of being prepared. Dennis offered to work on the Wayne tornado event. He asked for pictures of any events or assistance that is being provided by NEWARN members and to send them to him or Rich.

Dennis then gave an update on current member communities. There are now 173 members

Discussion was then held on how to get members who haven't ever logged into the website to use it, enter their resources and update their contact information if it is outdated. Dennis suggested that everyone contact the member communities near them and discuss this with them.

NEWARN Emergency Assistance Awards were discussed next. A committee of Rick, Dennis, Doug and Cope was formed to set up criteria for who should receive these awards and a list of nominees and report back to the rest of the board at the next meeting.

The link to the web-site for chemical spill guidance for chemical leaks and spills that may affect Public Utilities was tabled until next meeting.

Drought assistance from WARN was also tabled.

Eric indicated there had been a nomination to appoint Tom Menke to the NEWARN Board of Directors, with that said, asked if there was a motion to appoint Tom Menke from Chadron to fill the unexpired vacancy of Allen Boyd. Dennis W. made a motion to appoint Tom Menke to fill this position. Bob S. 2nd motion carried.

Eric asked for the Board's thoughts on filling the last vacant position available on the Board. If anyone knew of someone who would be interested let him know.

It was suggested and may be included on the agendas in the future to remind the board members who can't make it to the meetings they can still participate via conference calling. This may help in meeting the requirements for obtaining a quorum .

The next meeting was scheduled for October 29, 2014 at 10:00 am in Aurora.

Motion was made by Jim G. to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Ken S. motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Ken Swanson NEWARN Secretary