

Central Iowa NWA Meeting -- November 7, 2007
Agronomy Hall at Iowa State Univ., Ames, IA

(7:18 PM) Meeting Called to Order

Hotel Team Update (Dave Flory):

- ~ Date for conference officially changed to March 27-29, 2008
- ~ Tear down on Saturday must be done by 3:00 PM
- ~ A few questions for the hotel include whether or not extra time is needed to setup for luncheon & if there is a time at night that the hotel considers appropriate to end for the day.

Agenda Team Update (Dr. Bill Gallus):

- ~ Paul Markowski is tentatively scheduled for luncheon speaker, only conflict is due to possible VORTEX2 steering meeting close to conference dates. Possible alternative for Markowski is Roger Hill with more of an 'entertainment' aspect with chase video that he has compiled.
- ~ Rich Thomas, broadcast meteorologist for the Enterprise, AL tornado
- ~ Two speakers for Charles City, IA tornado have been contacted and confirmed
- ~ Dual-Pol speaker still unknown; Pam Heinselman, Terry Schurr, Walt Peterson & Jeff Kimpel are all possibilities. Feedback welcome for decision on the above four.
- ~ Greensburg tornado speakers include Dick Hainje and possibly another. No residents have been mentioned, thus Dan McCarthy being a part of the damage survey crew is a possible second speaker as well as Tim Marshall who was also on the damage survey crew.
- ~ Severe weather workshop in the past has been done by an SPC employee, but could realistically be done by an NWS/ISU team. Possibilities from the SPC would include McCarthy if he is invited for Greensburg, otherwise the new WCM Greg Carbin is a good choice. Discussion for a scenario for the severe weather workshop was also discussed.
- ~ Conference may likely begin on 1 pm on Thursday with Chris Maiers and the beginners' radar workshop. Tape swap tentatively scheduled for Friday evening at 7 PM; Severe weather video night tentatively scheduled for 7:30 PM on Thursday.
- ~ Rough estimate on invited speakers would be 6 or 7 dependent on second Greensburg speaker. Regardless it looks that total cost for invited speakers is likely to be lower than last years'.
- ~ Other speakers that we could include would be Winters from KCRG on the 1998 derecho. Marian Baker from the NWS office could also speak about the severe flash flooding in southeast Minnesota that occurred this summer.
- ~ Poster session was usually held on Saturday morning, this year the Charles City talks are likely to occur at this time. Discussion on having the posters up for more than just the hour during the poster session to allow more viewing time and holding the poster session during any 'setup time' that the hotel needs for the luncheon.
- ~ Call for papers can be put up as soon as desired by webmaster to encourage any early submissions.

Vendor Update (Chris Maiers):

- ~ Vendor team members should now begin to receive updates
- ~ Weathermetrics, Rob Dale and Mike Gibson are all confirmed
- ~ Weathercentral, WSI, Accuweather & Radtech among others are possible

Travel update: Brenda unavailable for discussion; The Responsibilities of the committee were discussed.

Registration Update (Chris Schaffer): Postcards should be sent out by mid-December, other inventory discussed and whether or not more lanyards/folders need to be bought at a later time. Any information on how postcards and other registration duties is appreciated.

Electronics Update (Chris Maiers): The use of wireless internet was discussed, mainly on how we could stop several non-conference attendees from using it. One possibility was having a 'password card' in folders for attendees to access it. Further discussion on this can be dealt with closer to conference time.

Poster Session Update (Chris Conoan): An apparatus is in the works to allow posters to be setup and taken down in a very easy way. This may be demoed at a later meeting for testing.

Scholarship Update (Karl Jungbluth): Notices about scholarship will be sent out after Thanksgiving, not much else needed until they are received early next year.

Conference fees are open for discussion with the dilemma of Easter Break solved. **Motion by Scott Lincoln, Seconded by Rachel Butterworth to table this discussion until after treasury report. -- Motion Passed**

Treasurer Report (Chris Karstens):

- ~ Past information on how finances have been handled and balanced since 2004
- ~ Extensive information on last years' budget through the 2007 conference
- ~ Discussion on several potential unwarranted or unneeded costs, one of which being Nova fees & how we could potentially setup paypal to be used for walk-in attendees instead of the manual credit card swipe (Nova).
Motion by Karl Jungbluth, Seconded by Dave Flory to rid Nova -- Motion Passed
- ~ Discussion on the purchase of a new laptop for the financial records was held, the old laptop currently is in terrible shape and crashes easily. A new laptop for the organization could also be used for registration at the conference, etc.
Motion by Scott Lincoln, Seconded by Dave Flory to obtain more information on possible replacements to be presented by Karstens at later meetings. -- Motion Passed
- ~ The likelihood of the conference being as successful as last years' was discussed, it seemed as if most discussion leaned towards there should be no reason why the conference does worse with the quality of speakers, etc. that is put forth.
- ~ Current balance as of 10/25/07 is \$11,279.28

Conference Fee Discussion: Attempted to compare our registration fee to other conferences alike was hard to do as there are no other 3 day conferences on our level. **Motion by Jeff Duda, Seconded by Scott Lincoln to leave conference registration fees the same as previous year. -- Motion Passed**

Website Update (Ben Schwedler):

- ~ New website for www.iowa-nwa.com was shown. **Motion by Jeff Duda, Seconded by Jason Patton to implement new website. -- Motion Passed**
- ~ Two options for website header were shown, the first being a collage of images taken by Secretary Jayson Prentice while the second option being the Des Moines skyline with a lightning bolt. Member vote of nine to five was in favor of option one to be implemented. The possibility of other images for the header may be shown at later meetings.
- ~ A new listserv for emails has been created (iowa-nwa@googlegroups.com), this allows for better moderation of the group lists and also rids any advertisements from emails. If you do not believe you are on this list, please contact Ben Schwedler (bschwedl@iastate.edu).

Other Items: Mindy Albrecht discussed fundraising possibilities, they included working at Wells Fargo or other events center at the concessions stands. Percentage of profits from that night would then go towards the organization. It was decided that this deserved to be looked into more and be presented at later meetings.

Next meeting Wednesday December 5 @ 6:30 PM at the NWS Office in Johnston, IA
~ Will feature a history of the Central Iowa NWA by Karl Jungbluth

(8:50 PM) Motion to adjourn by Lincoln, Seconded by Butterworth

*Have a question regarding the notes from the November 7th Central Iowa NWA meeting?
Please contact Jayson Prentice (japrenti@iastate.edu)*

*A copy of the agenda for the November 7th meeting can be found on the googlegroups page:
<http://groups.google.com/group/iowa-nwa>*

*A pdf copy of Chris Karsten's presentation about the treasury of the Central Iowa NWA has also been added:
<http://iowa-nwa.googlegroups.com/web/NWA%20Financial%20Report%202004-2007.pdf>*