



MACA Executive Committee Meeting, April 24th

Members Present:

Jim Elmquist

Roxy Traxler

Dave Minke

Dave Hemze

Chuck Whiting

Janice Fransen

Julie Ring

Matt Hilgart

Sara Folsted (via phone)

- I. Executive Director's Update
 - a. Julie moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting, Janice seconded the motion. Minutes approved.
 - b. Julie Ring introduced Ben Baglio, AMC's new IGS Assistant
 - c. Julie introduced Jill Suurmeyer, AMC's new Research Analyst
 - d. Julie discussed the electronic updates that AMC will be putting out for quick summaries of board meetings
 - e. Hotel room concerns for the summer conference in St. Cloud were discussed; AMC will be exploring options in order to avoid fees or other issues that arose during last year's conference. The board will be discussing their options at their next meeting.
 - f. The board passed a proclamation for county child protection workers.
 - g. The board took a position to support the Senate's funding formula in the bill for funding child protection services. The House bill would provide less money overall, and the board found their formula to be less favorable to the majority of counties.
 - h. The board is proposing a compromise between the House and Senate bills concerning solar farms; the board recommends that under 10 megawatts would not require a state permit (only local, if they choose)
- II. Regional Group Discussion
 - a. The group discussed the inconsistency between the regularity that different groups across the state meet, as well as how often they respond to the surveys
 - b. The group would like to see each regional group establish a contact for who will be in charge of making sure the groups are scheduling meetings and the surveys are being completed
 - c. The priority should be identifying the regional leaders, and working with them to come up with regular meeting structures (Ben & Matt); a discussion with these leaders can happen at the Summer Technical Day

- d. Fall Conference: each committee should give an update, and each chair of every individual region should give an update

III. MACA Website Review

- a. Becky Pizinger, AMC Communications Director, joined the group as they went through the MACA website and made decisions as a group for what to move around on the website, and what information or links to remove
- b. Matt will generate a list of changes recommended by the group and pass it along to Becky, who will make the changes

IV. Summer Technical Day

- a. June 26th or July 24th: Stearns County is willing to give MACA either date at no charge at the Stearns County Service Center, while the Warner Lake County Park is \$125 and only available in July; both venues want confirmation or registration completed as soon as possible
- b. The group prefers the July 24th date, as it gives more time for people to plan on attending
- c. The Service Center is the preferred location (Ben will reserve it for July 24th)
- d. The event will start in the morning and go through the day
- e. Bagels and coffee will be catered in the morning; lunch in the afternoon (Ben & Matt)
- f. The group had a conversation about the programming of the Technical Day
 - i. Programming topics mentioned: data practices (requests, storage, sharing, litigation), legislative updates, individual county updates,
- g. A "Save the Date" will be sent out soon with topic and social event suggestions (Matt)

V. By-laws Review

- a. Conversation ensued about whether or not the by-laws should change the membership rules to make the term for President, Vice President, and Secretary two years rather than the current one year term length
- b. Some members noted that changing the term to two years would ease a lot of the problems that arise because of constant group turnover
- c. Other changes were proposed, which will be brought forth at a later date for voting; 2012 by-laws changes were problematic in a couple places

VI. Committee Reports/Other

- a. Centralized Salary Survey update for next meeting (ask Julie)

VII. Legislative Update

- a. Omnibus Tax Bills: Senate is taking much longer than the House to release it. The House has been more transparent, but is more harmful to the counties and their funding.
 - i. Reverse Referendum: By June 30th, they can file for a referendum if levy _____
 - ii. Lease Purchase Bonds: Change in referendum dates

iii. Property Tax Exclusions – multiple

iv. Assessor Accreditation

b. State Government Finance: House bill is up today

c. Senate State Government & Military Affairs