

AMERICAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of the 22 January 2012
Meeting of the Council
New Orleans, LA

Participants— AMS President Jon Malay, President-elect Louis Uccellini, Past-Presidents Tom Karl and Peggy LeMone, AMS Executive Director Keith Seitter, and Secretary-Treasurer Richard Rosen. **Councilors**: Tom Bogdan, Lee Branscome, Ken Carey, Anne Douglass, Mike Hardesty, Jill Hasling, Peter Lamb, Pat Phoebus, John Schaake, Rick Spinrad, Joe Witte, and Xubin Zeng. [Councilor Read joined the meeting at 11:15 a.m.; Councilors Morss and Tribble were absent.] **Commissioners**: Mary Cairns (STAC), David Jorgensen (Publications), Jay Trobec (Professional Affairs), Gene Takle (Education and Human Resources), Len Pietrafesa (Weather and Climate Enterprise), Julie Winkler (Planning). **Incoming President-elect, Councilors, and Commissioners**: Marshall Shepherd, Jose Fuentes, Richard Johnson, Christa Peters-Lidard, Wassila Thiaw, Chidong Zhang, Matt Parker, and David Smith.. **AMS Staff**: Joyce Annese, Caitlin Buzzas, Lee Gordon, Claudia Gorski, Paul Higgins, Bill Hooke, Barry Mohan, Gary Rasmussen, Wendy Marie Thomas, and Melissa Weston. Annese and Seitter served as recorders.

[The numbering of the following sections follows that in the agenda, but the sections are listed in the order they were addressed at the meeting.]

0.0 Agenda

President Malay called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, 22 January 2012, and welcomed all. The roll was called, and Secretary-Treasurer Rosen announced a quorum of voting members was present. President Malay welcomed new President-Elect and Councilors and reviewed the agenda.

1.3 Minutes

The Council reviewed and approved the minutes from the 22–23 September 2011 Council meeting.

1.4 Council Mail Ballots

The votes of all Council e-mail ballots not previously approved unanimously were formally re-affirmed. The Council also voted to approve the reactivation of the Student Chapter at University of Maryland.

2.0 New President-elect and Councilors

President Malay took this opportunity to acknowledge those Council members rotating off following this meeting and thanked them for their service.

2.1 Secretary–Treasurer

With Secretary-Treasurer Rosen excused during this agenda item, the Council reappointed him as Secretary–Treasurer for an additional two-year term.

2.2 Ballot Structure

The Council discussed the results of the 2011 election and decided to use a single grouping of candidates for the 2012 ballot, providing a number of suggestions to the Nominating Committee so that a diverse ballot could be presented to the membership. The Council requested the Planning Commission once again review options for the ballot structure in anticipation of approval of changes to the AMS Constitution that will allow more flexibility in future years.

3.1 Scientific and Technological Activities Commission

Commissioner Cairns reviewed her report and summarized the discussions of the all-day Commission meeting from the day before. The Council approved Michael E. McIntyre as the Bernhard Haurwitz Memorial Lecturer for 2013, and W. James Shuttleworth as the Robert E. Horton Lecturer in Hydrology for 2013. Commissioner Cairns reviewed the proposed changes to the STAC section of the Organizational Procedures with minor edits along with a provision to ensure students that are committee members have voting privileges. These revisions to the Organizational Procedures were approved as were slightly edited terms of reference for the Board on Data Stewardship and Board on Environment and Health. The Council affirmed the committee and board membership lists provided by Commissioner Cairns, who noted the Commission has a goal to have all committees and boards include at least one student member. It was suggested that an ad hoc membership committee be formed to enhance diversity for membership within the Commission. The Council discussed the status of all Statements provided by Commissioner Cairns and agreed with the actions and recommendations presented with minor changes. There are cost concerns for the proposed 2013 Radar Conference in Japan, and the Council asked Commissioner Cairns to have the Radar Committee provide alternative locations for consideration.

3.2 Publications Commission

Commissioner Jorgensen reported on recent activities of the Commission, noting the increase in manuscript submissions in the past few years and reporting on new appointments made in the Commission.

3.3 Professional Affairs Commission

Commissioner Trobec provided a brief summary of the Commission's activities and lists of incoming Board members for Council review. A proposal to establish an AMS Board for Early Career Professionals was approved by the Council. Commissioner Trobec also presented a proposal to revise the Procedures and Requirements for Certified Broadcast Meteorologists, which the Council approved.

