

MINUTES

NORTH DAKOTA ATMOSPHERIC RESOURCE BOARD APRIL 7, 2004

Chairman Jay Sandstrom called the telephone conference call of the Atmospheric Resource Board to order at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday April 7, 2004.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and members present were Jay Sandstrom, Hank Bodmer, John Bollingberg, Judith DeWitz, Dave Schmidt, Dale Frink, and Gary Ness. Staff members present were Darin Langerud, Director; LeNor Dollinger, Business Manager; Dawn Feist, Administrative Assistant; and Aaron Gilstad, Chief Meteorologist. Others present were Hans Ahlness, Vice President of Operations at Weather Modification, Inc.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Judith DeWitz made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 28, 2003 meeting and the March 11, 2004 telephone conference call as distributed. Seconded by Gary Ness. Members Hank Bodmer, John Bollingberg, Judith DeWitz, Dave Schmidt, Dale Frink, and Gary Ness voted aye. There were no nay votes. Motion carried.

REVIEW OF BIDS FOR AIRCRAFT SERVICES

Mr. Darin Langerud discussed the bids that were received on April 1, 2004. The only bid that we received was from Weather Modification, Inc. (WMI). The bids for the aircraft included the lease cost and aircraft tracking. There was an increase of 14% for cloud base and 13% for cloud top. There will be a 3% increase for both the aircraft and flight hours over the previous year's costs.

John Bollingberg made a motion to accept the bid for aircraft services as recommended by the director. Seconded by Hank Bodmer. Members Hank Bodmer, John Bollingberg, Judith DeWitz, Dave Schmidt, Dale Frink, and Gary Ness voted aye. There were no nay votes. Motion carried.

REVIEW OF PERMIT APPLICATIONS

Mr. Langerud informed the board that permit applications have been received for both districts one and two by WMI. The fees for the permits have been received. Mr. Langerud mentioned that there was an error on the permit application of the amount of the bid bond. The correct amount was received but the application has the wrong amount indicated on the application. Mr. Langerud recommended that the permit applications be approved contingent upon public response after the notice of intentions have been advertised.

Judy DeWitz made a motion to approve weather modification permits for District I and II with the changes Mr. Langerud indicated, contingent upon public response. Seconded by Hank Bodmer. Members Hank Bodmer, John Bollingberg, Judith DeWitz, Dave Schmidt, Dale Frink, and Gary Ness voted aye. There were no nay votes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR WDMP RESEARCH

Mr. Langerud informed the board that the North American Interstate Weather Modification Council's consultant in Washington D.C. is requesting any additional support for research efforts from states that are involved in weather modification research. Mr. Langerud drafted a resolution for consideration by the board.

Dave Schmidt made the motion to approve the resolution as presented. Seconded by Dale Frink. Members Hank Bodmer, John Bollingberg, Judith DeWitz, Dave Schmidt, Dale Frink, and Gary Ness voted aye. There were no nay votes. Motion carried.

BURLEIGH COUNTY WATER RESOURCE BOARD UPDATE

Mr. Langerud informed the board that there have been meetings held pertaining to a five county weather modification program. There seems to be more of an interest in Burleigh and Morton County. The staff will continue to work with the counties as requested.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Langerud noted that at the meetings with Burleigh County there have been questions on cost-sharing of weather modification projects. Mr. Langerud stated that he has been considering different formulas for a solution to this problem.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

HATTIE MELVIN, SECRETARY

JAY SANDSTROM, CHAIRMAN

Transcribed by Dawn Feist