

Alabama Chapter of the Alabama Water Resources Association
State Section Business Meeting
September 4, 2014
Perdido Beach, Alabama

Attendees: Todd Boatman, Sam Fowler, Amanda Fleming, Kenneth Odom, Eve Brantley, Pat O'Neil, Sabra Sutton, John Morris, Tom Littlepage, Charles Stover, Jane Rowan, Jamie Childers, Roy McCauley, Lynn Sisk

Todd Boatman (President) called the meeting to order.

Kenneth Odom (Secretary) noted four AWRA meetings were held in 2014 and the minutes of these meetings are available online at <http://www.awraalabama.org>

Amanda Fleming (Treasurer) noted the 501(c)3 certification for the state chapter was approved and that an accountant would be retained to conduct the annual audit and submit the required documentation (post card).

The amount given per symposium registrant to the state chapter was increased to \$60 a registrant. Current balance in checking is approximately \$12,000 and savings is approximately \$4,000.

Sponsorships / deposits since last October were \$8,250.

Expenses / checks written since last October were \$3,400. Expenses included new shirts, travel to the national AWRA conference, tax audit, and the state conference.

John Morris stated there were 16 sponsors for the 2014 conference. He invited the sponsors to 'step-up' their contributions by \$250 to help cover increased costs at the Flora-Bama social.

John Morris also noted that he requested the Flora-Bama have 2 food tables at next year's social (so that there can be 4 lines) instead of the 1 food table at this year's social. The food had mixed reviews and it was suggested that the follow up survey include a question on the quality of the food (aka shrimp was overcooked).

Sam Fowler (President-Elect) noted several entities were interested in sponsoring next year's conference and requested more notice to be included in upcoming year budgets.

A suggestion was made by Sam Fowler that the thank you cards sent to sponsors will include a request for consideration of next year's event. Jane Rowan recommended contacting American Hydro.

Sam Fowler stated reviews about the symposium were positive and Roy McCauley acknowledged diverse presentations were engaging.

Todd Boatman (President) commented that the Alabama Chapter was complimented during the State Presidents' conference call for conducting a successful symposium and conference. He shared that everyone was urged to attend and experience the Flora-Bama.

Eve Brantley (Membership Chair) noted there are 280 members of the Alabama Chapter of the AWRA by virtue of their registration to the 2014 annual meeting. There were no write in nominations, so the recommended slate of officers was approved:

President: Sam Fowler, Auburn University
President-Elect: Amanda Fleming, Kleinschmidt Energy & Water Resource Consultants
Treasurer: Kenneth Odom, Alabama Power
Secretary: Eve Brantley, Auburn University
Membership Chair: Pat O'Neil, Geological Survey of Alabama

New President Sam Fowler had several announcements:

- 22 student posters and 11 student presentations
- Pleased with increased revenue, sponsorships, and participation
- Emphasis on annual audit for 501(c)3 certification
- The AL Chapter would like to send a representative to the national AWRA conference November 3-6 in Tyson's Corner, VA
- No word on the national award applied for by the AL Chapter
- He is retiring in 2015 and will be able to devote more time to the organization

Jane Rowan suggested someone from Alabama consider running for the national board.

John Morris asked about consideration for a non-voting 'education' seat on the state executive committee. He commented that Beth Smith, Samford University, was interested in getting more involved. A student representative was also recommended.

Adjourn

Action items:

- Include 'food quality' question on survey to conference attendees
- Education or student representative on executive committee
- Identify sponsors that should be contacted in early 2015 for support of next annual symposium and conference
- Discussion of 2015 national meeting, attendance, and award submittal