Minutes
AMS Weather Analysis and Forecasting Committee Conference Call
Tuesday, December 8 at 10:00 am Central

1. Roll Call
2. Update / Resolve previous actions:
3. Update on Upcoming Conference Events
    a. 96th AMS Annual Meeting in New Orleans (Molthan / Hacker)
        i. Special Symposium on Hurricane Katrina – Molthan/Hacker confirmed they will co-chair session 8 from 11:00-12:00 on Tuesday
    b. 97th AMS Annual Meeting (28th WAF/24th NWP) in Seattle, WA
        i. Becky Adams-Selin and Alex Tardy have volunteered to serve as program co-chairs and are assembling a conference committee.
        ii. Update on status of draft for call for papers and other items – draft has been provided to the AMS staff and includes mention of our special named session. We have also reached out two at least two other committees who are interested in sponsoring joint or themed joint sessions.
4. Updates to Definitions in the AMS Glossary
    a. Recently completed, thanks to efforts of Brent Shaw and colleagues:

Road Weather. The specific application of weather observing, modeling and forecasting to the road surface and driving environment, including the impact to the driver and to traffic.

Hypsometric Equation

An equation relating the thickness, h, between two isobaric surfaces to the mean virtual temperature of the layer:

$$h = z_2 - z_1 = \frac{R_d \overline{T_v}}{g} \ln\left(\frac{p_1}{p_2}\right)$$

where z_1 and z_2 are geometric heights at pressure levels p_1 and p_2, respectively; R_d is the gas constant for dry air; $\overline{T_v}$ is the mean virtual temperature of the layer, and g is gravity.

The hypsometric equation is derived from the hydrostatic equation and the ideal gas law.

Reference:

Wallace, J.M., and P.V. Hobbs, 1977: *Atmospheric Science: An Introductory Survey.* Academic Press, Inc., Orlando, Florida, pp. 55-57.

5. Updates from the AMS Scientific and Technological Activities Commission
    a. We are no longer required to draft an annual report for submission to the STAC. Instead, we will submit contributions for the monthly newsletter.
    b. Andrew will still plan to draft something of an annual report for our activities since we have posted several years' worth of these on our web page, and it's nice to have for consistency.
6. Committee Roles and Responsibilities
    a. Opportunity to re-evaluate roles/responsibilities in January at the AMS Annual Meeting in New Orleans.
7. Awards and Fellows
    a. Special session in Seattle will honor Ron Pryzbilinski, NWS employee of 35 years, Science and Operations Officer at NWS St. Louis, and AMS/NWA/NWS award recipient.
    b. Nominations will other awards will resume through 1 May 2016.
8. Web Page / Social Media
    a. Great contributions continue to be posted to the WAF page and we have a lot of followers there.
    b. Recent/Upcoming months:
        i. October: James Belanger
        ii. November: Jennifer Tate
        iii. December: Sam Ng
        iv. January / 2016: TBD
    c. If you have access to post and remain interested in providing content, please continue to do so.
9. Committee Membership and Appointments
    a. New members joining in 2016 include Shawn Milrad, Clark Evans, and Marty Baxter, replacing outgoing members Kelly Mahoney and Lans Rothfusz.
10. Other Notes
    a. We will have a committee meeting in New Orleans over lunch on Wednesday, January 13. Light agenda, pretty informal, but please attend.
    b. We will try to provide a dial-in for that meeting if available. Sometimes phone access / cellular can be spotty in the conference hotels.
    c. Brief discussion: AMS "Researcher Involvement Committee" and shared thoughts on the AMS Annual Meeting and AMS specialty meetings.