

**WGWA Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday January 25, 2006**  
**Conference Call**

Persons present: Boyd Possin, Janis Keszy, Dave Nemetz, Ken Wade, Corey Pagles, Lee Trotta, Becky Caudill, Mike Raimonde, Troy Thompson, Joan Viney, and Marilyn Weiss

- I. Call to order about 5:00 pm.
- II. Last meeting minutes (October 25, 2005) - Minutes accepted. Minutes are posted on website.
- III. Treasurer's Report – Bank account balance is \$11,520.60. Lee has taken over treasurer duties from Marilyn. In the past balance in the account has “unofficially” stayed above \$7,000. Currently, account is at US Bank. Lee will be changing the account to a new bank. Becky thanked Marilyn for her years of service as treasurer.
- IV. Membership Report – Only a handful of renewals have come in so far. Membership is reactive rather than proactive. Need to send out a reminder about renewing membership. Discussed changing membership renewal data to a different time of year. Lee to send out hardcopy of renewal form.
- V. Old Business
  - In October 2005 board made decision to join NGWA. Lee to take care of paying the membership fee to NGWA. IA and CA only states currently associated with NGWA. Membership fee is \$250/annually.
  - WGWA will not be combining 2006 conference with AWRA. Potentially could combine conferences in 2007. AWRA Conference is scheduled for March 2 & 3. Have a WGWA representative go to the AWRA conference and discuss combining conference efforts in 2007. Boyd volunteered to go to AWRA. Lee mentioned in the past WGWA had joint conference with WI Lakes Association. Boyd commented that Lakes Association overwhelmed everything else at conference. Combined conference did not work.
- VI. New Business
  - WGWA Address Change has been taken care of. PO Box has been closed. New address is Lee's residence.
  - WGWA Mission – review mission statement. Where do we want to go with our mission? Discussion of mission statement placement on website. Is it easy to access?
  - WGWA Web site face-lift – Becky mentioned WGWA website needs to be updated. Information on the site is old. What will it cost and how much time to update site? Need some “sparkle” on the site. Discussed putting together a subcommittee to address website updates. Discussed password access to website.
  - WGWA Notes – Becky has been getting notices from other agencies for inclusion in the WGWA Notes with links to calendars. Send out an email reminding members to renew.
  - Open Positions (coordinators and Education Committee Chair) Volunteers:

Western Area Coordinator, Bjorn A. Lysne, (thinking about it), Hydrogeologist at SEH.

Northeast Area Coordinator (Green Bay, Appleton, Oshkosh, Fond du Lac, surrounding area), still open. Any suggestions?

Education Committee Chair, Paula A. Richardson, Hydrogeologist, NRT.

- Membership – Discussed member retention. Potential of changing membership renewal to different time of year. Tie renewal to the spring conference. Use spring meeting as the vehicle to get renewals out. Have two fees for conference member and non-member. “Sell conference” rather than selling membership. Review the following lists for potential members: registered geologists, AWRA members, AIPF members, data-base of past members. Advertise at other professional conferences? Reach out to university with one page posting.
- Spring Conference – Boyd taking the lead in organizing. Any ideas for a conference theme? Discussed locations for conference – determined the Wisconsin Dells works well because it is a central location. Boyd will look at potential conference center. Settled on April 7 for conference date with backup date of April 21.
- WGWA Student Research Grant Program – No one familiar with it. Supplanted by student paper awards at spring conference.
- Newsletter Status – Newsletter to come out mid February. Will include call for papers for spring conference. AWRA meeting is March 2 & 3. Ideas for newsletter articles: local meeting summaries, ideas on what WGWA is doing, special interest articles. Overall comments- shorten up newsletter, limit number of special interest articles in each issue. Promote Groundwater Guardian in the newsletter.
- Groundwater Guardian Groundwater Festival donation. Festival will be in Manitowoc this year on April 27. Festival very good learning experience for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Becky made motion to donate \$1500 to Festival, Dave seconded motion. Motion passed.

VII. Boyd motioned to adjourn meeting at 6:50 p.m., Dave seconded motion.