

Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 12, 2014; 2 PM EDT; 1 PM CDT; Noon, MDT; and 11 AM, PDT

1. **Dialed in to this conference call (13 of us) were:** Kelly Mahoney, Andrew Molthan, Josh Hacker, Brent Shaw, Sam Ng, Jon Porter, Cyrena Briede, Jason Furtado, Walter Drag, Alex Tardy, Charles Kuster, Derek Mallia, and Bruce Telfeyan.

Unable to attend (7): Michael Brennan, Carolyn Reynolds, Lans Rothfusz, Rebecca Adams-Selin, James Belanger, Gail Hartfield, and Kathryn Shontz.

2. Review of Action Items:

- **Action Item #1, OPR: Bruce.** Develop a five year plan for our future WAF Committee efforts. In Atlanta, Ward Seguin asked each STAC committee and board to sketch our 5 year plan. We need to keep it simple. Request for each member to review the draft plan in the next week, report to Bruce with edits.
 - I have sent out a first cut at a five year plan to all committee members. Please send me any suggestions you might have for additions or improvements.
- **Action Item #2, OPR: Bruce.** Have WAF learn about creating special conference collections conferences as per guidance from STAC. As yet, no progress has been made. The conference collections are things we could create after every 18-month conference. I will have to get with Ward for more information about these collections.
- **Action Item #3, OPR: Bruce. (CLOSED)** Make a schedule that rotates the WAF Facebook page duty at monthly intervals, for those willing to take part:
 - March **2014:** Jason Furtado
 - April: Cyrena-Marie Briedé
 - May: Gail Hartfield-Supina
 - June: Alex Tardy
 - July: Charles Kuster
 - August: Katy Shontz
 - September: Derek Mallia
 - October: Bruce Telfeyan
 - November: Jonathan Porter
 - December: Brent Shaw
 - January **2015:** James Bellanger
 - February: Michael Brennan
 - March: Sam Ng
 - April: Becky Adams Selin
 - May: Kelly Mahoney
 - Open discussion on our Facebook page.
 - Most members commented that they feel our page is working really well.
 - Cyrena and Jason wished she had more time to dedicate to it. I noted that we have no minimum posting requirements.

- Are there better ways we can make use of the page? People should post as they find interesting material. The tricky thing about Facebook is you have to select to receive notifications a lot of the time. Even though people “like” the page they may not be receiving the information.
 - Some don’t have time for the WAF page, not sure what should be put on it, maybe we need a focus to have more active users.
 - I’ve noted several dozen people have “liked” our page the past several weeks. My thanks to whoever on our committee is eliciting all this action!
 - Let’s have further discussion on this in 3 months. Contact me with improvement ideas for updates but will continue on with the schedule. Anyone feel free to post anything they feel is interesting at any time.
- **Action Item #4, OPRs: Josh Hacker and Derek Mallia.** Chairing a session at the Mountain Meteorology Conference, San Diego, CA, week of 18 – 22 Aug 2014 (<http://www.ametsoc.org/MEET/fainst/201416mountmet.html>)
 - Update from Josh and/or Derek:
 - They received a record number of submissions, having to move a lot of posters, possibly eliminating an afternoon break. Things are going well, still evolving. Derek will be going, Josh may attend, depending on schedule. Cyrena not sure at this time.
- **Action Item #5, OPR: Bruce.** Designating judges for the AMS Awards that our committee is responsible for reviewing:
 - **Exceptional Specific Prediction (ESP) Award Judges:** Michael Brennan, Brent Shaw, Lans Rothfusz (must recuse from judging due to having nominated one of the candidates), Sam Ng, Jonathan Porter, Cyrena Briede, Jason Furtado, Walter Drag, Gail Hartfield-Supina, and Alex Tardy.
 - You can access the nominations by logging in at: <http://www2.ametsoc.org/awards/index.cfm>
 - Judges need to send me your rank-ordered ratings by May 22, 2014!
 - **The Charles L. Mitchell Award:** Josh Hacker, Andrew Molthan, Carolyn Reynolds, Kelly Mahoney, Rebecca Adams-Selin, James Belanger, Charles Kuster, Derek Mallia, and Kathryn Shontz. (AMS reported that no nominations were received for the Mitchell; hence, no judging to be performed this year.)
 - AMS received no nominations for the past several years. STAC (Ward Seguin) will work with us later in the year so this will not happen again next year. Likely to be more proactive in soliciting these awards in the future.
 - **Francis W. Reichelderfer Award:** Alex Tardy and Cyrena Briedé (along with individuals from BOGM, Hydrology, and Coastal Environment Committee.
 - Alex and Cyrena can access the nominations by logging in at: <http://www2.ametsoc.org/awards/index.cfm>
- **Action Item #6, OPRs: Andrew and Kelly.** Many committees write meeting summaries for BAMS. We need to investigate this and proceed to generate

