

AASC Annual Meeting June 24, 2005 (Friday Morning)

Business Meeting

Ken Crawford started the meeting at 8am by turning the floor over to Glen Connor for a light-hearted 'state report'.

Glen Conner (former SC KY) lamented that so many familiar comfortable things 'of home' were not necessarily good things anymore. Some things whose good time had passed included 'Kentucky Fried Chicken' (high cholesterol) , Horse Racing (gambling), tobacco, and bourbon – all going downhill in reputation. On the up side a major crop, marijuana, is doing well.

Ken Crawford then started the business meeting.

Reading/Approval of Minutes from August 2004

Paul Knight, Secretary-Treasurer, indicated that minutes had been posted since Sept. 2004 but he also passed out paper copies to those that wanted them. A motion to accept the minutes was made by O'Brien and seconded by Nielson-Gammon. 'Ayes' carried the motion.

Treasurer's Report

Paul gave the treasurer's report. Income from last years meeting was \$157 greater than the cost. Paul noted the good estimating by Keith [Eggleston]! Other details of the budget were briefly noted. No questions from the members. Knapp moved and Raman seconded that the report be accepted. Doesken asked why no travel money was used. Paul answered that everyone who traveled volunteered their own funds. A vote of 'ayes' carried the motion.

Old Business

- **The State Climatologist Annual Summary by Ryan Boyles** Laura Edwards (WRCC, DRI) has volunteered to work with Ryan on next year's report. Mark Shafer's help (establishing the template) was very helpful. The NC State Climate budget for color printing was very helpful. It's all online in both lo-res ('screen' version) and hi-res (for printing).
- **ARSCO Reports/New ARSCO States by Tim Owen** Tim pointed out the contributions to the State Climatologist Annual Summary counts as the annual report required for ARSCO status. South Carolina, Mississippi, Washington and Delaware became ARSCOs last year. Letters of acceptance were given to the two representatives from those offices that were present. This year South Dakota, Vermont, and New Hampshire were added as ARSCOs and letters were given to office representatives. Tina Cartwright is new SC for West Virginia. Pat Guinan is the new SC for Missouri, Dev Niyogi for Indiana, and Heather Kemp for Nevada. Other states are 'in the pipeline'.
- **AASC Journal by David Stookesbury** David talked about establishing an 'AASC Journal of Service and Applied Climatology' to publish and document what we are doing. A very low page charge of, say \$10, would be possible for

members. David sees it as a refereed journal. All papers would be offered online as PDFs. David volunteered to be first editor. Niyogi pointed out that the Journal of Applied Meteorology is being renamed to Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climatology. So, that does affect our naming, especially the inclusion of 'applied climate'. Zandlo noted that the word 'service' was especially important to AASC. Christy noted that we need to see something other than just talk. He suggested that we could vote later online. O'Brien pointed out that we have a lot of freedom and some of the topics that might be submitted could be under-appreciated by reviewers. Ken Crawford suggested that we should move forward with the meeting – the AASC web page presentation could help with the discussion. Robin Williams (PR) pointed out that many times legal and reinsurance professional are clients and may be interested in the publication. The Committee was mostly present at the meeting. It was suggested that the committee quickly confer and steer the next steps. Robinson suggested that the word 'applied' be avoided in favor of 'AASC Journal of Service Climatology'. A proposal will be made by the committee (Boyles, Bergantino, Todey, Taylor and chaired by Stookesbury) to the general membership within the next few weeks.

- **Dissertation Medal by David Stookesbury** - David talked about a dissertation medal to pay the way to our annual meeting for presentation of a paper on applied or service climatology. An anonymous donation of \$500 has already been given and it was asked to be matched with general AASC funds. O'Brien pointed out that it must be well publicized, including through NCAR. Dupigny-Giroux asked that Canada should be eligible as well. Mote asked how it would be paid for. Niyogi suggested non-Americans should also be eligible. Curtis suggested that we need an American emphasis. Knapp pointed out that new higher dues were to promote the organization and we should put money aside for this medal. Hillaker suggested that the medal would not have to be annual. Boyles suggested that perhaps NCDC could help with travel funds. The discussion focused on designating \$1,500 for the medal. No committee was in place. The Executive committee would assign members to it in the next few weeks. Their responsibility would be to solicit papers and review them with a recommendation for an award. O'Brien moved that the draft plan be accepted. The motion was seconded by Robinson and 'ayes' carried it.
- **Draft of new AASC Web Home Page by Derek Arndt** - Several people (Robinson, Owen and Arndt) were charged last year with developing a new AASC web page. The existing page is hosted by NCDC and gives the impression that AASC is a part of NWS. An easier venue was also sought. Several 'news style' web pages were shown. Oklahoma Climate Survey has similar content. An AASC mockup was shown. Standard features have buttons. The page can have the latest climate news. Profiles of SCs would be available and state-level 'gateways' to state web pages would also include local 'news items'. A page for 'submit news item' was shown. Items can be made eligible for regional or national exposure. Similar pages would be made for RCCs. The page will be at the domain name: StateClimate.org. Derek asked 'Is it worth finishing?', 'Who will host it?', and 'What was missed?' Todey asked if RCCs liked the URL and there was no disagreement. Cartwright asked about the online journal to which

