



Central Iowa NWA

December 8, 2015
Local 5 Studios
West Des Moines, IA



Minutes

1) Presentation – Bill Gallus on PECAN (Plains Elevated Convection At Night)

Bill Gallus and Brian Squitieri presented on the Plains Elevated Convection At Night experiment.

2) Old Business

a. Dues for 2015-2016

Dues need to be in as soon as possible. The last opportunity for members to pay dues will be the January meeting. Online option is available and was sent out via email to members last month.

b. Website relocation

Vice President Chris Maier, Mindy Beerends, and President Dave Flory have decided that GoDaddy is probably our best option at this time. Looks like it will cost us around \$105/year. A lower rate is available with a longer contract, but we need to see how it goes first. The plan is to start moving everything from the current website as soon as possible. The need for an SSL certificate was discussed. More detail on this will be available later. President Dave Flory asked if anyone had experienced problems using GoDaddy. Member Jon Thielen commented that a group he worked with experienced issues with the latest versions of php. Our site doesn't have updated php, so we should be fine. President Dave Flory set the goal for relocation at January 1, 2016 so that we can get registration open as early as possible for the conference and time to fix any issues.

c. Hotel contract

Hotel team needs to get moving on seeking out a new contract. President Dave Flory will contact the Courtyard by Marriott (site of current contract) and hotel team this week to get the process started. Expectations are still that we remain with the Courtyard by Marriott, but we need to go through the process.

3) New Business

a. 20th Annual Severe Storms and Doppler Radar Conference

March 31st – April 2nd, 2016 – Courtyard by Marriott, Ankeny, IA

Team Updates:

Agenda: Jim Gandy (WTLX) has gotten back to us regarding presenting on the South Carolina flooding. Someone from the station is going to try and make it, but if they cannot, they are willing to produce a 30-minute video that we can show. Walker Ashley has connections to a sheriff whose house was destroyed during the Fairdale, IL tornado. This would finally give us our personal connection talk that seems to be popular with attendees. Currently under budget with speaker costs. Agenda team will be called on to decide if we have enough invited speakers (10) or if we should try for more since there is more money left to spend. Tom Skilling will not be coming. His Fermilab activity is, once again, the same weekend as our conference. Jim Cantore initially expressed interest, but has been difficult to reach. Still not sure if we will actually be able to get him to the conference. Member Willard Sharp inquired about possible photography workshop running in parallel with broadcaster tape swap. Agenda team chair and chapter president confirmed that was the current plan. Only minor concern was space, but it sounds like the large conference room could be divided to accommodate the events.

Travel: Travel team has speaker info and can now get to work at getting these speakers to the conference. Airfare for Howie Bluestein is going to be expensive, but since we are under budget with travel fees even with this expense, we are moving forward.

Promotion/Vendor and social media team: Jeff Piotrowski indicated interest. Others should come as we get closer to the conference. Slowly announcing speakers through social media. Only person team won't announce at this time is Cantore. Need to know for sure he is coming first. Vice President Chris Maiers encouraged chapter members to SHARE, LIKE, TWEET chapter announcements they see on Twitter and Facebook.

Electronics: Nothing until January.

Scholarship/Awards: Decided to keep main scholarship the same value and offer an additional scholarship in honor of conference anniversary. Team has decided to add a second essay to the application and plans to offer the application through Google Docs for easier processing. President Dave Flory requested that application be ready around the same time the website relocation takes place (see above).

Radar Workshop: Team chair Kevin Skow announced the details of event are still be worked out with Daryl Herzmann, but the team is moving forward with the selected event.

2015 Registration fees: Regular - \$150, Student - \$80, Members - \$95, Student Members - \$48, Vendor -\$200, Additional Vendor - \$75, Banquet Admit - \$25.

Discussion was held on whether we should raise fees or keep them the same. Vice President Maiers suggested keeping the fees the same until we have a new hotel contract next year. At that time, we can reevaluate fees. President Dave Flory suggested leaving

fees the same so we don't give the impression that we are raising fees to cover costs of the anniversary conference. Flory feels that having an amazing lineup with the same registration fees as last year leaves a good impression on those who attend the conference.

Motion: Keep registration fees the same for the 2016 conference as they were for the 2015 conference (motion: Stelten, second: Ryherd).

Vote: Motion passes

4) Ugly Holiday Sweater Contest

Eight chapter members participated. Jake Smith was voted the winner by those in attendance and receive a \$15 gift card from Dairy Queen. Jan Ryherd placed second and received a \$10 gift card from Dairy Queen. Thank you to all who participated.

5) Treasurers report

As of the day of the meeting, Treasurer Jim Lee (not in attendance) reported that we have \$24,821.26 in the account.

6) Adjourn

7) Studio Tour – Brad Edwards, Chief Meteorologist, Local 5

**Future Meetings: Tuesday, January 19th, 7pm, Perfect Games, Ames;
Wednesday, February 17th, Restaurant or location in Des Moines/Brenton Ice
Skating Plaza. March and April Meetings yet to be arranged.**

Attendance

Kelsey Angle
Emily Baalman
Bobbi Bankston
Caitlin Cervac
Justin Covert
Mike Cox
Brad Edwards
Dave Flory
Mike Fowle
Sam Gabrielli
Bill Gallus

Henry Gronlund
Kelly Haberichter
Kyle Knight
Joey Krastel
Jaret Lansford
Andy Mabis
Chris Maiers
Lindsay Matthews
Ricky McFardland
Brady Newkirk
Max Rush

Jan Ryherd
Zane Satre
Antoinette Serrato
Willard Sharp
Kevin Skow
Jake Smith
Sean Spratley
Brian Squitieri
Garrett Starr
Sean Stelten
Jon Thielen

Caleb Wood

2015 – 2016 Conference Committees

Registration Team

Emily Baalman
Caitlin Cervac
Allan Curtis
Kelsie Ferin
Kelly Haberichter
Theo Hartman
Kyle Knight
Emily Marrs
Alondra Matos
Ricky McFarland
Brady Newkirk
Jan Ryherd
Zane Satre
Tristan Wade

Agenda Team

Bill Gallus (Chair)
Aubry Bhattarai
Leyton Briol
Justin Covert
Rod Donavon
Dave Flory
Mike Fowle
Henry Gronlund
Ken Harding
Chris Maiers
Brady Newkirk
Kenny Podrazik
Jan Ryherd
Max Rush
Antoinette Serrato
Garrett Starr
Brian Squitieri
Kris Tuftedal
Jeff Zogg

Travel Team

Aubry Bhattarai (Chair)
Mike Fowle
Brian Squitieri

Promotions/Vendor Team

Chris Maiers (Chair)

Electronics Team

Willard Sharp (Chair)
Leyton Briol
Mike Cox
Dave Flory
Kevin Skow
Sean Stelton

Scholarship and Awards Team

Rod Donavon (Chair)
Aubry Bhattarai
Mike Fowle
Bill Gallus
Kenny Podrazik
Brian Squitieri
Jeff Zogg

Radar Workshop Team

Kevin Skow (Chair)
Leyton Briol
Allan Curtis
Joey Krastel
Chris Maiers
Ricky McFarland
Jake Smith

Hotel Team

Aubry Bhattarai
Rod Donavon

Dave Flory
Chris Maiers