



# WEMA Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2013

Mark Owen, President

## CALL MEETING TO ORDER

WEMA President, Mark Owen, called the meeting to order at 1631 hours on March 07, 2013 at the Ho-Chunk Conference Center, Baraboo, WI. It is being noted that there were some issues with being able to call in via teleconference.

## AGENDA

Motion to approve the March 7, 2013 agenda made by Donna Haugom (Jefferson Co); seconded by John Ennis (Walworth Co). Unanimously approved.

## MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion to approve annual meeting minutes from September 16, 2012 by Lori Hucek (Kewaunee Co); seconded by Darin Gudgeon (Richland Co). Unanimously approved.

## TREASURER'S REPORT / FINANCIAL AUDIT

WEMA Treasurer Lori Hucek reported that as of October 19, 2012 the balance is \$12,932.34, deposits added \$10,845.00, expenses subtracted \$11,296.53 and the forwarded balance is \$12480.81. The checking account balance on 3/1/2013 is \$12,480.81, certificate of deposit on 10/25/2008 was 10305.67 for a total balance of \$10,305.67 (full report attached). 45 people have not paid their 2013 dues. Joe Meagher stated that they have concluded the audit reconciliation of the books and there are no issues or problems to report Everything is in order and only one check is outstanding. Lori solicited, of those present, for a chance to take over the treasurer's position in the near future; there were no takers. WEMA Conference outcome was two deposits of \$4000.00 each that resulted in breaking even or just a little above what was expended. Motion by Nick Flugaur (Ho-Chunk Nation) to approve the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Gary Brown (Pierce Co). Unanimously approved.

## PRESENT / APPROVE BY-LAW CHANGES

Number of by-law changes were submitted at the annual meeting. During the November meeting more changes were made. An email was sent out in regards to the changes and if county directors wanted to receive the by-laws by email or would prefer a hard copy sent through the mail. 100 copies were distributed by regular mail and the rest by email.

WEMA President Owen suggested that there be discussion and explanation on each of the changes with all of the changes to the by-laws being approved in one motion.

### Annotated by-law changes, discussions and explanations

- Article II Section 2 c **add** "*coordinator*" - No discussion
- Article III Section 3 **remove** "*and shall be paid to the Treasurer annually, on January 1*" **add** "*Members shall be notified each year prior to December 15<sup>th</sup> of the amount of fees due and payable for the following year membership, and are due and payable by January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year of membership. Memberships shall commence the first day of January and terminate on the last day of December of the same year. Dues paid at the annual fall meeting shall be applied to the next membership year.*"; **remove** "*April 1*" **add** "*January 31*", and **add** "*All past presidents, after serving their term of office, shall by virtue of their accomplishments be accorded Life Membership in the Association. This membership shall be free-of-charge, and life members shall be afforded the privileges and duties of all members.*"  
**Discussion:** David Maack questioned the life membership of presidents and past presidents, Nick (Ho-Chunk Nation) explained the intent was to retain their expertise should they move into a different field away from county emergency management etc. Dave (Racine Co) suggested to allow the past presidents the option to retain membership. Another suggestion was to give honorary membership when the person retires after maintaining a membership.
- Article III Section 4 b **remove** "*Non-Emergency Management Directors are ineligible to hold any office but enjoy voting privileges and any other rights and privileges as may be granted from time-to-time by resolution of the Board of Directors*". No discussion

Article IV Section 2 **add** “the office of Secretary or Treasurer” remove “office” and “Emergency Management Director” **add** “*employee of a county or tribal emergency management agency, including but not limited to Deputies, Program Assistants, or Planners, and a WEMA member*” and add “*The offices of President and Vice-President will be held by County or Tribal Emergency Management Directors/Coordinators*” **Discussion:** expand the field of qualified people to hold office positions. Questions as to why is there exclusions to just EM Directors/Coordinators when there are municipal Emergency Managers; explanation was county directors are dealing with more of the program impacts such as the plan of work, grants, conferences etc. than a municipal director would. Gene Reese (Appleton City EM) is against having just a county director in the position of president.

