

**WWMA REGIONAL MEETING OF THE NCWM ANNUAL / INTERMIN VIRTUAL  
MEETING – 1/12/2021**

Meeting called to order by Scott Simmons at 8:31 a.m. MST

In attendance: AK, AR, CA, CO, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA with approximately 49 on-line attendees

Secretary / Treasurer, Mahesh Albuquerque, report: No significant change since the September 2020 Virtual Meeting with \$13,136 in Bank of America and \$29,174 in Wells Fargo. These balances include the \$7k - \$8k from the September 2020 WWMA Virtual meeting.

Scott Simmons called for comments on the minutes from the previous meeting. There were no changes needed and Scott called for a motion to adopt the minutes. There was a second from the floor and the minutes were adopted

Old Business:

Scott asked for a report from the Constitution and By-Laws Review Committee. Steve Harrington reported there had been no activity. They are looking to schedule a meeting this summer.

New Business:

Scott Simmons introduced President Elect Cadence Matijevich of Nevada. Cadence is looking forward to serving as President.

Scott Simmons called for comments from committee members.

Josh Nelson reported for the S&T Committee. There are no significant changes to their report. There will be eight items on their voting consent calendar. Scott Simmons asked if there were any objections to the voting consent calendar. None were stated. Scott asked if there were any objections to any other items on the S&T report. None were stated. Scott will stand in support of the S&T report on behalf of the WWMA.

Tim Elliot reported for the L&R Committee. There was a formatting error on the addendum sheet for tractor hydraulic fluid. The committee will submit the correction from the floor prior to voting. Scott Simmons asked if there were any objections to the L&R report. None were stated. Scott will stand in support of the L&R report on behalf of the WWMA.

Mahesh Albuquerque spoke on behalf of the NCWM Board of Directors. They will have two voting items on their agenda. The first deals mainly with COVID-19 impact items. He noted NIST will publish changes to the handbooks in July 2022. The second item is editorial changes to the by-laws. Both items will be placed on a voting consent calendar. Scott asked if there were any objections to the Board of Directors voting

consent calendar. Kurt Floren inquired about the removal of language regarding committee chair secession. Mahesh said the Board of Directors felt they needed flexibility in appointing committee chair positions. They will continue to respect the recommendations of the committees. Scott asked if there were any further discussion regarding the voting consent calendar. None were stated. Scott will stand in support of the NCWM Board of Directors voting consent calendar on behalf of the WWMA.

Scott asked about future WWMA meeting plans. Mahesh confirmed that they were going forward with plans for September 2021 in Golden, Colorado. They have a hotel contract for the week of September 26, 2021. He will continue to monitor the situation and the hotel remains flexible.

Cadence said that Nevada is looking forward to hosting in 2023. She is in hopes that restrictions will be eased by then but continues planning for a possible hybrid meeting.

Steve suggested it would be helpful if the WWMA put forth a safety plan for in-person meetings. This would help jurisdictions in applying for travel approvals. Mahesh agreed and stated that they would be using the Colorado restrictions as a guide for the September 2021 meeting.

Scott asked for an update on the Garden Grove, CA meeting in 2022. Mahesh confirmed they have signed contracts for the venue. Jeff Croy added that the hotel is extending the discounted rate for three days prior and three days after to the conference as it close to Disneyland with shuttle services. The hotel also offers a breakfast buffet and an evening guest reception. He has also booked two suites for WWMA hospitality. The after-hours outing for the conference will be a dinner at a local park. Brent Ricks asked if the dates for California had been confirmed yet. Jeff said the conference will be September 25 – 29, 2022.

Scott asked if there were any updates for the Nevada 2023 meeting. Cadence said she will be working on arrangements starting in July 2021.

Mahesh reminded everyone that the WWMA has a conference planning guide posted on the website.

Scott asked Ray Johnson if New Mexico is still interested in hosting the conference in 2024. Ray said that they are still interested and looking at possible host sites in Albuquerque or Santa Fe.

Scott asked if there were any updates on the 2021 NCWM Annual Conference. Mahesh said the Annual Meeting is still scheduled but uncertain if it will be in-person or hybrid.

Cadence said a hybrid meeting might be advantageous to states juggling budget issues.

Scott thanked Don Onweiler and his staff for all their support with the virtual meetings.

Scott then called for program updates from the states.

California - Kristin Macey said they remain open for essential programs. Their metrology lab remained open except for two weeks in December due to an outbreak. Their electric vehicle charging rules went into effect January 1, 2021. The state has two sets of EV field test standards and continue working with EV charging system manufacturers to issue CTEP approvals. Their hydrogen fueling program continues to grow with 43 stations and approximately 20 more planned in 2021. Kurt Floren offered a county level update. He extended kudos to his staff in these trying times. He noted that they have suspended taxi and ambulance meter testing due to closed conditions. The metrology lab started a renovation last fall and are in hopes of reopening in the coming weeks. David Aguayo added many of his inspectors have been removed from the field to aid in disaster relief work.

