



DDAA Board of Directors Meeting

March 20, 2011

Crystal Gateway Marriott, Arlington, VA

Welcome

President Eric Bridges called the meeting to order at 1 p.m.

Roll Call

Secretary Sherry McDavid took roll and a quorum was established.

Members present:

Eric Bridges, President
Steve Pelissier, 1st Vice President
Danny Lewis, 2nd Vice President
Sherry McDavid, Secretary
Sharon Gardner, Past President
Jim Mylott, Treasurer
Bob Culver, Alabama
Jim Dove, Georgia
Mike Patrick, Kentucky
Leanne Mazer, Maryland
Rudy Johnson, Mississippi
Bob Augenster, New York
Rick Herndon, North Carolina
Misty Casto, Ohio
Ed Silvetti, Pennsylvania
Susan Reid, Tennessee
Michele Craig, West Virginia
Wayne Strickland, Virginia

Members absent:

Others present

Dan Neff, ARC
Matt Chase, NADO

Minutes

It was agreed that the previous meeting's minutes will be posted on the website for review.

ARC Update

Dan Neff opened by thanking former President Sharon Gardner for her leadership as DDAA president. He discussed the federal environment and the proposed cuts to domestic programs and reported that ARC so far is holding its own. He recognized the uncertainty regarding state budgets as well. A discussion was held regarding the conference; in addition, representatives from New York has requested that a meeting with other affected states be held to discuss the Marcellus Shale issue on Monday possibly during round table session.

NADO Update

NADO Executive Director Matt Chase discussed the potential federal cuts. He feels that CDBG is faring better. He reported that ARC is the only commission that did not have unobligated funds rescinded. He said it is imperative that all states allocate their ARC money. EDA is still being scrutinized and consolidation is still a possibility under the jurisdiction of the Transportation Cabinet. He informed the board of the speakers for Tuesday's session and encouraged active participation at the round table session.

Nominating Committee

Sharon Gardner reported that she, Bob Augenstern and Keith Jones had comprised the nominating committee and recommended that the current slate of officers be elevated with the exception of Jim Mylott, Treasurer, and Misty Casto, Secretary. The slate is as follows:

Steve Pelissier, President
Danny Lewis, 1st Vice President
Sherry McDavid, 2nd Vice President
Misty Casto, Secretary
Jim Mylott, Treasurer

The slate was accepted on a motion by Rudy Johnson, a second by Jim Dove, and a unanimous vote.

Training Report

Misty Casto reported that a review will be conducted after the conference to both attendees and non-attendees.

Conference Report

Steve Pelissier discussed the current conference; attendance is down slightly due to the economy. However, he stressed the importance of the conference content designed to help LDDs position themselves to be of even greater value during hard economic times.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Mylott reported that revenues have increased due to the training program and increased membership dues. He proposed that the FY 11 budget be adopted for FY12 and then an amendment will be offered at the summer meeting. The recommendation was accepted on a motion by Danny Lewis, a second by Susan Reid and a unanimous vote. He also reported that the 990 has been filed and the ARC grant of \$35,000 for conference expenses was increased last year to \$45,000. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented on a motion by Danny Lewis, a second by Susan Reid, and a unanimous vote.

Old Business

President Eric Bridges presented former president Sharon Gardner with a card and token of appreciation for her leadership as DDAA president.

New Business

*Matt Chase discussed peer scans and cited the example of NADO sponsoring members to travel to California to tour and study food systems. He indicated that more peer scans will be conducted in the future.

*It was announced that the International Transportation Economic Development Conference will be held May 1-3 in Charleston, WV.

*A discussion was held regarding the DDAA conference and attendance. The current hotel is booked through 2013 but concern was expressed over travel and lodging costs. President Bridges stated that agencies need to be questioned regarding their needs and the value of the conference. Dan Neff said the partnership with NADO has been very effective and has helped to preserve the DDAA event. Jim Mylott made a motion to allow the executive committee to authorize extending the contract with the Marriott through 2014. It was seconded by Rudy Johnson and unanimously approved. Matt Chase suggested considering branding the conference as possibly a fly-in or a leaders of Appalachia conference. It was noted that it is now harder to get new directors to focus on EDA and ARC due to the greater availability of funding through other sources such as aging and workforce. The historical knowledge and allegiance to EDA and ARC needs to be reinforced.

*Steve Pelissier asked to meet with Dan Neff and staff to look at trend analysis as to who is attending the conference. He will share this information with the board along with a script for a facilitated discussion with other directors to bring back to the board meeting in June. President Bridges will participate in this as well and the results will be made part of the minutes.

*It was announced that the summer board meeting will be held in Kingsport, Tennessee in late June or July.

With no other business coming before the board, a motion to adjourn was made by Rudy Johnson, seconded by Wayne Strickland and unanimously approved.