



Tuesday, June 25th, 2019

10:20am – 11:45am: AASC Business Meeting I: Called to order 10:24 am

- *Quorum Check:* 26 full members and 52 associates. OK for full member quorum. We had 13 designated proxies (Kevin Brinson DE, Mark Shafer (OK), Chris Fuhrmann (MS), Kathie Dello (OR), Lauren Holt (GA), Phillip Stratton (MD), Adnan Akyuz (MN), Brian Kerschner (MRCC), Mary Knapp (KS), Jim DeGrand (OH), John Young (WI). Beth Hall (MO) was a proxy for Pat Guinan, but Beth was not present for this Tuesday morning session). Met quorum for all members as we had 52 associates present. Quorum was 30% of all members or 38 members.
- *Executive Director Update:* Meeting minutes from 2018 meeting were approved and are posted on AASC website. This year we will do electronic vote on these minutes before the end of summer. We have three corporate members now. Campbell Scientific Gold level, Synoptic Data at Silver level and Case Consultants International at Bronze level. Have a lot of new members and to help develop our community we have started a newsletter that goes out twice a month and we're soliciting articles or topics to be included. Tried to hold some webinars to help our members. They are posted on our [YouTube channel](#) in case you missed them. They have included accessing historical documents and data, and Web tool and web services for developing web pages. We invite members with ideas for webinars to bring them forward. Each year we have AASC meet ups at AMS meetings. In Boston, as in Phoenix, it will be right after the Exhibit Hall reception on the first night of AMS. We are in the 2nd year of the NCEI user engagement program; Mesonet operators had a meeting to develop standards and best practices recommendations; and the 2018 edition of the State Climatologist has been posted. Our coming presence at AMS will include the meet-up; AASC will do a poster; there is an SC, RCC and Federal Partners session; and we will have a Mesonet session. This coming year we will be doing a website update with the Website/IT committee. Will have both an outward facing part for non-members and a member's section for us. An NCEI-SCO Applied Climate Services Workshop is tentative. We are also doing a membership drive. We have culled the membership list of



people who have left and no longer pay dues. Institutional Members include AL, CA, CO, DE, KY, NC, NJ, SC at the Leadership level and MO, MS, PA, TX and WA at the Associate level.

- *Treasurer's Report (Presented by Glenn Kerr, ED, on behalf of Luigi Romolo, Treasurer):* PayPal balance - \$29,022.06; Checking - \$48,511.69; Savings - \$7.43; Money Market - \$71,693.20; Total - \$149,234.38. Income comes from IMs (40%), Meetings (28%), NCEI-User Engagement project (19%), Subscriptions (2%), Sponsorships (3%) and Dues (8%). Expenses include Overhead (65% - ED and rent), Meetings (27%), AMS (5%), Professional Services (2%). The NCEI User Engagement may only last one more year. If anyone has any other ideas for projects – please bring them forward. Over the last few years, we started losing money as we started paying an ED, then it has leveled off quite a bit as we have more sponsorships, more IMs, and we hope to continue that. Want to provide increased services for our members and find more funding sources and raise the profile of the organization.
- *Membership Committee Update:* Laura Edwards – Chair; (Committee Members Melissa Griffin, Mike Timlin, Monica Deming, Stephanie McAfee, and Justin Glisan)– At the last webinar we had a briefing of the grievance proposal and after some feedback we edited it a bit, essentially dropping a section that needs more work pertaining to removing members for reasons other than failing to pay dues. The section on conduct unbecoming a member was a little ambiguous and needed some checking by our lawyer. The grievances will be handled on a case-by-case basis. The only portion currently to be voted on is for failure of paying dues. The section based on conduct has been removed to be reworked at a later time. The original text is as follows:
 - **V. Membership Grievances**
 - 1. Membership issues will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the Executive Committee. If the current policies of the Association do not cover any of the issues, the Executive Committee retains the right to work with the Membership Committee at any point to discuss exploring additional policies, if warranted.



