

MINUTES

NORTH DAKOTA ATMOSPHERIC RESOURCE BOARD

APRIL 11, 1997

The Atmospheric Resource Board meeting was called to order by Chairman William Geiger at 9:00 a.m., April 11, 1997, in the Lower Level Conference Room of the State Office Building, Bismarck, North Dakota. Board members present were William Geiger, Mary Cichos, Hattie Melvin, Jay Sandstrom, Judy DeWitz, Jim Haaland, Joe Porten, Steve Weber, and LeRoy Klapprodt, representing Dave Sprynczynatyk. Staff members present were Bruce Boe, Director; LeNor Dollinger, Business Manager; Darin Langerud, Chief Meteorologist; and Paul Moen, Field/Research Meteorologist. Others present were Fred Remer and Mark Rivard, Weather Modification, Inc., Fargo, ND.

AGENDA

Chairman Geiger asked the board to review the agenda. There were no additions. Joe Porten moved the agenda be approved. Second by Marcy Cichos. Motion carried.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman Geiger called for nominations for Chairman.

James Haaland nominated William Geiger. Second by Hattie Melvin.

Joe Porten moved nominations cease and the secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for William Geiger. Second by Jay Sandstrom. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Geiger called for nominations for Vice Chairman.

Hattie Melvin nominated James Haaland. Second by Mary Cichos.

Judy DeWitz moved nominations cease and the secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for James Haaland for Vice Chairman. Second by Joe Porten. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Geiger called for nominations for Secretary.

Judy DeWitz nominated Hattie Melvin. Second by Mary Cichos.

Jay Sandstrom moved nominations cease and the secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Hattie Melvin for Secretary. Second by Judy DeWitz. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

A correction to the minutes of 3-24-97 was noted. The telephone conference call meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m., rather than 8:32 a.m. CST, as stated in the minutes.

Joe Porten moved the minutes of the March 24, 1997 telephone conference call be approved as corrected. Second by Hattie Melvin. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

Bruce Boe presented the financial status report dated March 17, 1997. Mr. Boe noted 83% of the biennium has passed and spending does not exceed this percentage in any of the board's line items. There were no further questions.

NDCMP GENERATOR PENALTY CLAUSE

The following requirements are to apply to the overall performance of the wing-tip silver iodide generators used by the contractor during the North Dakota Cloud Modification Project (NDCMP).

- I. Generator performance will be monitored on a weekly basis during the conduct of the NDCMP using project flight forms and operations logs. The failure rate will be calculated by dividing the total time the generators were inoperative by the total aircraft seeding time. The resultant figure will represent the percentage of time project aircraft were operating at less than desired capability. This process will allow two things:
 - A. A week-by-week look at generator performance to assist in detecting recurrent problems for immediate rectification.
 - B. Easy compilation of data as the project progresses leading to the overall performance total at the end of the operational season.
- II. Penalties will be assessed for performance below the required rates set forth here.
 - A. A penalty of four (4) percent of the total cloud-base lease cost of both NDCMP districts will be assessed if the total project generator failure rate equals or exceeds ten (10) percent.
 - B. An additional penalty of one-half of one percent (0.5) will be assessed for each additional percentage point failure in excess of ten (10) percent.
- III. Final penalties, if any, will not exceed the total determined by the generator performance formula and will be assessed at the discretion of the Board.

James Haaland moved to accept the generator non-performance penalty clause for the wing-tip silver iodide generators used during the North Dakota Cloud Modification Project. Second by Joe Porten. Members Mary Cichos, Judith DeWitz, James Haaland, Hattie Melvin, Joe Porten, Jay Sandstrom, Steven Weber, and LeRoy Klapprodt voted aye. There were no nay votes. Motion carried.

CONTRACT AWARD

Bruce Boe reviewed the bid scoring form for the 1997 bid submitted by Weather Modification, Inc., for cloud base aircraft, pilots, and related services.

Jay Sandstrom stated the points for radar on the cloud base aircraft could be too generous for competitive bidding.

Jay Sandstrom moved to change the point scoring for cloud-base aircraft with radar from 1 point to .25 points with a maximum of 4 points (Sec. 2a.VII). Second by Judith DeWitz. Members Mary Cichos, Judith DeWitz, James Haaland, Hattie Melvin, Joe Porten, Jay Sandstrom, Steven Weber, and LeRoy Klapprodt voted aye. There were no nay votes. Motion carried.

Bruce Boe reviewed the bid scoring form for the 1997 bid submitted by Weather Modification, Inc., for cloud top aircraft, pilots, and related services.

