

## **Minutes**

### **Nationwide Network of Networks Ad Hoc Working Group 25 JUNE 2009 Teleconference**

- 1. Purpose of the Group:** Develop enterprise-wide strategy for a nationwide network of networks in support of multiple needs.
- 2. Terms of Reference:** Draft Terms of Reference:
  - Ad Hoc group with free and open discussion of the issues encouraged
  - Working group resides under the Commissioner of the AMS Weather and Climate Enterprise Commission.
  - Strategy development includes addressing potential business models, organizational structure and operating modes.
  - A plan for a summit of stakeholders will be developed
  - Other committees and/or working groups may be established to address specific aspects of the issue and to implement the strategy developed.
  - Life of the working group indefinite but should be reviewed at least annually
- 3. Membership on the call—great turnout as follows.**
  - a. Government**
    - i. NOAA/NWS (Don Berchoff)—On the call**
    - ii. NOAA/OAR (Steve Fine)—On the call**
    - iii. FHWA (Paul Pisano)—On the call**
    - iv. OFCM (Sam Williamson)—On the call supported by Jud Stailey and Sabrina Taijeron**
    - v. EPA (Rich Scheffe)—New—Not on the call**
    - vi. AASC (Ken Crawford)—New—On the call**
  - b. Private Sector**
    - i. Vaisala (Walt Dabberdt)—Not on the call**
    - ii. AWS (Bob Marshall)—On the call supported by John Doherty**
    - iii. Accuweather (Joel Myers)—On the call**
    - iv. DTN (Jim Block)—On the call**
  - c. Academia**
    - i. OU (Fred Carr)—On the call**
    - ii. Utah (John Horel)—On the call**

- iii. **NCAR (Rit Carbone)—Not on the call**
  - d. **AMS**
    - i. **WCEC (George Frederick)—On the call**
    - ii. **HQ (Gary Rasmussen)—On the call**
  - e. **Others (ex Officio)**
    - i. **Pam Emch (BEED Chair)—On the call**
    - ii. **Veronica Johnson (BEC Chair)—On the call**
    - iii. **Tim Spangler (BEP Chair)—On the call**
    - iv. **Joe Friday (WCEC Commissioner)—Not on the call**
    - v. **Len Pietrafesa (WCEC Future Commissioner)—Not on the call**

#### **4. Discussion**

- a. Sam Williamson described the effort the OFCM is making to coordinate the federal response to the NRC report. He has activated the Committee on Integrated Observing Systems (CIOS) for this purpose and has held one meeting thus far. Future meetings are planned prior to the AMS Summer Meeting. There are also plans for involving the ICMSSR and the FCMSSR which are within the OFCM structure to further move the process forward within the government and to serve as an interface with the entire community on this effort.
- b. Jud Stailey of OFCM then discussed the results of the first CIOS meeting which are summarized in the notes from that meeting distributed to our working group previously. A number of significant issues and processes have already been identified such as metadata, network certification, MADIS, definition of mesoscale, 4D Weather cube, NASA experience with large data management, etc. The community will need to come to grips with these and other issues as we move forward.
- c. Joel Myers commented on the high standards needed for government use of data which generated some discussion. Ken Crawford highlighted an initiative of the American Association of State Climatologists (AASC) to establish tiers of data quality. The upcoming AASC meeting will address draft statements on the topics of metadata, quality, availability and reliability of data sources as they fit into an overall structure of tiered support.
- d. There was concern expressed that up to now the effort appears to be federally driven and government-centric. Discussion ensued and a number of the government participants expressed the need for total community involvement. In particular Don Berchoff expressed the need for everyone to be involved in the metadata effort which needs to happen early on in the steps towards a Nationwide Network. Ken Crawford stated that we need to heavily involve the operators of private or state run networks, in particular. Fred Carr noted there is a website that identifies over 400 such networks—he forwarded the URL to all of us. We will seek out some of these folks and eventually involve as many as we can in future activities.
- e. Fred Carr, a member of the NRC committee, noted that ultimately there needs to be a summit of stakeholders to fully explore the way forward.

This is expected to take place over the next one to two years as the options become clarified. Our ad hoc working group will help facilitate this process.

- f. All agreed that the Summer Meeting in Norman will provide a lot of input and impetus for future activities of this working group and the entire effort.

## **5. Future Events**

- a. **AMS Summer Meeting**
  - i. **Norman OK, NWC, 10-13 Aug 09**
  - ii. **NRC Report Recommendations a major theme**
  - iii. **Latest Draft agenda attached (Withdrawn)**
- b. **AMS Annual Meeting**
  - i. **Atlanta, 17-21 Jan 2010**
  - ii. **IIPS will include a session on Nationwide Network of Networks**
  - iii. **Town Hall tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, 20 Jan 2010 for update and discussion of future challenges of the Nationwide Network of Networks effort.**
- c. **NRC Recommended Stakeholder Meeting(s)--TBD**

- 6. **Working Group Future Activities:** Telecons and webex will be the primary means of communications with occasional in person meetings at venues such as the Summer Meeting and Annual Meeting.