Article V Section 1 add “*d. Vice-Treasurer*”, Article V Section 2 add “*e. A Vice-Treasurer shall be appointed by the President, approved by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors, and in the absence of the Treasurer, assume all duties of the Treasurer.*” and “*1. The Vice-Treasurer shall serve a two-year term opposite of the Treasurer. Terms shall commence in 2013, and the Vice-Treasurer will be eligible for nomination to any elected officer position.*” and Article V Section 4 b **add** “*or Vice-Treasurer*”. Discussion Donna (Jefferson Co) stated this would provide help to the treasurer.

- Article VI **add** “*section 8 Weighting of the Board*” and “*In order to preserve the impartial nature of the Board of Directors, there shall be only one person from any individual agency, department or jurisdiction permitted to be on the Board (consisting of all Elected and Appointed Officers) at any one time.*” No Discussion.
- Article XIII Section **add** “*or other electronic means*”. No Discussion.

Matthew Marmor (Calumet Co) made the motion to approve the changes to the by-laws as submitted from the by law sub-committee; seconded by Carl Stenbol (Milwaukee Co). Unanimously approved. Further discussion was requested by Dave Maack (Racine Co) who requested to amend the motion. Maack made the motion to amend Article IV Section 2 to add *municipal* before county; seconded by Steve Hansel (Outagamie Co). Unanimously approved. David Maack (Racine Co) made the motion to amend Article III section 3 to delete *All past presidents, after serving their term of office, shall by virtue of their accomplishments be accorded Life Membership in the Association. This membership shall be free-of-charge, and life members shall be afforded the privileges and duties of all members* and bring this back to the October meeting; seconded by Donna Haugom (Jefferson Co). Discussion: Technicalities are a problem with this item and David Maack volunteered to sit on the by-laws sub-committee to further exploration of this. Unanimously approved.

WEMA President Owen made the motion that there being no further amendments that the by -laws be adopted as amended; seconded by Darin Gudgeon (Richland Co). Unanimously approved.

#### **WEBSITE UPDATE**

Cindy Struve (Monroe Co) stated that she is working with Chief Technologies to get the site up and running. There has been some discussion between Chief Technologies and WEMA President Owen. To date they have only been paid \$900.00 and that was in October.

#### **WEMA COMMITTEES & APPOINTMENTS REPORTS**

Keith Kessler, Chair of SSMG reported that on Friday they will reviewing the concept papers and applications for the WISCOM system. Public Safety will be able to use the system free after 2015 but will the maintenance monies remain? Five counties and cities are in various stages of implementation.

#### **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

WEMA President Owen reported that he spoke with Brian Setula, WEM Administrator, in regards to the Homeland Security Council. Brian will inform him when the next meeting is and will WEMA as a guest to see what WEMA’s involvement would be and the impact to WEMA as an association. WEMA will try to have representation at the open session.

Owen reported that he received an email from Louisiana in regards to the appreciation of the collaboration that WEMA has with the state. According the IAEM Disptach an article titled “Louisiana Local EM’s in Jeopardy Due to Grab” which was summarized that the State of Louisiana is proposing to hang onto 80% of the EMPG funds. Owen is thankful that we have a good working relationship with State of Wisconsin.

Owen spoke about how WEMA took on a lot of projects this past year - hazmat grant, THIRA etc. - a lot of items were worked on and a lot of guidance from membership and which direction we took. He commended the people who stepped up to the plate to fill the vacancies; Lori Hucek, Cindy Struve, Tom Hill and Tom Hall. He is pleased from the conference comments to expand it to two days and stated that it takes a lot of time to set up the conference. Executive director position is something that as an organization should be seriously looked at. Being WEMA President comes with a lot of responsibility and a lot work; Owen said that his

department took a significant budget cut and went onto say that Joe Meagher (WEMA VP) and he have conversed and that he will be stepping down and turning the presidency over to Joe Meagher in mid-May. The WEMA President position will be open for election at the October meeting. Joe Meagher suggested that Mark should stay on the NIMS and OJA Advisory Committees, David Maack expressed thanks to Mark Owen and commended him on all that he has done and that the association publicly thank Mark for all of his work. All members present were in agreement and thanked Mark.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Darin Gudgeon made the motion to adjourn the WEMA Meeting; seconded by Donna Haugom. Unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 1832.