- 2. Dismissal, or removal, of membership from the organization, will be based on the following grievances:
 - a. Failure to pay dues to the organization.
 - i. Members will be notified once payment of their dues has been received or if SCO Institutional Membership contributions have covered their dues.
 - ii. Members will be notified if they have outstanding dues. If a member fails to pay annual dues within 90 days of the initial invoice/notification or has overdue dues to the AASC:
 - 1. The member will lose membership to the Association and the following will be immediately revoked:
 - a. Voting rights, if applicable
 - b. Membership into the AASC bulk communication resources
 - 2. To be reinstated into the Association, the individual must undergo the membership process outlined in Article IV (Membership) of the AASC Constitution and By-Laws.
- *ARSCO Committee Update:* Mike Anderson Chair; (Committee Members Tami Houston, David Robinson, Peter Goble, Stephanie McAfee, Karin Bumbaco, and Mark Shafer). Committee had four phone meetings to discuss ARSCO value and content. Had extensive e-mail exchange of content and ideas, and preparation of review criteria and follow-up components. We want to ensure the highest service levels are maintained, and if not, we will try to help those struggling offices bring their service level up. ARSCO designees have the opportunity to leverage their experiences and activities to help other offices. We want to retain the annual reporting of ARSCO requirements as a way of reviewing activity. Will have periodic program reviews to ensure sustained performance and help articulate value of SCOs for potential future funding. We want to motivate the development of materials to help develop SCOs. Ten offices each year will be reviewed providing a roughly 5-year cycle. The six criteria are: Area of expertise, resources/support, office plan, engagement, constituency, and collaboration. Scoring system is in development to guide the review decision. Have used CA as a test case. Will now apply this to the other nine offices selected for the



first round. The intent is to identify and help offices that are struggling. The offices directly submit information about their office to the committee – 2-3 pages maximum.

- *Nominating Committee Update:* Hope Mizzell – Chair; (Committee Members Tim Brown , Stu Foster, Pam Knox. Jeff Andresen resigned from the committee). The Past President serves on the Nominating Committee. Two offices are up for election this year: President and Secretary - both elected in odd-numbered years for 2-year terms. President has a 4-year term (President-elect, 2 years as President, and 1 year as Past President. The Nominating Committee nominated Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux (Vermont SC) as President, and Jeff Andresen (Michigan SC) as Secretary. Solicited nominations from the floor, but there were none. The list of new associate member nominees was posted. They included: Larry Carey (AL), Steven Schultze (AL), Stan Engle (NM), Amy Fritz (NOAA), Jon Meyer (UT), Caitlin Crossett (VT), Jon Bongard (MO), Scott Richardson (PA), Ruben Behnke (SD), Jerry Brotzge (NY), Oriana Chegwiddden (WA), Kevin Hyde (ND), Josh Durkee (KY), Karsten Shein (Western Washington Univ.) and Dave DeWitt (NOAA). This list of nominees, along with nominators, is Attachment I of these minutes, located at bottom.
- *AASC 2021 Annual Meeting Proposals:* (2020 we will be hosted by VT and NH in Portsmouth.) Stu Foster – Proposes Kentucky – In Owensboro on the Ohio River. Known for bourbon, bluegrass and BBQ. New conference center right on the Ohio River. Have lots of space. Lodging in the \$124-\$127/night range (\$94/night government rate). Similar time window (June).
- *Remaining items to discuss:* Recognizing Committees (EC, Membership, Nominating, ARSCO, Planning committee) Thank you for your work. Please consider volunteering for a committee as we need you new ideas. Introductions around the room.
- *Close Business Meeting:* Mary Knapp moved to close, Mike Anderson seconded. Business Meeting was closed at 11:30 am PDT.

