



**WisWARN COMMITTEE MEETING
TELECONFERENCE
MARCH 6, 2008**

1) Introductions and Roll Call

Members present: Tom Foltz, Deb Geier, Dale Hexom, Dan Lynch, John MacKinnon (joined late), Linda Mohr, Gabrielle Peterson, Julia Riley, Ed St. Peter. Excused: Kevin Freber, Kim Halverson, Dave Lawrence, Carrie Lewis, Dan Winkler. Others present: Lawrie Kobza.

2) Approval of Minutes from December 5, 2007

Minutes from December had been approved at a prior meeting. No action taken.

3) Discussion on Vice Chair Vacancy (Dan Lynch)

Nancy Quirk resigned from the committee, as she had been elected as a Senior Trustee for WWA.

Motion by Dan Lynch to nominate Gabrielle Peterson to the position of Vice Chair. Seconded by Tom Foltz. Motion carried unanimously.

4) Mutual Aid Agreement Sub-Committee (Dan Lynch)

a. Report

Dan Lynch advised that there are a number of things going on in the legislature, including a bill which would designate the State Adjutant General's office to develop a Public Works Mutual Aid program. Dan added that the legislation is not enabling legislation and would probably have a negative impact on WisWARN. Dan indicated that he wrote a letter opposing the legislation, as did Lawrie Kobza (MEG Water) and Paul Kent (MEG Wastewater, who opposed overwhelmingly). The Assembly voted on March 5 and passed the bill. It is now being held in Senator Wirch's committee and is expected to go to the Senate shortly. Lawrie Kobza added that the bill, referred to as AB736, directs the Adjutant General to develop standards for Public Works agencies, which includes water and wastewater agencies. Lawrie indicated that she spoke with the sponsor of the bill, and legal council, and was advised that the Public Works folks were the ones initiating the legislation. She added that their view was that it was not mandatory to adopt the agreement. Ed St. Peter made a motion to formally oppose the legislation. Dale Hexom inquired whether Ed had discussed this with his Public Works folks. Ed replied that he had not, and does not want to cause any more issues.

Gabrielle Peterson indicated that she had spoken with Nick Damatto from the EPA. He is pushing Gabrielle to get WisWARN up and running. Damatto also advised that MNWARN was getting opposition, but they went ahead. They (MN) started with 3 counties and have continued to grow. Damatto added that if it puts a damper on us we should ignore it, what we're doing is wonderful and will grow by itself. Dan Lynch added that the intention was to try to go live by the end of the month. He added that at the last two presentations he's made he sent out around a sign up list, and had approximately 40 people interested. A concern is that if it becomes an official document that it probably won't include a website or resource listing, which WisWARN will include. Dan Lynch seconded the earlier motion by Ed St. Peter.

Vote was taken with 7 voting aye, 1 nay. Motion carried.

- 5) **WisWARN Website Sub-Committee (Kevin Freber)**
 - a. **Report**

Kevin was unable to join the meeting; therefore Dan Lynch gave a brief update on his behalf. Kevin is still making minor fixes. The Texas resource listing is not working. Pennsylvania created a resource section through a Homeland Security Grant. Dan will talk to PNWARN to see if we can use.
 - b. **Members Only Access Code**
 - c. **Add PowerPoint, Brochure to website?**

It is planned to have a tab for the PowerPoint, Brochure and Roster
 - d. **Meeting Minutes, Agendas, etc. to website?**

Deb will forward copies of the minutes and meeting agendas
 - e. **List Committee Members on website?**

There were no objections from committee members regarding listing members on the website.

- 6) **WisWARN Publicity (Dan Lynch)**
 - a. **Identify Interested Agencies/Communities**
 - b. **Scheduled Presentations**
 - i. **March 12 and 13 – WWA Distribution Seminar – Paul Pavlik**

Dan gave a presentation at the WWA IT/Security Conference and Paul Pavlik will be doing presentations at the WWA Distribution Conference
 - c. **Newsletter Articles**
 - i. **Article on Identifying Interested Agencies/Communities**

Articles will be in WWA, WRWA, WWOA newsletters.

- 7) **APWA Emergency Management Committee (Jim Hessling)**
 - a. **Liaison Report**

No action taken

- 8) **Other Reports, Actions and/or Activities (Gabrielle Peterson)**
 - a. **State Agency Initiatives**
 - i. **Presentation to WEMA**

Presentation was cancelled due to weather, and has not been rescheduled.
 - ii. **State Agency Sponsorships**

Gabrielle indicated that it is hard to get State agencies to endorse due to legal review, etc. The Lab of Hygiene and the PSC though are supportive.
 - b. **New Sponsoring Organizations (Dan Lynch)**
 - i. **League of Municipalities**

League has questions regarding the Mutual Aid Agreement. Lawrie Kobza will discuss with their attorney.
 - ii. **WI Emergency Management Association**

- 9) **New Topics**

Dan Lynch advised that he would send a letter to his senator, and requested members to also contact their senators. John MacKinnon indicated that he would pass along the

recommendation to MEUW.

10) Next Meeting - The 2008 schedule was reviewed. The next meeting will be held on March 27 at WRWA in Plover. Teleconferencing was requested.

11) Adjourn

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Deb Geier, Wausau Water Works