



## Sierra Nevada IRWA Chapter 46

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### Draft Board Meeting Minutes – November 6, 2008

Attendees: Kelly Hirning, Vice President  
Patty Espin, Treasurer  
Dana Abney, President  
Doug DuBois, Membership Committee  
John Dyer, Secretary  
Carolyn Carrica, Pipelines Committee  
Patty Paulson  
Heather Edmunson, past President

#### **Call to Order**

President Dana Abney called the meeting to order. The meeting was held at TMWA's office. A quorum was present. Minutes for the previous board meeting of September 4, 2008, were read and approved.

#### **Officers Reports**

Per Kelly Hirning, Vice President: the next speaker (general meeting Nov 19, 2007) will be Fred Clark, topic-On the Road to Right-of-Way.

Patty Espin, Treasurer: Patty did not have a current summary of the account balances. She will e-mail the summary soon for the Board's review. There were no bills for payment. There was a 'bounced check' to resolve from a recent class attendee.

#### **Committee Reports**

Education: Laura Sheline was not present. No statement was available on the attendance or financial outcome of the recent Class 101.

Membership: Doug Dubois will approve applications on-line for Nate Hastings and Kathy Renfrow. Doug asked whether an email list was in place for mailed meeting announcements. Extensive discussion ensued as to the official membership list vs. non-official lists, the suitability of e-mail meeting notices, how an e-mail list would be established and maintained, and whether e-mail was sufficient. The discussion ended up focusing on the general need for an e-mail list that could be used for various purposes, not just meeting notices. Patty Paulson volunteered her staff to prepare such a list (moved, seconded and passed), and decisions regarding specific uses of the list were deferred to later discussion by the Board.

Newsletter/Website; Carol Buonanoma was not present. Submittals, articles and general info are needed for the Nov/Dec newsletter.

#### **Special Orders**

Carolyn Carrica discussed the proposed regional realignments of member chapters, intended to revise the inequity of membership number between regions and to enhance the efficiency of

region operations. The Arizona chapter does not favor being removed from Region 1, nor does such a move appear to meet the objectives.

The voting proxy for the Fall Forum was returned from Heather Edmunson to Kelly Hirning.

### **Old Business**

General meeting in Carson City-March was the consensus, to be held at the Glen Eagle Restaurant.

### **New Business**

a) Membership Briefcase: Doug Dubois and President Abney will attend a career day on November 12, sponsored by the City of Reno, and staff a booth for the IRWA. Additional volunteers are requested and welcome.

b) Membership incentives: incentives were suggested, including as an example a discount on the fees of a new members first class, or a raffle for a financial award for guest/new member sponsors. Discussion focused on the need for membership incentives, and what particular measures might be effective. Discussion to continue.

c) Steve Hall could not get to a recent class due to a snow storm in eastern Nevada. Mr. Hall has requested, rather than a refund, a full credit for the class cost, and that his fees be applied to his new membership and to future classes. Normally, the fees would be refunded minus a deduction. President Abney approved Mr. Hall's request and asked for Board concurrence. Normally, a variance from the by-law procedures is discussed and approved or denied by the Board. The Board concurred in President Abney's request but stated for the record that such requests should be brought to the Board first and that concurrence in this request is not to be construed as a precedent.

d) Committee chairs: President Abney called for more participation by the committee chairs, specifically via articles for the newsletter regarding relevant issues, regulations, projects, etc. It was suggested that a separate page of the newsletter might be devoted to committee information, and, to encourage and remind the chairs, that such a page be emailed by Carol Buonanoma to each chairperson to fill their section and return.

e) Children's Cabinet: Patty Paulson discussed the needs of our adopted family for Thanksgiving and Christmas. A menu was distributed to allow members to commit to donations. All donations are due at the PSI office no later than Friday, November 21, but can also be brought to the general meeting on December 17.

### **Announcements**

December meeting: it was suggested that the chapter pay for lunch for the December 17 general member meeting, as has been done previously. A decision on how much the chapter would underwrite (all or a portion) was held until the chapter account balance could be presented. This information will be provided by email from Patty Espin to the voting board members. Carolyn Carrica offered to speak to the SPPCo chef about a menu and costs, and to convene a decision teleconference when the account balance is available.

Next board meeting is scheduled for December 11 subject however to room availability at TMWA. Kelly Hirning will check on this.

President Abney adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Dyer – Chapter 46 Secretary