Oregon – Steve Harrington reported that it has been a wild year with both COVID-19 and the wildfires. They have remained open for device inspections but found they needed to be more flexible about unannounced inspections. Their metrology lab remains busy and the bulk of their office staff is working remotely.

Colorado – Mahesh Albuquerque said his staff has done a fabulous job. Our inspection numbers remained equal to those of pre-COVID restrictions. We had two senate bills for EV charging and hydrogen fuel that have been postponed. The legislature hopes to take them up in the next session but that doesn't look promising. Some of the staff continue to work with NIST on the master meter work group and he looks forward to their report. Scott Simmons reported that the division staff has maintained good customer service while working remotely. Field staff was able to adjust quickly and up to speed by June. Our fuel quality lab has received a much-needed vapor pressure testing instrument. We are currently in the process of replacing some veteran staff due to retirements.

Montana – Brent Ricks reported that in June they had two months of suspended activity due to COVID-19. They had experienced some illness in their office. They have moved their division to a new building at the end of September. They continue working on lab renovations. They are also in the process of rule changes adopting updated codes.

Washington – Tim Elliott reported that they still do not have a program manager in place. The field staff has adjusted well. The metrology lab is still open. They are still understaffed due to retirements and have found training new hires a challenge due to COVID-19. Their office staff is working on a hybrid model.

Utah – Miland Kofford reported that they are still in a transition period from Brett's retirement along with other retirements. Due to COVID-19 they are just now able to start the hiring process. They are working on changing registration fees. They are planning a building move in April and will be updating their lab at that time. He is looking forward to in-person meetings.

New Mexico – Ray Johnson reported that they are back up to speed in the petroleum program and the consumer division is getting there. Their staff was done a great job at adjusting. He introduced the new Assistant Division Director, Roxanne Chepson. Recently the state offered an early retirement program and he is working through the loss of five employees to the program. Roxanne thanked Ray for the introduction and thanked the members of the conference for their help and warm reception.

Arizona – Kevin Allen noted that he had just started as the Associate Director. This year their field staff lost 57 days to at-home work so their numbers are down slightly. In November they transitioned to outdoor inspections only. The metrology lab is going strong, with a new Assistant Metrologist who started in April. The state is currently conducting a sunset audit of their programs. It is going well. They are also developing a marijuana inspection program. The budget is looking good. He believes he will be able to purchase new equipment and hire one new investigator for the northern area. Staff has been very flexible and they are considering transitioning office staff to full time remote.

Alaska – Ray Woolfolk reported that their inspection numbers are down due to COVID-19. Their inspectors are working outdoor only. The metrology lab remains busy. He has been training new staff, taking advantage of remote learning.

Nevada – Cadence Matijevich reported that the Las Vegas metrology lab is now closed permanently. They felt it was more efficient to have one lab focusing on in-state work. She has been working on finding replacements for retirees. An upside to the high unemployment numbers is the high number of qualified applicants. Noting that if others are seeking employees, Nevada has a good pool. The Nevada legislature delayed implementing fee increases to help businesses at this time. She recently replaced five older instruments in their lab and is working on replacing many of their older vehicles.

States Not Reporting: ID, WY, and HI

Scott asked for a NIST update. Doug Olsen said that there is nothing major to report. Most of the staff is telecommuting with the exception of some high value projects. He was pleased that they were able to expand their virtual training with over 2,800 attendees. This increase is 3 times the normal number. They now offer metrology training online to provide temporary signature ability to state labs. They do, however, look forward to going back to in-person training. Their funding is secure through September 2021.

A virtual chat room concern was raised by Angela Godwin. The concern was the Board of Director's strategic plan. Mahesh thanked her for her concerns and assured her the Board has received a lot of feedback from others and they are forming what they feel is the best plan to move forward. Angela was not aware that the members had been given the opportunity to address the Board. As an example, she was concerned about the decision to take the role of publishing the handbooks from NIST. Mahesh assured her that they have had several meetings with NIST since the interim meeting and

working through that issue. Doug Olson spoke on behalf of NIST, assuring her that they are working with NCWM on these issues. They have an emphasis on making sure that NCWM has the ability to continue to promote their organization. Mahesh stated the strategic plan is a living document and welcomes input during open hearings. Don Onweiler said NCWM has prioritized negotiations with NIST before presenting a plan to the members.

Angela said she was also concerned about voting terms; technical versus business items. Scott Simmons thanked Angela for her concerns and he looked forward to her sharing her concerns during the open hearings.

Scott Simmons motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m. MST