



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

**Wednesday, 15 July 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
Richard Eckman	Andrea Bleistein	
Monica Hale	Dave Jones	
Dorlisa Hommel	Eva Regnier	
DeWayne Cecil		
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 3:00 PM EDT.

Old Business

1. Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the minutes from the 5 May 2009 telecon.

2. Agenda Approval

The Board approved the distributed agenda.

3. 2009 AMS Summer Community Meeting

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. Gary said updates to the on-line agenda would be made at the end of the week. Rich noted that a few names would change in the renewable energy session; there is a good working group organizing the session and exciting topics planned. It look like there will be quite a bit of industry participation in this session. The Board had a general discussion about renewable energy. Ed summarized some activities going on in the Pacific Northwest. He has gone on a tour of a very large wind farm in eastern Washington State. This farm has 127 towers now and will add 23 to ultimately provide for 70,000 homes. An outfit in Seattle will be building one of the largest solar power farms in the world to date. This is expected to be operational next year and will provide power for 45,000 homes. All agreed that renewable energy is coming more and more to the forefront and we are pleased that it is a topic at both the Summer Meeting and the Annual Meeting.

4. 2010 Annual Meeting Planning

We discussed Annual Meeting planning status. Jon reported out on the status of the First Conference on Weather, Climate, and the New Energy Economy. The call for papers has been sent out, but abstracts aren't due until the end of the month. We talked about perhaps trying to line up a speaker on cap and trade for lunch time or to start the session. This started a general discussion on aspects of "cap and trade". Cap and trade is really a financial mechanism—weather and climate data are not used as inputs. However, the cap and trade mechanism and approaches associated with it may dictate what types of energy need to be used. We need to be aware of two areas in cap and trade: 1) general information about the process and 2) how the process is used on an operational basis. It would be important to the weather and climate community to understand how and/or if weather and climate information can be used in the process and the potential importance of meteorologists.

5. Energy Committee

Jon Davis, Energy Committee Chair, reported on recent and planned activities. The primary current activity of the Committee is organizing the First Conference on Weather, Climate, and the New Energy Economy as described above. Jon added that the Energy Committee, along with NCDC, co-hosted a Webcast on optimal normals on June 2. There were 80-90 participants. This meeting helped cap off 2 1/2 yrs of effort focused on NCDC decadal normals. Jon said that perhaps the First Conference on Weather, Climate, and the New Energy Economy could include a talk on the new decadal normals. Jon rotates off the Committee in January and he will be planning for that and recommending a new chair.

6. ITS/Surface Transportation Committee

Ed Boselly, ITS/Surface Transportation Committee Chair, reported on recent and planned activities. The Committee has 8 new members; the first telecon was held on April 22 (minutes available soon). Ed filled us in on topics from that meeting and subsequent activities. Various agencies have training programs in the works for users who would like to utilize weather information at transportation centers. The University of North Dakota is developing an archive for surface transportation weather. The Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS America) plans to stand up a BEED-like organization. ITS America held a meeting June 1-3; several members of the Committee attended this. COMET had put together another course of Surface Transportation Weather. A road weather forum is being planned for Fall 2009.

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) 2010 Annual Meeting will probably take place a week before the AMS Annual Meeting. It is good it will not conflict this coming year – when it does attendance at AMS events is reduced. The TRB is working on a NWS article that might then go into BAMS.

New Business

1. Schedule Next BEED Telecon

The next BEED telecon will be held in September, date TBD.

24 September 2009

Open Discussion

Pam asked for volunteers to assist with the 2010 Public-Private Partnership Forum. Dorlisa agreed to help.

DeWayne mentioned the workshop previously planned for June in Boise, co-chaired by NOAA and USGS, for agency folks. The workshop was to be focused on the Columbia River Basin as a Climate Services demonstration area. This workshop has been moved to September in Portland. A Climate Services Demo project is to be up and moving within a year. This activity has a lot of momentum. DeWayne will see if he can share a white paper on the purpose of the workshop/activity and an agenda. There is still to be a follow-on workshop that will be open to the two other AMS sectors.