

## **NeWARN MEETING MINUTES from Thursday, November 8,2012**

The NeWARN meeting was held November 8,2012 during the AWWA Fall Convention in the Younes Conference Center in Kearney.

Board Members present were Eric Melcher, Dennis Watts, Bob Smith, Doug Pollack, Ken Swanson and Cope Clark via phone. Advisory Committee Members present were Harold Reynolds and Kristin Luebbe.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rick Melcher.

Motion was made by Dennis Watts to approve the meeting's agenda and the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Smith. Motion carried.

Next the chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous June 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. Bob Smith made this motion and it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug Pollack. Motion carried.

Treasurer Chuck Schmid was unable to attend the meeting Dennis Watts gave an update on the Treasurer's report stating that the current fund should be still right at the 2000 dollar figure. With there being no bills submitted since last meeting. Dennis reported that \$300 would be due to B-Pro in January of 2013 per our 3 year contract with them. Also two bills from the workshop August 21 in Norfolk that NeWARN co-sponsored with the EPA were presented. The first bill for \$129.56 was to reimburse Dennis Watts for a bill at a pre-workshop dinner meeting at Prengers and the second bill was \$221.15 to Affiliated Foods for approximately ¼ of the cost of the meal and breaks at the workshop. A motion was made by Cope Clark to pay B-Pro \$300 for the 2013 year part of our contract. Dennis Watts 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, motion carried. Then Bob Smith made the motion to pay the two bills presented for the Norfolk Workshop. Doug Pollack 2<sup>nd</sup> and the motion carried.

Next the news letter was discussed. No events had been reported as of yet. Rick wanted to know if we all had received the request for generators back east in areas that had been hit by hurricane Sandy. Everyone except Harold Reynolds said that they had received the e-mail. Rick thought it would be good to mention this generator request and also the positive comments on the Norfolk Disaster Workshop in the news letter. The general consensus was that it would be good to encourage everyone to report requests for assistance so they can be included in our news letter. That way everyone could see that WARN is working and helping to fill the needs of requesting communities. Report these requests to Allen Boyd or Ken Swanson on the news letter committee or any board member and they can forward it on to the committee.

Dennis gave a report on the website. So far this year there has been 174 visits on the website. Discussion was held on a few items that need to be addressed on the website. Some of the members showing up listed in the wrong field area as one and resources listed as another. Another item felt necessary to be added to the website was the emergency request tab to add a request for a non-emergency assistance tab that members could use if they need to request a part or piece of equipment etc. in a non-emergency situation. Dennis was going to check with B-Pro to see if we could get these changes and updates made. Also discussed was possibly listing generator suppliers on the website. It

was felt that it would be ok to list them if they wanted to pay a sponsorship fee to us and then we would list them as an associate member and they would receive emergency requests on the website as long as they kept their sponsorship current or they would be deleted from the list if they gave their sponsorship up at the end of it's term. Cope Clark made a motion to make sponsors associate members and be able to receive emergency postings on the website as long as they keep their sponsorship current. Dennis Watts 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and the motion carried.

Next the Utility Conference's presentation in January 2013 was discussed. Rick asked for any possible help from the board or advisory committee and Kris Luebbe and Harold Reynolds volunteered to help if needed. It was discussed on possible new ways to make this presentation. A round table or panel discussion was brought up as one alternative and maybe getting representatives of systems that have had emergency help give a presentation to relate how the events of their situation transpired. Then discussion could be held on how if any things could have been done differently to improve the process for other systems in the future. Rick was going to contact Rob Pierce so we have an available spot in their schedule to hold a WARN presentation at the Utility and Clerks Conference in January.

Dennis reported that there are now 162 member communities.

Discussion on a review of Board member terms was tabled until the next meeting.

The next board meeting will be held during the Utility Conference in Lincoln in January of 2013. The exact date and time will be announced later.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dennis Watts and Bob Smith 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Ken Swanson