



**Minutes of the AMS Board on
Enterprise Economic Development (BEED)
Telecon**

**Tuesday, 5 May 2009
2:00 PM EDT**

Meeting Participants

Members Present	Members Unavailable	Guests
Pam Emch, Chair	John Henz	Gary Rasmussen, AMS
Robert Plante	Holly Hartman	Keith Seitter, AMS
Dorlisa Hommel	Monica Hale	
DeWayne Cecil	Eva Regnier	
Andrea Bleistein	Richard Eckman	
Richard Ohlemacher	Ed Boselly, <i>Ex Officio</i>	
Jon Davis, <i>Ex Officio</i>		

The telecon began at 2:00 PM EDT and ended at 3:05 PM EDT.

Old Business

1. Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes from the 10 March 2009 telecon.

2. Agenda Approval

The Board approved the distributed agenda.

3. 2009 Public-Private Partnership Forum (PPPF) Readout

We discussed perceptions of the 2009 PPPF that took place in DC on April 21–22, 2009. Overall the PPPF went very well. We received quite a few positive comments on the agenda, sessions, venue, speakers, interaction, etc. As with last year, lots of accolades on the amount of time available for Q&A, networking, etc. Pam noted that the agency session went well with the new panel format; Mary Glackin mentioned that she liked this format. The private sector session was very good – the downside was that few agency people were in the audience so that the cross-sector discussion was very limited. Gary said that 92 people attended this year – a record – we had 79 registered in 2009 and not all attended. Some comments that may assist in setting up the agenda for next year’s PPPF follow.

Dorlisa noted that there were a lot of comments related to data – gathering, storing, accessing, matching-up. One attendee said he had just heard about CLASS that day – so more advertising of this seems needed. We were reminded of Ron Birk’s comment during the PPPF on the effort to develop a National Information Infrastructure. Perhaps “data” and public-private partnerships related to it could be a focus for a session next year.

We again discussed the possibility of holding the PPPF closer to the Hill to make it easier for staffers to attend. Pam noted that in setting up the 2008 and 2009 PPPFs seven or so venues had

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been assessed. A spreadsheet was developed with notes on location, conference room capacity and layout, utility for a lunch / talk on Day 1, proximity to a venue suitable for dinner / talk on Day 1, proximity to metro stops, proximity to “government per diem rate” hotels, and last but not least – cost of facility. One venue that might possibly be suitable is the Reagan Trade Center. For assessment and a decision on a new venue personal visits would be needed; help would be needed from a DC-based individual, perhaps a BEED member or someone from the AMS DC office.

Gary suggested that we look at the possibility of holding the legislative session(s) on the Hill, and making this the final session of the PPPF. He also said that Thursday – Friday might be good days for the PPPF.

Other suggestions that came up during planning and after the PPPF related to shifting the PPPF off of the week after the congressional Easter recess. This week is a very busy one for staffers as they are catching up on tasks upon the return of Congress. One suggestion is that we hold the PPPF the week of Easter recess – staffers would be more available then. However this would almost eliminate the chance of getting a congressman / senator as speaker for the Day 1 dinner.

Pam took the action to provide Cara Campbell of AMS with a list of dates to reserve at the UC Washington Center for the 2010 PPPF. Other venues will be re-examined. A venue / date decision has to be made in Fall 2009.

4. ITS/Surface Transportation Committee

Ed Boselly, ITS/Surface Transportation Committee Chair, was not available to report on recent and planned activities.

5. Energy Committee

Jon Davis, Energy Committee Chair, reported on recent and planned activities. The Energy Committee, along with NCDC, will be co-hosting a Webcast on optimal normals on June 2. There were 99 WebX “slots” at the last Webcast – but the group is hoping to get 200 slots this time as 99 wasn’t sufficient. This meeting helps cap off 2 1/2 yrs of effort focused on NCDC decadal normals.

We discussed the call for papers for the First Conference on Weather, Climate, and the New Energy Economy that will take place at the January 2010 AMS Annual Meeting. The call was recently posted in BAMS. This summer the Energy Committee will be focused on organizing the conference.

The Commission on the Weather and Climate Enterprise has suggested that the BEED Energy Committee be the nucleus for starting a new Renewable Energy Working Group / Committee. Jon said that this will be a topic at the next Energy Committee telecon, to be held next week on May 13, 1 pm CT.

New Business

1. 2009 AMS Summer Community Meeting

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We discussed the Summer Meeting, currently in planning mode, scheduled for August 10-13, 2009. The meeting will be organized around the themes of 1) NRC/NAS recommendations on Network-of-Networks (NoN) and 2) Renewable Energy.

We wondered if there was an AMS team responding to the NoN concept. Gary explained that George Frederick has put a team together, they are just forming up – the first meeting was held after the PPPF. There is some attempt to respond from each agency; NOAA is getting ready to put out an RFP. But it can't be just the agencies responding – so to fill the void George has put this team together. Their goal is to hold a “pre-Summit” meeting after the AMS Summer Meeting. George said that the formation of this AMS NoN Working Group has been well received by the interested parties.

2. 2010 Annual Meeting Planning

We discussed Annual Meeting planning status, including the First Conference on Weather, Climate, and the New Energy Economy, and the 8th Users Forum – see information above under “Energy Committee”. The 8th Users Forum will be joint with several sessions – the First Conference on W, C, and the New Energy Economy already mentioned, a lunchtime panel on NPOESS / GOES data and users, and possibly the CCM Forum. The Users Forum will also provide an opportunity to invite specific speakers on the New Energy Economy or another topic if desired, meaning that submitted abstracts would not be required.

3. Schedule Next BEED Telecon

The next BEED telecon will be held Tuesday, June 23 at 2 pm EDT.

Open Discussion

Our discussion centered on formulation of a Climate Service, how this might work across agencies and how AMS could get involved.

Rick noted that Jane Lubchenco testified on the Hill on the topic of a Climate Service. Rick recommended that we look at the website for details. Jack Fellows will be testifying on this same topic this afternoon. A possible future topic for the PPPF might be “what should a Climate Service look like?”- roles and responsibilities, etc. AMS members can focus on the topic in events and venues to help.

One area of discussion is how to better coordinate climate services across agencies. Bob mentioned that during the climate services summit earlier this year Jane Lubchenco mentioned the NWS public-private collaboration as a role model for climate.

We wondered how AMS could get more involved in the climate services definition and the public-private components. Some agencies are already jumping in – the train is moving on – is AMS sufficiently involved?

DeWayne stated that there is a June workshop in Boise, co-chaired by NOAA and USGS, for agency folks. The workshop is focused on the Columbia River Basin as a Climate Services demonstration area. There will be a follow-on workshop later in the summer that will be open to the two other AMS sectors.

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We wondered what AMS was doing wrt the NRC climate report: “Restructuring Federal Climate Research to Meet the Challenges of Climate Change”. We are not sure if AMS is involved or has offered a statement, suggestions, or response. Some of the BEED members strongly suggested that this be added as a topic for the AMS Summer Meeting. Pam said that the Summer Meeting agenda was at the deadline for being set and adding a new topic area was likely not feasible – so we discussed other venues. Rick said that Northrop Grumman and associated entities were organizing a policy forum with Bill Hooke to take place in the early fall. This might serve as a venue for discussion.