



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

**Thursday, 24 May 2007  
2:00 PM EDT**

### Meeting Participants

Members Present	Members Unavailable	Members Unavailable	Guests
Bill Mahoney, Chair	Jim O'Sullivan	Richard Ohlemacher	
Josh Foster	Brenda Philips		
John Zack	Jan Dutton		
Dorlisa Hommel	William Graham		
Paul Pisano, <i>Ex Officio</i>	Pam Emch		
Jon Davis, <i>Ex Officio</i>	Greg Wilson		
	Robert Plante		

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

### Welcome to New Members

We welcomed new Board Members, Robert Plante (Sasaki Institute, OU), Dorlisa Hommel (Raytheon), and Richard Ohlemacher (Northrop Grumman) to the Board. We are still waiting to hear back from one Board candidate on whether she will be able to participate.

### Old Business

#### 1. Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the Minutes from the 24 May 2007 telecom meeting. The Minutes were posted to the Commission website at:

<http://www.ametsoc.org/boardpges/cwce/index.html>

#### 2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved without changes or additions.

#### 3. 2007 Corporate Forum Review

Despite a last minute agenda conflict with a Congressional hearing scheduled on the NOAA budget, which resulted in the loss of the House and Senate science staff members and Vice Admiral Lautenbacher, the March 2007 Corporate Forum was successful. This year there were about 70 attendees and partly because of the addition of the Congressional Appropriations panel on the second day, more people attended both days.

The new formula to have agency and authorization sessions on day one and the appropriations session on day two appeared to work. Once again, the presentations tended to run long which used up valuable question and answer time. It was pointed out that after the Forum, there was a brief discussion with the AMS as to whether the Corporate Forum name should be changed to something that conveys a meeting with broader appeal. This was discussed in the past, but was not acted upon as there was some fear that the successful history of the event as the *Corporate* Forum would be lost. Given the ongoing desire to increase the attendance to closer to 100 (the current limit) and the realization that the topics discussed are appealing to more than just the AMS Corporate members, the Chair suggested that the Board should give serious consideration to a new name. The corporate members will still receive a discount on the registration fee. This topic will be discussed in more detail during the next telecon.

#### **4. 2008 Users Forum**

Planning for the 2008 Users Forum in New Orleans has begun. The Users Forum will be jointly organized by the BEED and the AMS Societal Impacts Board. The AMS Energy Committee will also organize the Forum's energy industry session. The Users Forum is currently scheduled for Tuesday, 22 January 2008 and will run from 08:30 to 5:30 PM. The morning session, which includes a long poster break, will support 4 speakers (20 min talks with 10 min of Q&A) and is currently titled as *Emergency Management and Rescue Operations*. The afternoon session will support up to 6 speakers and is currently titled as *Extreme Weather, Climate Change, and the Energy Industry*. The theme is centered on risks associated with extreme weather (hurricanes) and we will try to engage industry participants local to the New Orleans (and Houston) area, particularly offshore operations. John Zack reminded the Board that these Forums generate a lot of discussion and suggested that the forum be organized as panel discussions rather than just presentations. This idea was well received. Bill Mahoney will draft a new Forum outline that will be organized around two panel discussions, one for each session.

#### **5. Energy Committee Report**

Jon Davis reported that the Energy Committee is off to a good start. They had their first meeting in New Orleans. Tom Karl, Director of the National Climate Data Center (NCDC), attended the meeting to inform the committee that NCDC is beginning the process of assessing how they will engage the users of climate data in the development of a new climate normal data set. The climate *normals* are used broadly and changes to the methods and techniques will likely have a huge impact, thus end users must be engaged early in the process. The Energy Committee is helping NCDC organize webcasts and telecons and the first event was held on 17 May. The telecon had 99 participants and although it was only scheduled for 90 minutes, it could have lasted for a few hours given the strong interest in the topic. The Energy Committee is also beginning the process of collecting information on energy related conferences, meetings, symposia, etc. as well as information on meteorologists and climatologists in the industry. Jon Davis has hired a student to organize the information and work with the AMS to post it to the web site. The

Energy Committee will also prepare a list of unmet needs (in services or data) this year that could be used by the enterprise to better serve the industry.

## **6. ITS/Surface Transportation Committee Report:**

Paul Pisano reported that the Committee met in San Antonio with its sister committee, the Intelligent Transportation Society of America's Weather Information and Applications Special Interest Group (ITSA WIA-SIG). The Committee is working with the Transportation Research Board's new Surface Transportation Weather Task Force and the Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology's (OFCM) Weather Information for Surface Transportation (WIST) Working Group to organize a national surface transportation weather symposium. The symposium is tentatively scheduled for July 25-27 in the Washington, D.C area. The committee is also working on developing a surface transportation weather web portal, but progress has been slow on that activity. A BAMS article on road weather is also in the works, but at this time there is no target date for publication. Paul indicated that several Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) weather related activities are moving ahead including the Maintenance Decision Support System (MDSS), Clarus, and Vehicle Infrastructure Integration (VII) activities. Paul also indicated that there is an interest in the transit community for improved weather decision support. Art Handman, Chair of the ITSA WIA-SIG, is working to define a requirements gathering process for weather and transit. The Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITSA) will hold its annual meeting in Palm Springs, CA from 3-7 June 2007. The weather community will be well represented at that meeting.

## **7. Commission (CWCE) Activities:**

No report as George Frederick was unavailable.

## **New Business**

### **1. BEED Chair-elect**

Pam Emch (Northrop Grumman) was announced as the BEED Chair-elect. Her term will begin in January 2008. Pam will work closely with Bill Mahoney and George Frederick this year in preparation for next year. Congratulations to Pam!

### **2. Next BEED Telecon**

The next BEED telecon is proposed for Tuesday, 17 July 2007. [This was subsequently changed to Tuesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>.]

## **Open Discussion**

- Bill Mahoney suggested that the Board, particularly the Energy Committee, should begin to identify candidate speakers for the Users Forum. We will want to begin inviting speakers in late summer.