Bruce Boe reviewed the bid scoring form for the 1997 bid submitted by Weather Modification, Inc., for meteorological radar and technician for District II at Stanley, ND.

Bruce Boe reviewed a letter quote from Weather Modification, Inc., for the addition of Williams County into the 1997 North Dakota Cloud Modification Project. The total for an additional cloud base aircraft, pilot, and related services based at Williston with 100 budgeted flight hours is \$35,585.

Joe Porten moved to accept the letter quote from Weather Modification, Inc., for the additional cloud base aircraft for Williams County to be stationed at Williston. Second by Jay Sandstrom. Members Mary Cichos, Judith DeWitz, James Haaland, Hattie Melvin, Joe Porten, Jay Sandstrom, Steven Weber, and LeRoy Klapprodt voted aye. There were no nay votes. Motion carried.

Following further discussion, Judith DeWitz moved to reconsider the previous motion and amend the motion by inserting the following after the word "Williston", "contingent upon written acceptance from Williams County that they will definitely participate in the 1997 North Dakota Cloud Modification Project". Second by Jay Sandstrom. Members Mary Cichos, Judith DeWitz, James Haaland, Hattie Melvin, Joe Porten, Jay Sandstrom, LeRoy Klapprodt, and Steven Weber voted aye. There were no nay votes. Motion carried.

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

Bruce Boe reviewed an application for permit for District I (Bowman and Slope Counties); and, application for permit for District II (McKenzie, Mountrail, Ward, and Williams Counties) from Weather Modification, Inc., Fargo, ND. Mr. Boe noted the applicant is licensed, the permit applications are in order, and the fee has been received. Mr. Boe recommended the permits be granted contingent upon public response to the notice of intention publications.

Judith DeWitz moved to grant permits for District I and II to Weather Modification, Inc., Fargo, ND, contingent upon public response. Second by James Haaland. Members Mary Cichos, Judith DeWitz, James Haaland, Hattie Melvin, Joe Porten, Jay Sandstrom, LeRoy Klapprodt, and Steven Weber voted aye. There were no nay votes. Motion carried.

BOWMAN RADAR

Bruce Boe reported on the progress of installation of the Bowman Radar.

LEGISLATIVE RECAP

Bruce Boe reported on legislative bills of interest to the board. Mr. Boe noted that HCR 3043 that calls for a Legislative Interim Committee study on the feasibility of a hail suppression program for urban and rural areas in North Dakota has passed. It will need to be selected by the Legislative Council for the study to be completed. The agency appropriation bill (HB 1025) has not been considered for final passage at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY

Bruce Boe reported he has sent correspondence to Mr. Bud Clinch, Director, Montana Department of Natural Resources & Conservation, suggesting a meeting to rigorously and scientifically address all substantive concerns regarding the limited operations conducted over extreme eastern Montana: intended, actual, and perceived, during the North Dakota Cloud Modification Project.

Discussion was held on financial assistance from project counties for funding the environmental impact study. It was noted the scope of the study is not clear at this time.

1996 COOPERATIVE RAIN GAUGE NETWORK

Darin Langerud distributed copies of the network map depicting location of the cooperative rain gauge observer network for 1997.

COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM

Bruce Boe stated that he is scheduled to meet with National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) officials and the North Dakota congressional delegation in Washington, D. C. next month. An attempt is being made to reestablish funding through the U. S. Weather Research Program under the new name, Weather Damage Mitigation Program. Other interested states are South Dakota, Illinois, and Texas.

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL REPORT ON HAIL SUPPRESSION

A copy of the newly completed final report of the World Meteorological Organization Meeting of Experts on Hail Suppression (Johannesburg, 1995) was available for board members to examine. Individual copies will be sent to board members once permission to reproduce them is received. ARB Director Bruce Boe was a participant in the meeting.

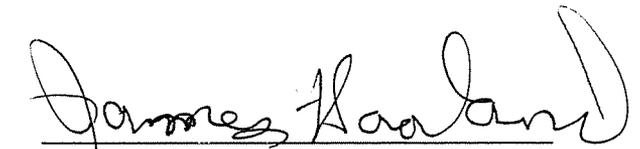
OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted letters have been sent to North Dakota insurance companies inviting them to become members of the North Dakota Weather Modification Association.

Being no further business, Jay Sandstrom moved the meeting adjourn. Second by Joe Porten. Motion carried.



HATTIE MELVIN, SECRETARY



WILLIAM GEIGER, CHAIRMAN

Transcribed by noted taken by LeNor Dollinger.