3.4 Education and Human Resources Commission

Commissioner Takle reviewed the activities of the Commission noting especially some of the events taking place at the Annual Meeting. The Council thanked Gene for his service as Commissioner and welcomed David Smith as the incoming Commissioner.

3.5 Planning Commission

Commissioner Winkler gave a verbal report on the reviews of progress toward implementing recommendations of the External Review and toward meeting the Strategic Goals. The Commission will meet during the week and intends to submit reports to the Council after the Annual Meeting.

[The Council briefly recessed from 10-10:10 a.m.]

3.6 Weather and Climate Enterprise Commission

Commissioner Pietrafesa reported on Commission activities and announced Mary Glackin will begin her term as Future Commissioner. He reviewed the proposed changes in the Organizational Procedures for the Commission, which the Council approved with minor changes. The Council thanked Len for his service as Commissioner as he transitions to Past Commissioner and welcomed Matt Parker as the incoming Commissioner.

6.0 Fundraising as we approach 100th Anniversary

Dr. Bruce Bigelow and Dr. Carol Kolmerten from Charitable Development Consulting reviewed a formal Gift Acceptance Policy, which was approved by Council. They also discussed focus group meetings to be held during the week to discuss ideas for a giving campaign commemorating the Society's 100th Anniversary.

10.2 Statement on Climate Change

Councilor Lamb reviewed progress on the Statement on Climate Change as the drafting committee works to address comments provided by the Council, noting that a new draft is nearly ready for Council review in preparation for the 30-day comment period. The Council voted to extend the period in force of the existing Statement to September 2012 and to extend the deadline for completing the new Statement. An individual who had been in the room as an observer interrupted the discussion to present a petition calling for a strong statement and, after doing so, left the meeting.

[President Malay and Councilor Hasling left the meeting at 11:35 a.m. to launch WeatherFest. President-elect Uccellini assumed the chair, and the Council recessed from 11:35 – 11:50 a.m. to prepare for a working lunch.]

4.1 Bylaws changes

By a vote of 15-0, the Council approved an amendment to the Bylaws describing the scope of the community served by the AMS.

4.2 Constitutional Amendment

The Council approved the formal language to be presented to the membership for a set of amendments to the AMS Constitution.

5.0 Naming Rooms at Headquarters

The Council approved naming the solarium at AMS Headquarters the Simpson Room to honor Joanne Simpson.

7.0 Report from Membership Committee

President-elect Uccellini commended Ken Carey, chair of the Membership Committee, for the work he and his Committee have done thus far and suggested looking at reasons why the membership declined slightly in the last year. Councilor Carey provided a review of his report and discussed areas of focus for the Committee in the coming year.

8.0 Amendment to Retirement Plan

The Council approved the second amendment to the AMS employees' Retirement Plan.

9.0 Wexler Memorial Lecture

The Council decided the Wexler Memorial Lecture should not be reinstituted at this time, but noted its pleasure that Wexler's contributions were being highlighted in a keynote lecture in the History Symposium.

10.1 Statement on Freedom of Scientific Expression

The Council approved the draft Statement on Freedom of Scientific Expression.

10.3 Statement on Meteorological Drought

The Council discussed the proposed drafting team for the Statement on Meteorological Drought and suggested expanding the breadth of expertise on the drafting team. Several Councilors volunteered to help with the proposal.

11.0 2011 Budget Update

While the books for the 2011 budget year were not yet closed, Executive Director Seitter reported the year appears to have ended with the budget very close to, and perhaps slightly better than, the projection presented at the fall Council meeting, which was better than break even.

12.0 Status of Office Space

Executive Director Seitter reported to the Council that staff is now using the space at 44 Beacon Street and briefed it on the move of the Washington, DC, office staff to the AAAS building in March.

13.0 Honorary Members

President-Malay reminded Council members to send President-elect Uccellini any names that should be considered for Honorary Membership for review at the April EC meeting.

14.1 2012 Annual Meeting

Executive Director Seitter briefed the Council on preregistration and anticipated on-site numbers for this meeting.

14.2 2013 Annual Meeting

President-elect Uccellini briefed the Council on plans for the 2013 Annual Meeting in Austin.

14.3 2014 Annual Meeting

Incoming President-elect Shepherd briefed the Council on plans for the 2014 Annual Meeting in Atlanta and his theme of extreme weather and climate on the planet.

15.4 Status Reports

Policy Program Director Hooke briefly reviewed his program, the impact it has had on other AMS activities, and how alumni of the Summer Policy Colloquium have moved into leadership positions throughout the community.

The Council adjourned at 1:30 p.m.