

Central Iowa NWA Meeting

January 13, 2011

KCCI-TV– Des Moines, IA

President Chris Maiers welcomed everyone. Chris Karstens did a Bufkit presentation. He showed us the package's new features with winter weather forecasting.

15th Annual Severe Storms and Doppler Radar Conference

March 31st – April 2nd at the Courtyard by Marriott in Ankeny, IA

For conference team sign-ups, email President Chris Maiers (cmaiers@gmail.com)

Conference Updates

Agenda Team (Dr. Gallus)

The confirmed speakers thus far include Chris Weiss who will talk about Vortex II, Rick Mitchell, who will be a media representative for the Oklahoma City storms during summer 2010. Harold Brooks is the confirmed banquet speaker who will discuss tornado death statistics.

Finding a speaker for Yazoo City, MO fell through. A possible replacement could be a FGF WFO employee for the June 17, 2010 event that went through Wadena, MN.

There is one submitted abstract at this time. More are likely to come in the second half of January and into February.

Registration Team (Jeff Duda)

The team is working at finishing the conference flyer that will be sent out to previous attendees. Registration is currently open on the webpage. Dave Flory and Jeff Duda will be testing the website to ensure that it is working smoothly. Jeff is working at purchasing needed materials such as the lanyards, folders, and name tags.

Travel Team (Aubry Wilkins)

\$2000 will be provided from the federal government for this year's conference. No other updates.

Vendor Team (Chris Maiers)

WxCentral was recently contacted, and their marketing team is still deciding. We should expect to have an answer in the coming weeks. Mike Gibson is not a confirmed vendor yet. AT&T and US Cellular are considering buying add space, while Sprint and Verizon declined. For future years, it might be beneficial to go locally instead of through their cooperate offices. Bruce Thomas is not the main contact for Midland Weather Radios anymore; Bruce Jones should be the contact point at this point (bjones@midlandradio.com). John McLaughlin offered to get Chris Maiers in contact with the local McDonalds.

Electronics Team (Willard Sharp)

Willard will be making a trip to the hotel to get a feel for the layout and available electronics. He is planning on checking out the power sources to see whether the outlets are on the floor. If so, this will make the radar workshop much easier. Once we have a complete list of the presenters, he and his committee will collect electronic copies of the presentations. This will happen when the conference gets closer. He will get backup computers and projectors from ISU and the NWS. Ideally, a similar LAN setup (using wireless internet) from last year's radar workshop will be used. Finally, Willard plans to talk with Daryl Herzmann for the configuration and testing of the equipment and setup prior to the conference.

Radar Workshop (Liz Suess)

Liz is still working at selecting a case for the workshop. She needs Mike Gibson's email to contact him regarding temporary licenses for everyone to use during the workshop.

Pam Daale Sholarship (Rod Donavon)

Dr. Gallus has sent out the scholarship notice to universities. The application form is posted on our website and has been updated into a fill-out PDF that can be saved and submitted electronically. A hard copy of the applicant's official transcripts is still needed.

By-Law Amendment Voting

Motion made by Adam Deppe. It was seconded by Liz Suess. The vote was not unanimous, but passed with the majority of the votes.

Attracting National Conference to Des Moines Update

Since the last meeting, Chris Maiers has been in contact with Patrick Market (who is on the National NWA cabinet), Steve Harned (who speaks to the NWA Board) and to the

Des Moines Chamber of Commerce; all of which showed very positive feedback regarding having the national NWA conference in Des Moines. John McLaughlin was on the NWA board previously and noted that they may not approve having the national conference and a local conference in the same calendar year. If we bring the national conference to Des Moines, we may opt to forgo the local conference for one full year.

Some concern was brought up about this as a whole, and whether it could possibly be harmful to our conference if we hosted the national conference. We have a few important questions to ask before we can move forward. Can part of our local conference be incorporated into the national conference (i.e. the radar workshop)? Do we have any part in the agenda planning? What advantages will this conference bring to our chapter?

The idea of looking into advertising our local conference on the National NWA Newsletter and Website was brought up. This will be looked into for further details.

Fundraising Ideas

Pizza Ranch – We have the option of selecting any Monday or Wednesday to raise money bussing/cleaning tables. The evening would last from 4:30 to 9:00 pm on the selected date. A date has yet to be selected for this fundraiser.

John McLaughlin said that his station has 30-40 weather radios that they would be willing to donate.

Treasurers Update

Member dues are \$10 and are due by the end of this meeting. Contact Adam Deppe if have any concerns. You may also pay online with Google Checkout.

Current Balance \$18,583.57

Secretary Notes

No updates.

Other Items

Pella Tour- Email Melinda Beerends (Melinda.beerends@noaa.gov) if you think you are going to attend the tour.

ISU AMS proposed the idea that NWA to participate in their first annual Weatherfest during VEISHEA. One or two participants needed to man a table during the day. Not decided yes or no, but ruled a possibility.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Liz Suess, and Pete Effertz seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 8th 2011 at 3140 Agronomy Hall, Ames at 7:00 pm.

Any questions regarding meeting minutes from January 13th, 2011 can be directed at the Central Iowa NWA Secretary Rachel Hatteberg (rah@iastate.edu)
Previous meeting minutes along with a copy of the agenda for this meeting can be found on the Iowa NWA web page at the following address:
<http://www.iowa-nwa.com/minutes.php>