Wednesday June 26, 2019



8:15am – 9:15am: *Mesonet Meeting Recap - Stu Foster, KY State Climatologist*: Mesonet committee has been working on developing a document of recommendations for best practices. Had workshop in Nashville in February. Four subcommittees. Functional standards and practices mission *“There is a growing need by mesonets for guidance on protocols and best practices, and AASC membership is the natural authority with a wealth of experience and expertise to provide this guidance”*

- Metadata sub-committee – Jennie Atkins (IL), Megan Schargorodski (KY), Pat Guinan (MO), Stonie Coopers (NE), Chip Redmond (KS), and Chris Fiebrich (OK). Standards and Practices Sub-committee - Jeff Andresen (MI), Nathan Edwards (SD), Xiaomao Lin (KS), Kevin Brinson (DE), and Rezaul Mahmood (NE). They assessed the range of current metadata and functional standards and practices; created some guidelines for best practices; and gave guidance for how to meet proposed guidelines. Started with a 31-question survey to find out what metadata various Mesonets were documenting. Survey went to all the Mesonets we had identified. Asked for items to be ranked as “Easy to Do”, “Doable with Some Work”, “Not Possible”, “Unsure”, and “Unwilling to Share”. Asked about metadata on sites, communication, exposure, instruments, acquisition, quality control, maintenance, variables measured, sampling heights and protocols, processing algorithms, and calibrations. Received responses from 21 Mesonets.
- Updating the metadata annually via a spreadsheet was the most popular option. Metadata easiest to include were sensor heights, averaging intervals, panoramic photos, and sensor manufacturers. The approach of the sub-committees to write the document was to outline the original best practices document, develop section assignments based on sub-committee expertise, and work toward consensus. Each sub-committee prepared draft reports to present at the workshop and then spent two days at the workshop re-working and fine tuning the documents. They had about 15 working teleconference calls. The current document (Version 1) includes recommendations/guidelines rather than prescribed requirements. This is a first step toward standards and certification. Want Mesonets to participate, but can’t force them. If approved, this would be the first Guidelines Document for Mesonets since 1985. Topics include: siting of stations and positioning of instrumentation; sensor performance, sampling rate, and reporting rate; maintenance; quality assurance and quality control; and data processing and reliability. Q & A: AMS currently has a statement on best practices out for comment. How does this relate to that? That statement is very recent and our document went out to our membership before the



AMS statement. Have you considered preparing it for publication in BAMS or our Journal of Service and Applied Climatology? Had not been working that far ahead, just trying to get it ready for our group comments. We can certainly do that once we are comfortable with the document. We are aiming to be more a guideline rather than a theoretical measurements paper. Discussed it generally with the National Mesonet Program Manager, but first we wanted to get our own house in order and or guidelines for our own networks, then move outward from there. It will also take us a year or two to see how well the document works with our own networks. It is a living document that will be revised and edited and refined. Much of the standards are based on previous science including WMO, COOP, NWS, etc. so we weren't trying to come up with some arbitrary standards. Other things are based on what current practice is. End game was to help networks create and establish a value. Certification of networks down the road may be a goal. Goal to be able to identify networks that meet a standard for climate and also have other uses, so data users can evaluate the network and data they are planning to use. We will bring this up for the blessing (vote) of the group later this morning. The AMS has a statement on professional use of the word "meteorologist". Perhaps this can be a statement of what we think a professional "Mesonet" is.

9:15am – 9:30am: Revitalizing AASC's Journal of Applied and Service Climatology

Beth Hall, IN State Climatologist: Since our online Journal started in 2007, we have had a decline in number of articles from a high of five articles in 2009 to one or two articles since then. If our goal is to become a ranked Journal, we need to get the Journal title acknowledged, then get the Title reviewed and ranked. Getting the title acknowledged involves setting up a peer-review process, having a publicly available description of the peer-review process, publishing on a regular basis, having an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN), having content relevant and readable by an international audience, and having a publicly available ethics and publication malpractice statement. Getting the journal reviewed and ranked (SCOPUS). When compared to peer journals in the subject field, you want the self-citation rate < 2X compared to peer journals, and you want your journal to have: more than half the total citation rate; more than half the number of articles produced, more than half the full text used; and more than half the journal's abstracts used. In order to move forward with this, we should form a JoASC advisory board (and determine the size and rotation of members). The Board will: establish peer-review guidelines; establish ethics and malpractice statements; and recruit authors. Also need to assign DOIs to articles. Other ideas? Q & A: Do we want to be a peer-review journal or more like a trade journal for service and applied climatology? Who is our audience? Are we providing information for agricultural community and our stakeholders