these statements. Our first opportunity will be for the just completed WAF/NWP conference.

- Kelly and Andrew (many thanks!) created a draft summary and they will submit it to BAMS for eventual publication.

3. Items from our Commissioner, Ward Seguin:

- a. The Community Directory is now available on the AMS website for all of us to use as a way to share our profiles, interests, and expertise within the AMS community. Go to this website: <https://ametsoc.org/boardpges/cwce/docs/profiles/update.html> for instructions on how to set up your own profile. I submitted mine to the AMS (Gary Rasmussen). You can view it at: <http://j.mp/BruceTelfeyan>
 - Also, you can view the Community Directory at this link: <https://ametsoc.org/boardpges/cwce/docs/profiles/index.html>
- b. He noted that the AMS has a program that will assist in funding our student committee members to attend the annual meeting. We will plan to use this avenue to obtain funding for our student members for the future annual meetings. We need to take advantage of this. They will pay for our student members to go (unless you are presenting, and then they won't pay for it). I acknowledge that this doesn't make much sense, but is the AMS rule. For next January in Phoenix we can get funding for student members of the committee to go, unless they are presenting.
 - Andrew (or was it Kelly) encourage me to pursue getting an allotment for each conference? No movement to report but we should push for two \$1500 awards in the future.
 - ****Action item** for Bruce: needs to do some checking in for WAF and NWP conferences.
- c. He has given each committee the option of designating a Vice Chair. It is up to us to decide if we need and want to do this: A Vice Chair would be designated to take over if the Chair could no longer serve. They could help relieve workload of the Chair, be the designated successor, etc. I noted that my three year term ends next January. *While I have requested a year extension as chair (because I enjoy the work), Ward has given preliminary indication that this is not likely to be approved.* So, a Vice Chair could be the designated successor as WAF Chair. Walt feels a deputy chair isn't a bad idea. If anyone else has thoughts about it, please email me. We should come to a firm decision by our next call in late July.

4. AMS Annual Meeting 2015, Phoenix

- a. Do we want to have a role in the proceedings, such as hosting a town hall meeting? The theme that Bill Gail adopted is "Fulfilling the Vision of Weather, Water, Climate Information for Every Need, Time, and Place." You can read about it at:

<http://annual.ametsoc.org/2015/index.cfm/programs-and-events/theme/>

- If a THM, what topic might we tackle?
- Is there a board or committee we could team up with?

b. Alex Tardy volunteered to reach out to Trisha Palmer (BOGM) to see if they are interested in co-hosting a THM. They will keep Bruce in the loop. If that doesn't work out, no one is too concerned due to our recent involvement in Austin, Atlanta, and Denver. ****Action Item** for Alex.

5. AMS Annual Meeting 2016, New Orleans

- Sandy MacDonald has decided on the envisioned theme for the meeting: "Earth System Science in Service to Society." He would like our input (thoughts) to his vision by May 15. Ward asked me to share the draft with you (and if you have input, send comments to Ward, the program chair Mary Cairns, or to Sandy MacDonald). (I e-mailed the theme to all members with the agenda to this conference call.)

6. Update on WAF Committee website developments:

Please visit our site at <http://www2.ametsoc.org/stac/index.cfm/committees/committee-on-weather-analysis-and-forecasting/>

Again, thanks for Sam Ng for taking the lead on our site and giving us a high quality site.

