

**Meeting Minutes  
MSSC Board Meeting  
Friday, January 16 2009  
Noon - 2:30 p.m.  
Monte Carlo Hotel and Resort**

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Andy, Jeff and Mike Hightower** – Work together to refine the Desal Concept Paper to include inland, ocean and other desalination issues. Draft letter to go with paper and distribute to the Board for review and comment – Deadline 3/6/09

**Donna** – Thank you letters and financials – Deadline 2/13/2009

**I. Participating Members:**

Ed Archuleta, Ernie Avila, Jeff Mosher, Mark Stratton, Mike Hightower, Kevin Price, Calvin Finch, Bill Steele, Rich Nagel, Andy Sienkiewich, Donna Bloom, Tina Triplett, and Paula Lisko-Apodaca.

**II. 2009 Salinity Summit Debrief:**

The Summit went exceptionally well despite the economy. We lost several regular attendees from Phoenix and other cities. Registration was at 129. Ed asked Donna to write letters to the sponsors from both her and him. Sponsorships were larger than last year (\$41,900 vs. \$38,000 in '08). Ed thanked Bill Steele and Kevin Price for the Bureau of Reclamation sponsorship, and Mike Hightower and Mark Rigali for the Sandia sponsorship.

Comments on evaluation sheet included: (negative) to stay on time and the town hall meeting was too long; (positive) good balance of speakers and topics and legislation updates. 1 ½ day Summit continues to be well received. Donna will distribute the evaluation summary once it is complete.

Holding the summit in February was discussed. Due to the adjustments with food and beverage costs, the summit will be held next year at the Monte Carlo. Recommendations were:

- Better time management for session.
- More time for speakers and to take questions at the end of the panel.
- Sufficient time for technical presentations and shorter for political.
- Poster session considered valuable; having it in the break room is beneficial.
- Direct people back to conference from break sessions (we did this).
- To have questions written down and addressed after presentations.
- 1<sup>st</sup> day – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Tables in break room for networking were great.

MSSC should do outreach to Utah, Colorado, North and South Dakota; all 17 Western states including Hawaii to increase membership. Get database from the Bureau of Reclamation and solicit speakers. Jeff to write to director of Central Valley Salt group to see if they would be interested in participating in the Salinity Agricultural Workshop.

Donna to write letters to sponsors for Chair's signature; letters to speakers from Donna. Chair and members thanked Donna, Tina and Paula.

### III. **NAS Study Draft Concept Paper**

Andy reviewed the concept paper; Jeff discussed his talk with John O'Donnell and Eric Saperstein regarding the stimulus package; where is the leadership in Congress to go to. Have an advocate to promote the paper. We need to put some thought is needed with strategic thinking.

Below are comments received regarding the paper:

The group agreed to write a letter and send it to the Western Governor's Association to get their support. Mike Hightower had some great ideas to add to the letter and paper. He will work with Jeff and Andy to develop it.

Ed Archuleta– The report is not strong enough. We need to have consensus with AWWARF – not consolidated issues or a turf war for dollars. We need to work together to make things happen with respect to the paper.

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Ernie Avila – Suggested that Bureau of Reclamation as a vehicle to move the paper forward, as well as the Water Reuse Foundation.

Bill Steele – Now is the time; governors association; identify \$25 million.

Andy Sienkewich – The paper needs a problem statement. He will work with Jeff and Mike to develop this.

Rich Atwater – Asked where is the money coming from because stimulus is a one-time event. We also need to prioritize our issues, i.e., energy independence is top priority; coastal vs. inland issues; investments/regulatory issues needs research.

Ed Archuleta – Asked if Jeff and Andy can work with Mike Hightower and articulate problem, then get the concept paper signed by all agencies, i.e., Governor's Assoc, etc.

Mike Hightower suggested that MSSC needs to make a decision to work with Water Reuse and work with AMWA.

Andy Sienkewich stated that we need to create a message or issue that represents many states; and define how to get resources to do it.

Ernie Avila stated that we need to identify organizations.

Ed Archuleta stated that we need to send to the signed letter and concept paper to the new administration advocating that desalination is needed to meet future needs.

Andy and Jeff to work on position paper with problems facing inland and ocean desalination; two pages with signatures from organizations.

#### **IV. Other Business:**

Ed will stay on longer as chair due to the economy and will work with the board to rotate the leadership.

#### **V. Next Member Meeting:**

Schedule a conference call for the second week in February.

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