



SORA Board Meeting Minute

May 7, 2019

2:30 PM Eastern Standard Time

Board Roll Call: President Region 6 **Matt Pace** (OK), Past President/At Large **Mary Clark** (VT), Region 8 **Chuck Cousino** (CO), Region 1/Treasurer **Amanda Clark** (CT), Region 10/Secretary **Jeremy Simmons** (WA), Region 2 **Ed Wengrowski** (NJ), Region 3 **Travis Sterner** (MD), Region 4 **Steven Berkowitz** (NC), Region 5 **Mike Mettler** (IN), Region 7 **Eric Folks** (MO), Region 9 **Chris Edwards** (KY), Tribal **Michael Bolt** (NC Cherokee), Canadian Provinces **Derek Smith** (Manitoba).

Invited Guests: **Dick Bachelder** (COI Rep.), **Sheryl Ervin** (COI Rep. back-up), **Ed Corriveau** (Retirees), **Ann D'Alfonso** (KS)

Green = Present

Red = Absent

1. Review/edit meeting agenda
2. Approval of March and April meeting minutes

Tabled for now

3. Executive Committee Reports

- a. Presidents report: (Matt)

- i. NESC Report "Onsite Wastewater Installation Assessment"

1. Discussion of assessment and website posting

Discussion: Matt checked it and the data look good for OK. Others have noted inaccuracies. There are caveats in the report explaining how the data were collected.

Matt will send out the report to the SORA membership with a note that data are incomplete.

- b. Treasurers Report (Amanda)

Still have outstanding balances. Several states have asked for extensions. Others have not. Amanda and Jeremy will work together to remove those that we do not expect to pay from the listserv.



NSF has said they would pay but they have not. We will have to take them off the COI member list.

Clearstream will not continue as COI. We will remove them.

Waiting on ROSS and Noweco. They are sending in payment now.

c. Secretary Report (Jeremy)

Will work with Amanda to remove members from the listserv that have not paid by June 1st.

4. Standing Committee Reports:

a. Membership (Chris)

Still working with major metropolitan areas to recruit members. Request: Can we use one of the (2) reduced memberships/scholarships for a state for a local regulator? This would help with recruitment of locals. Chuck will work with Eric to explore this. Discussion: does it matter if they are voting members? Last year's agreement with NOWRA may have required them to be voting members.

Eric and Amanda have discussed SORA contributing toward regulator fees. NOWRA has been covering the cost of reduced regulator fees. The proposal is to have SORA contribute \$75/regulator. NOWRA is supportive of this but would rather SORA contribute the same as NOWRA. Next year we plan to cover \$150/regulator. Amanda has budgeted \$3,000 to cover reduced regulator fees this year. This amount could be changed.

b. Conference Planning (Chuck)

i. Summary of March 19 NOWRA planning meeting

Chuck let the conference planning committee know that we would like to have our SORA business meeting will be Sunday afternoon. The committee approved that time.

Tentative Registration fees:

\$295 –general

\$245 –regulator

There was a plan to have an academic track but that may change since there were very few academic papers submitted.



Discussion: Is there a shuttle from the airport? Chuck will find out.

5. COI Report (Dick)

Dick sent an email for his report. Matt reports: There was legislation in Indiana that SORA and NOWRA were concerned with. SORA sent a letter to the Indiana DEQ. This helped to temper the legislation to something more acceptable to regulators. Dick was very appreciative of this.

6. Ad hoc Committee Reports:

a. Website (Ann)

No report

b. Retirees (Ed)

No report

c. Policy (Chuck)

Will work on policy for combined COI/Regulator listserv.

7. New Business:

a. Decentralized Wastewater Workforce SG (Amanda)

Amanda has been added to the Decentralized Wastewater Workforce workgroup. She will try to attend but may not be able to. Amanda will try to invite Board members to the group/meeting. She would like to have regulators active in this group.

b. New committees: board and committee draft document-UPDATED

Has anyone been tracking the NOWRA bill? It passed but there is not funding attached to it. We assume NOWRA has been tracking it.

We should review our Board attendance policy to get people to attend or use proxies.

Amanda: Have people had issues with portable (blue boy) sewage containers? Connecticut has been seeing these leak. Others have seen them with/without problems.

8. Old Business:

The roll out of the combined listserv with regulators and COIs has been promised in a few emails to COIs. We need to roll this out. We need a message to members and a policy on its use. Chuck will work on policy. Matt will work on a message.



a. Review of Strategic Plan

9. Action Item Review:

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn: Amanda Clark

Seconded: Chuck Cousino

Adjourned

Future Meeting Dates for 2019 (First Tuesday of each month): June 4, 2019; July 2, 2019; August 6, 2019; September 3, 2019. All meetings will start at 2:30 P.M. EST.