or for academic researchers? How readable do we want this to be? There now exists an Elsevier journal, *Climate Services*, that in many regards fills the niche originally intended for this journal. It would be very difficult to compete with Elsevier. Also consider that any of our members who are faculty need to publish in peer-reviewed journals with a high ranking. Publishing in a trade journal doesn't help them much in the promotion area. Easier to just be a trade journal for our stakeholders. There's value in that to our stakeholder community. But what value is there to our members? Many of our members are starting out or are students who can't get published in peer-reviewed journals due to the long wait times for the review process and publishing here would get them started - even though this is not as prestigious a journal. Could be a stepping stone to start them out. Need to think about who our audience is and what we want to accomplish with our journal. Can we compete with the Elsevier Climate Services journal?

9:30am – 10:15am: AASC Business Meeting II Called to order at 9:27 am.

- *Quorum Check:* 36 full members (including proxies), 55 total members. Met both quorums.
- *New Officer Voting:* Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux President-elect; Jeff Andresen for Secretary. No floor nominations were received. Moved by Mary Knapp and seconded by Nancy Selover that we vote for both with one vote. Motion approved. The voice vote was unanimous for both candidates.
- *New Member Nominations and Voting.* See attached listing. All candidates were approved unanimously by voice vote.
- *Mesonet Proposal and Voting:* The draft best practices as an official AASC document was unanimously approved by voice vote. This is a living document and the committee will continue to revise and improve the guidelines.
- *AASC 2021 Annual Meeting Selection* – Kentucky in Owensboro. Approved unanimously. 2020 will be in Portsmouth NH.
- *Vote to accept the proposed grievance amendment.* Edited some redundant language in Section 2. A. ii. that was repeated with a typo. Also edited If member fails to pay annual dues “or arrange to pay their dues within 90 days of the notification”.... Full members only to vote by standing; Vote to accept the amendment for a vote 38 ayes, and 0 nays. Vote to approve the amendment to the Constitution by standing. 39 ayes, 0 nays. Amendment passed unanimously. Final language of



proposed amendment, as approved and accepted to amend constitution is at Attachment II at bottom. The date when dues are due for IMs will be addressed on a case by case basis based on FY of the institution to ensure we receive payment in a prompt fashion.

- *Close Business Meeting:* Adnan Akyuz moved to close the business meeting, Nancy Selover seconded and motion approved. Closed at 9:54 am PDT.



Attachment I: List of New Member Nominees and Nominators

Nominees

- Larry Carey
- Steven Schultze
- Stan Engle
- Amy Fritz
- Jon Meyer
- Caitlin Crossett
- Jon Bongard
- Scott Richardson
- David DeWitt
- Ruben Behnke
- Oriana Chegwiddden
- Kevin Hyde
- Jerry Brotzge
- Josh Durkee
- Karsten Shein

Nominators

John Christy
John Christy
Dave DuBois
Adnan Akyuz
Nancy Selover
Lesley-Ann Dupigny-Giroux
Pat Guinan
Dan Leathers
Adnan Akyuz
Laura Edwards
Nick Bond
Adnan Akyuz
Dave Robinson
Stu Foster
Jeff Andresen



Attachment II: Amendment to AASC Constitution

V. Membership Grievances

1. Membership issues will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the Executive Committee. If the current policies of the Association do not cover any of the issues, the Executive Committee retains the right to work with the Membership Committee at any point to discuss exploring additional policies, if warranted.

2. Dismissal, or removal, of membership from the organization, will be based on the following grievances:

a. Failure to pay dues to the organization.

i. Members will be notified once payment of their dues has been received or if SCO Institutional Membership contributions have covered their dues.

ii. Members will be notified if they have outstanding dues. If a member fails to pay annual dues, or if arrangements have not been made to pay, within 90 days of the initial notification:

1. The member will lose membership to the Association and the following will be immediately revoked:

a. Voting rights, if applicable

b. Membership into the AASC bulk communication resources

2. To be reinstated into the Association, the individual must undergo the membership process outlined in Article IV (Membership) of the AASC Constitution and By-Laws.