Derek replied that a button for 'standing content' could accommodate it. O'Brien pointed out that continuity and permanence are very important. Livezey concurred that a long-term commitment must be ensured. Heim pointed out that it was nice and gives more freedom since it was not hosted by a Federal site. Owens asked if Oklahoma could host it for a couple of years to get stability and Derek, after consultation, answered 'yes'. Christy asked about costs. Derek answered that about 2 weeks FTE had been spent and he anticipated at least 2 more weeks were needed before it could be 'released'. Boyles suggested that North Carolina may be willing to host it once it is developed. Mote noted that the 'news feed' needs supervision and may be problematic. Age of content and controversy may be issues. Derek replied that a more formal detailed proposal needs to be provided to members. O'Brien pointed out that state personalization may be very variable. Livezey reiterated that a maintenance commitment is critical. Solid policy and procedures of managing content is needed to avoid embarrassment to AASC. Shafer suggested that the state level content is the state's problem. Robinson said that an op-ed piece could be posted that could be unrepresentative of the association. He suggested an oversight committee. A vote by membership will be taken once a procedure and a tutorial are developed.

New Business

- Budget Presentation and Vote.

Paul Knight showed the proposed next year budget. A discussion of the budget was started. Hillaker pointed out that [while SCs are not constitutionally required to pay dues to be a member of AASC] ARSCOs should be required to pay. Knight acknowledged that dues are an issue. Nielson-Gammon asked why less 'extra' money is projected for next year to which Paul answered that presidential travel support was zero. Nielson-Gammon continued by asking why less dues were reported to which Paul answered that dues came in outside of the meeting. Robinson pointed out that 34 states were at meeting and dues from them should be in budget. Paul said that he will send out notices but that he expected a low response. Livezey asked what the constitution reads about dues. Only a little more than half of the members paying seemed low. Stookesbury offered that constitutionally SCs are by default a member and that there is no requirement of dues. Aside, Stookesbury pointed out that \$500 should be in the budget for the dissertation medal. O'Brien suggested that previous year total should be shown as a 'carry over' income. Knapp suggested that dues for SCs who are ARSCOs should be projected (is it a requirement of ARSCO). Livezey and Robinson chimed in that it was not a requirement of ARSCO either. Crawford suggested that the Executive Committee would take dues issues under advisement. Edwards asked about the cost of the meeting to which Paul answered that income should balance cost. Mote suggested that the Treasurer should have some teeth to collect dues. O'Brien suggested that in light of unresolved budget adjustments the membership could vote online later. Crawford added that the Executive Committee would work out the details. Knight said that \$500 would be added for the medal, carry-over would be handled as discussed. Stookesbury suggested that travel money should not come from AASC for SC 1st-timers, etc. Boyle suggested that a revised budget should be sent to everyone to preview before being offered for a vote on-line.

New Members (Associate/Full)

An apparently flawed list of members who had paid via meeting registration was shown – many who had paid were not listed. New associate members were nominated. Owens nominated Jason Caldwell (SC), William Schmitz (SERCC), Michael Johnson (SERCC). Raman nominated Aaron Sims (NC). Niyogi nominated Ken Schnerringa (IN). Todey nominated Chirag Shukla. Crawford nominated Renee McPherson (OK), and Andrew Reiter (OK). Doesken nominated Debora Bathke (NM), Henry Reges (CO) and Mike Spinar (MWRCC). Edwards nominated Heather Kemp (NV). Cartwright nominated Steven Fleagel (WV). A motion to close the nominations and accept the new members was made and then seconded by Crawford. A vote of ‘ayes’ carried the motion.

Officers for 2006 and Beyond

- Keim (LA) from the nominating committee nominated that Paul Knight be elected president and Jan Curtis Secretary-Treasurer. Knox (GA) pointed out that a committee motion doesn’t need a second. There were no other nominations from the floor. ‘Ayes’ carried both nominations. The President will take over duties in 2006 after the annual meeting.
- **New Nominating Committee by Ken Crawford** New nominating committee will be announced in a few weeks. Sethu Raman has agreed to handle ARSCO submissions into 2006.
- **Meeting Locations in 2006 and 2007** Dennis Todey indicated that the 2006 meeting could be in Rapid City or Sioux Falls. A Rapid City meeting would have to be in June or July, still a busy tourist season. Hotel costs would be less than \$100 per day. Rapid City is relatively hard to get to. Sioux Falls is easier to get to and has easier accommodations but does not have other amenities to recommend it. A voice vote decided to have the 2006 meeting in Rapid City. Knapp pointed out that the very last week of June and first week of July are not good times. Dennis indicated that dates will be established later and options will be presented to AASC list-server. He went on to say that price quotes are on the way from Chambers of Commerce. Christy asked if it would be the usual 2 or 2-1/2 day meeting which was answered with a ‘yes’. Someone wondered how we would have a riverboat cruise there. For the 2007 meeting Crawford offered Oklahoma, Keim offered Baton Rouge, and Dupigny-Giroux offered Vermont.

Submitted by:

Paul Knight
Secretary/Treasurer
AASC
July 30, 2005