- If you wish to have your photo appear (this is not mandatory!) in the Photographs tab, please send a photo of your choosing to Sam Ng (sng1@msudenver.edu). So far, Sam only has photos of himself and me.
 - I feel that this is perhaps a good way to obtain some visibility for our committee as folks may recognize us at conferences or meetings. It might help spread the word of the services we provide and help us carry out our work and perhaps act as mentors.
- **Derek Mallia** stepped forward and volunteered as a co-webmaster to work with Sam in keeping our website updated.
- Send any ideas you have for our website to Sam and/or Derek. Sam has only received 4 photos, would like to put them up this summer.

7. Further discussion regarding the 27th Conference on Weather Analysis and Forecasting, 23rd Conference on Numerical Weather Prediction, set for Denver in the June – Aug 2015 time frame:

- **Sam Ng** has accepted the position of our program chair for the conference and **Andrew Molthan** has agreed to be the co-chair. They will be forming a program committee and seeking out volunteers from among WAF members and other people as well.
- Latest update from Sam on plans for our conference in Denver in roughly 15 months.
 - Sam reported that he is waiting to hear some word from Brenda Ward (our Conference Coordinator) about her search for venues in downtown Denver. As a review, Sam and Bruce met with Brenda, in Atlanta and she had some concerns with downtown Denver. We agreed to spread out the target dates to June-Aug of 2015 so as to give Brenda more latitude for finding a site within our budget. Josh Hacker suggested partnering with another committee to try to reduce overall costs and make Denver more appealing to the AMS conference planners. As a result, Sam will reach

out to the Renewable Energy Committee to see if they are interested in joining our conference as a co-sponsor.

8. Partnering with other conferences: AMS encourages committees to pair up with others for joint conferences. It lowers the AMS cost for conferences, and we are always looking for partnership opportunities.
 - a. Mountain Meteorology Conference, San Diego, CA, week of 18 – 22 Aug 2014 (<http://www.ametsoc.org/MEET/fainst/201416mountmet.html>)
 - I reviewed previously shared information that Heather Reeves had contacted **Josh Hacker** and me to see if WAF would be willing to sponsor a joint session at their July meeting. Josh has agreed to represent WAF in this endeavor.
 - Heather envisions a session that focuses on NWP and data assimilation in mountainous terrain. She notes that they ordinarily have sessions on this topic, but it is not usually heavily favored. As our representative, Josh would be responsible for helping to choose which abstracts to put in the oral session and which in the poster.
 - b. We discussed other future partnership opportunities, including the possibilities for a symposium or town hall meeting at the annual meeting in Phoenix, Jan 2015. Andrew is the co-program chair for that event and he will see what possibilities for WAF involvement might be appropriate (refer to paragraph 4b).
 - c. Josh Hacker brought up the idea of pursuing the Energy Committee (it is under the Board on Enterprise Economic Development, part of the AMS Commission on the Weather and Climate Enterprise) as a partner for a future WAF/NWP conference.
9. Other events/responsibilities for 2014:
 - a. Brent Shaw provided an update on reviews of suggested additions or modifications to the AMS Glossary of Meteorology. Two reviews have been completed since we last met in Atlanta.
 - b. Bruce gave a short update on the revision of the AMS WAF Statement: The AMS Council granted us a three month extension to obtain Council approval of our revised statement, now Aug 24, 2014. The statement has been separated into four working sections, each with a leader. I will be receiving a progress report on each section later this month.

10. Note of thanks:

Again, I thank all of you for your involvement and active participation in WAF activities. Our efforts are truly volunteer ones and without the efforts of all of us, volunteers on all committees and boards, the AMS would not accomplish but a fraction of what it actually does.

11. Other items for discussion.

- Reminder that Alex Tardy (NWS San Diego) is a local area resource for the Mountain Meteorology Conference.
- Next WAF Committee teleconference targeting late July 2014. I will get a toll free number for future conference calls.

Submitted by Bruce Telfeyan
WAF Committee Chair
May 15, 2014