

NeWARN STEERING COMMITTEE/NeWARN BOARD

March 22, 2011

New World Inn

265 33rd Avenue, Columbus, Nebraska

1. Rick Melcher, Chairman called meeting to order at 1:02 PM. Welcome to those in attendance. NeWARN Board of Directors members present were Dennis Watts, Chuck Schmid, Doug Pollack, Don Christen, Bob Smith, Cope Clark and Jim Green. Advisory committee members present, Kristin Luebbe – DHHS, Richard Koenig – DHHS, Harold Reynolds – MAP, Rob Pierce – LNM, Barney Whatley - NeRWA and Johnny Thorton - NeRWA. Other attendees Dave Siegel – Village of Litchfield PWS and– City of Pierce PWS.
2. **Adopt Agenda** – Motion by Don Christen, second by Chuck Schmid to adopt the agenda as presented. All aye, motion carried.
3. **Approve Board of Directors December 10, 2010 Meeting Minutes** – Motion by Chuck Schmid to approve the December 10, 2010 meeting minutes, second by Dennis Watts. All aye, motion carried.
4. **Treasurers Report** – Chuck Schmid reported all bills paid and the balance is \$1,800. Motion by Don Christen to accept the treasures report, second by Doug Pollack. All aye, motion carried.
5. **Bills** – All bills have been paid.
6. **Newsletter** – Discussion held concerning publishing a newsletter. Discussions had been held during previous meetings, but project had not gotten off the ground. Board determined that an annual news letter was needed and would be one page front and back in length. Content would cover new memberships, success stories, the latest information about the organization and the website. Also, discussion was held to determine if newsletter would be mailed or e-mailed to the municipalities. Consensus was to mail the first newsletter and e-mail future newsletters, plus post on the NEWARN website.

Volunteers for the Newsletter Committee were solicited. Members of the Committee are Dennis Watts, Rick Melcher, Kris Luebbe, Cope Clark and Don Christen.
7. **Web-Site** – Dennis Watts reported that the site had 385 hits from January 1, 2011 to March 22, 2011 or 4.2 visits a day. There has been an addition to website water category. Municipalities have the ability to indicate the pipe sizes they have.
8. **AWWA Budget** – discussions for 2012 budget were discussed. It was determined that liability insurance for Board Members was not necessary, thus reducing amount needed. AWWA has included in their budget \$750.00 for NEWARN. Also, NWEA has indicated they may match AWWA funding.
9. **Title 19 Grant Opportunities** – Dennis Watts reported that NEWARN did not fit the requirements for the Title 19 Grant
10. **Sponsor Update** – discussion held on sponsorship drive. There are only two sponsors to date. More sponsors are needed, as they assist NEWARN in meeting the organization budget requirements. Board chairman will update the list of sponsor contacts and board member responsible for making contact.
11. **New Member Communities** – There are 155 NeWARN communities. The Villages of Coolridge and Wassau will be joining.
12. **Liability Insurance Coverage** – liability insurance coverage for Board members was discussed. The Board of Directors determined insurance coverage was not need at the present time. However, topic could be reviewed at a later date.
13. **NEWARN Presentation** – Board Chairman and Vice Chairman will make a presentation at 2:00PM.
14. **Training Workshops** – Chairman Melcher will contact Kevin Marley with National WARN to see

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if he would be available to give a presentation on WARN at the NeRWA Western Conference and at the League of Municipalities Conference in January 2012 is space is available.

Small Water System training will be held in Aurora in the future. The topic will be Confined Space and Trenching. A pitch for NEWARN will be made. Board Chairman requested volunteers for a 1 hour NEWARN presentation. Jim Green, Rick Melcher, Dennis Watts and Harold Reynolds volunteered to make presentation.

15. **2011 NEWARN Board of Directors Election** – Board Chairman presented nominations for Board of Directors, received from member communities. Nominees were Monte Moss – Wood River PWS; Allen (Scott) Boyd – David City PWS and Cope Clark – Pierce PWS. Chairman reminded board members that the Board of Directors has two vacancies and to vote for two nominees.
16. **2011 NEWARN Board of Directors Election** – Tabulation of board and member community votes conducted. Allen (Scott) Boyd – David City PWS and Cope Clark – Pierce PWS elected to NEWARN Board of Directors.
17. **Election of Board Director Officers** – Don Christen made a motion to elect Cop Clark as secretary and retain Rick Melcher as Chairman, Dennis Watts as Vice Chairman, and Chuck Schmid as Treasurer. Jim Green seconded the motion. All aye, motion carried.
18. **Next Meeting Date & Location** – Next meeting set for 10:00AM, Tuesday, July 19, 2011, Grand Island City Hall.
19. **Miscellaneous:** There were no miscellaneous topics of discussion.
20. **Adjournment** - Motion by Chuck Schmid, second by Jim Green to adjourn at 2:06PM. All Aye, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Green
Secretary, NeWARN Board of Directors