

**Minutes of AAAE Northeast Chapter
Business Meeting
April 26, 2006
2:15 P.M. - 3:15 P.M.
Buffalo, NY**

Attendees: See Attached List.

Welcome and Opening Comments to Members and Guests: President Tom Rafter welcomed all those present and called the meeting to order. President Rafter thanked The Snow Symposium Committee for another successful Snow Symposium. Buddy Comeau requested voting rights for the corporate members present at the meeting. President Rafter stated that our By-Laws amendment had been accepted by the AAAE National Board of Directors, and that, per the amendment, voting rights for corporate members would be considered on a case-by-case basis for each issue.

President Rafter summarized the chapter meeting that was held at the AAAE National Conference in San Diego (see minutes from San Diego).

Past President's Report: Past President Kevin Dillon was not present at the meeting. President Rafter stated that there would be a meeting of the Past Presidents at the Mount Washington Resort in New Hampshire on May 19, 2006.

Vice President's Report: Vice President Brad Penrod summarized the changes that were approved by a vote of 20-2 to the AAAE Accreditation program at the AAAE National Board Meeting. There will be four options available related to the management paper, including the waiving of the requirement for those with an advanced degree, and the final exam will be revised to remove the "medium hub bias." Tom Rafter stated that it will probably take some time to implement these revisions, and he noted that Steve Adams made a motion at the National Board of Directors meeting to remove the advanced degree option. Tom Rafter also asked the National Board if there was a goal of executive candidates that would become accredited as a result of the changes, and he indicated that the response was that the goal was to "stop the bleeding."

Vice President Penrod also reported on some of the other discussions held at the San Diego conference, including the fact that all airports receiving the EPA's deicing questionnaire are bound by law to respond. There was also significant discussion at the Chapter Officers meeting in Alexandria, VA in March and in San Diego regarding the need to increase the value of the Accreditation program for both members and their employers.

Vice President Penrod reported that the Chapter Officers' felt strongly that they should meet more than once per year. The officers strongly suggested to the AAAE National Board that a second Chapters Officer's meeting be held on conjunction with the NAC.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bill Hopper reported that the total assets of the chapter are now posted at \$111,742.81. Stan Luczak motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report; Dick Williams seconded the motion and all members present in favor.

Secretary's Report: Secretary Marshall Stevens stated that the minutes from both business meetings at the Newport, RI annual conference were approved at the Chapter Business meeting in San Diego on April 23, 2006.

Executive Secretary's Report: Executive Secretary Dick Williams reported that the membership is up to 543, including 27 honorary members. Currently 289 members have outstanding dues.

Executive Secretary Williams introduced Bob Dobinski to the group. Bob has provided outstanding support to the chapter through the maintenance of the chapter booth.

Executive Secretary Williams stated that the next newsletter will include pictures and information from the Snow Symposium and will be out sometime in the summer.

National Board Update: Vice President Penrod summarized the report given by Alex Kashani at the San Diego Chapter meeting. The Airport Legislative Alliance will be working on a variety of issues, including Federal reauthorization, payment of rent by federal agencies using terminal space, exit land staffing, DHS budget, and bond refinancing. Brad also indicated that the FAA Inspector General is performing an audit on lands purchased by airports for noise compatibility.

National Nominating Committee: No report was given at this meeting

Board of Examiners: No report was given at this meeting.

Committee Reports:

- **Academic Relations** No report was given for this committee. Tom Rafter stated that the Executive Committee is searching for a Chair for the Academic Relations Committee.
- **Annual Conference** Tom Rafter reported that the Annual Conference will be held in Manchester, NH, on August 26-30.
- **ARFF Conference** Brad Penrod reported that the next ARFF conference will be September 18-22, 2006. Previous ARFF conferences have been held on Sunday through Thursday; however this conference will be Monday through Friday. Brad Penrod summarized the discussions between the Chapter and Spencer Dickerson from AAAE. There had been some confusion, and it appeared that AAAE had cancelled the ARFF Conference. Buddy Comeau expressed concern that the AAAE National Staff were canceling a Chapter function. Brad indicated this was a mistake, and that the Chapter and AAAE National are still partnered for this conference.
- **Balchen/Post Awards** Dick Williams indicated that there was good participation for the awards.
- **Corporate Relations** No report was given for this meeting.

- **IASS** All present applauded Bob Nowak for another successful Snow Symposium. Bob reported that there were approximately 560 attendees. He noted that the Harley motorcycle giveaway was very popular.
- **Large Hub Winter Workshop** Tom Rafter reported that the next Large Hub Winter Workshop will be held on July 23-26 in Minneapolis. He stated that the Chapter received approximately \$26,000 from the previous workshop.
- **Membership Services** No report was given for this meeting.
- **Research and Development** Tom Rafter indicated that there was interest in keeping the R&D Committee going. He stated that the Executive Committee would work on finding a new Chair, and that the R&D committee should research the availability for funding for research projects.
- **Scholarships, Internships and Grants** Bill Hopper presented a report provided by Bill Smith. Currently, approximately \$4,000 of the \$10,000 allocated by the Chapter for grants has been spent. To date, one Post Scholarship, two Snow Symposium grants have been awarded, and several applications are pending for the NEC/AAAE Internship Grant. Tom Rafter reminded everyone that the Chapter will match Scholarships provided by AAAE.
- **Site Selection** Bryan Corbett reported that the 2006 conference will be in Manchester, and the 2007 Conference will be in Pittsburgh on August 4-8. He stated that Baltimore and Philadelphia have expressed interest in hosting the 2008 conference. Dick Williams suggested that if both airports are interested, the committee should select the 2008 and 2009 conferences simultaneously.
- **Web Site** Marshall Stevens read a report provided by Alex Kashani. The Snow Symposium had its final program and list of attendees posted on the Snow Symposium web page, and that 250 attendees registered online. Alex suggested that the Snow Symposium committee investigate the possibility of credit card payment online for these registrants. Tom Long stated that he would research the possibility.

New Business:

- President Rafter noted that Laurie Cullen had tendered her resignation as the BOE representative for the Chapter. Tom indicated he has submitted a slate of new candidates to Tom Binford.
- Bill Hopper reported that Tony Rudy from Ithaca Thompkins Regional Airport became accredited on Sunday, April 23, 2006.
- Wayne Pennell stated that a concern was expressed by a vendor that the terms of the officers were too short, and it would be helpful if the Chapter would expand the Executive Committee to include a 2nd Immediate Past President. Wayne offered a motion for the Executive Committee to investigate this possibility; Brian Corbett seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously [**Note: at a subsequent Past President's Council meeting, it was decided that the continuity of leadership was the role of the Past President's Council, and no further action was taken.**]

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made at 2:47 by Stan Luczak and seconded by Brian Corbett. All members present in favor.

Northeast Chapter / American Association of Airport Executives
 Business Meeting
 Wednesday, April 26, 2006
 Buffalo, NY

Name	Representing	E-mail
Buddy Conner	MassPort	LVCJRMPA@del.com
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