

**Alabama Section - Water Resources Association (AWRA)**  
**Business Meeting**  
**September 5, 2019**

**Attendees:**

Committee Members: Pat O'Neil, Jeff Powell, Puneet Srivastava, Lynn Sisk, Jennifer Rasberry

Other attendees: John Morris, Taconya Goar, Mitch Reid, Kenneth Odom, Eve Brantley, Malcolm Lynch, Brett Connell, Elise Erwin, Fred Holloway, Mike Johnson, Sarah Stokes

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Powell.

Student award winners were discussed but will not be announced until after the conference. Puneet Srivastava provided review of resources:

- 24 students applied for rooms
- 24 students got rooms (12 were provided by AWRA)

Puneet also provided a review of finances:

Starting balance	\$26,000.00
<u>Sponsorship</u>	<u>12,383.00</u>
<b>Total Starting Balance</b>	<b>\$38,383.00</b>

Expenses	550.00 tips
	750.00 Bike MS donation
	58.75 gift
	107.88 web hosting (invoiced with \$15.99/total \$123.87)
	15.99 web hosting (invoiced with \$107.88/total \$123.87)
	1,293.75 shuttle
	<u>10,185.25 Flora-Bama Social</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(\$12,961.62)</b>

**Current Balance            \$25,421.38**

Jennifer Rasberry provided the ballot count for the 2019-2020 officers. There were 25 ballots submitted with the following results:

- President – Jeff Powell
- President-elect – Puneet Srivastava
- Treasurer – Lynn Sisk
- Secretary – Jennifer Rasberry
- Membership Chair – Bennett Bearden
- There were no write-ins

John Morris gave an update on the Flora-Bama social. It was agreed that the shuttles worked well and that the music and entertainment was good, but there were some complaints about the food. He also brought up that the price had gone up from around \$6,500 in 2018 to \$10,185 in 2019. John will negotiate for a lower price to rent the Flora-Bama, but other venues and catering will also be investigated. Taconya Goar and Pat O'Neil will see if there can be a waiver of fees for using the state park.

Malcom Lynch, Fred Holloway and Brett Connell suggested rates be increased to cover increasing costs and offered the following suggestions:

- Increase sponsorship rates or have different levels of sponsorship
- Sponsors pay for different food items, events, etc. and be recognized (coffee provided by "sponsor", music and entertainment provided by "sponsor", etc.)
- Evaluate cost structure by comparing AWRA to other conferences

Pat O'Neil thanked the sponsors that attended the meeting for their contributions and for attending the meeting. He also suggested that sponsorship requests that were previously done by John Morris be split among the Symposium Committee. John will provide Pat with the contact information of the sponsors and this list will be distributed among the committee. John also suggested that TVA be asked to be included on sponsor contact list.

Pat also went over the new committee and the list of duties of each member. This list has been emailed to all committee members, but Rachel McGuire will be included on distribution list in the future.

Puneet will give his Wells Fargo credit card and box of Treasurer supplies to Lynn Sisk who is the new Treasurer, but all committee members will meet at 10:00 before the 2020 AWRA Symposium to go to Wells Fargo and get Wells Fargo Cards. He also noted that the In Motion web hosting payment has been made.

Puneet noted that the 2019 taxes have not been paid. He did not use the accountant to fill out the 2018 forms and did the taxes himself and will help Lynn if needed.

Jeff suggested that a job fair be added for the students and the meeting attendees agreed. Logistics will be decided before the next conference, setting up a table that students could visit for information.

Jeff also requested feedback on the Symposium speakers and the meeting attendees thought there was a good lineup of speaker. Jeff suggested that we have Keven Butt from Toyota come back in the future come back to give project updates.

Jeff Powell closed the meeting.

**Action Items:**

- Negotiate price for Flora-Bama (John Morris)
- Look at cost structure of conference and sponsorship fees (Brett Connell)
- Look into getting waiver to use State Park facilities for social (Taconya Goar, Pat O'Neil)
- Split sponsorship requests among Symposium Committee members (John Morris, Pat O'Neil)
- Pay 2019 taxes (Lynn Sisk)
- Add Rachel McGuire to contact/distribution list (Symposium Committee)
- Job fair discussion (Symposium Committee)