

CALIFORNIA WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL MODELING FORUM

MINUTES OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

For May 17, 2024

(This meeting was conducted online via Zoom meeting)

Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ED P. Hutton will send out the 2024 CWEMF annual meeting announcement to the membership and open registration for the annual meeting as soon as possible (by mid-June).• ED P. Hutton and the Sessions Subcommittee will confirm proposed sessions and talks submissions, get an accurate estimate of any open sessions and talks in the meeting program, and potentially revise the program layout to a two-track meeting program format given likely session cancellations.
Motions Passed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• V. Bedekar moves to approve amended March 15, 2024 CWEMF Steering Committee meeting minutes, S. Tanaka seconds the motion, motion is unanimously approved (20-0-0).• B. Geske makes a motion to move forward with the base case “as is” option from Attachment 3-1 to not set a precedent for reduced registration fees or fee exemption and preserve our position to pursue other options in the future, A. Khan seconds the motion, motion passes by majority vote (18-2-0).• J. Jankowski moves to approve the nomination for the 2024 CWEMF Hugo B. Fischer Award with seconds by J. DeGeorge and N. Johns, the motion passes by unanimous vote (20-0-0).• N. Johns moves to approve the nomination for the 2024 CWEMF Career Achievement Award, J. DeGeorge seconds, the motion is approved with 19 affirmative votes and one abstention (19-0-1).• A. Huber moves to adopt a theme for the 2024 Annual Meeting of “CWEMF at 30: Looking to the Past, Recalibrating for the Future”, seconded by R. Satkowski, motion was approved by unanimous consent without objection (20-0-0).

REFERENCES INCLUDED IN THE MEETING PACKET¹:

1. Attachment 2-1: Executive Director’s Report For the May 17, 2024 Steering Committee Meeting. 1p.
2. Attachment 2-2: Draft Minutes of the Steering Committee for March 15, 2024. 10p.
3. Attachment 2-3: Treasurer’s Report, FY2023 SC Meeting: May 17, 2024. 1p.
4. Attachment 3-1: 2024 CWEMF (30th) Annual Meeting Registration Fee Exemption Alternatives. May 13, 2024. 2p.
5. Attachment 3-2: CWEMF Annual Meeting Registration Exemption Considerations. 3p.

¹ File CWEMF SC Mtg Packet 05-17-24 REVISED.pdf

6. Attachment 4-1: 2024 Annual Meeting Program, Draft Layout. 21p.
7. Attachment 4-2: DRAFT AGENDA, 2024 CWEMF Annual Meeting: 30th Anniversary Plenary Session. 1p.
8. Attachment 4-3: Annual Meeting Sponsors. 1p.
9. Attachment 4-4: Sample Speaker Guidelines and Reference Material. AGU Presentation Template Sample. 3p. AWWA Membrane Technology Conference & Exposition, Speaker Guidelines Sample. 2p. PLOS Computational Biology Editorial, by Kristin M. Naegle, *Ten simple rules for effective presentation slides*. 1p.
10. Attachment 4-5: Alternative 2014[sic.] CWEMF Annual Meeting Themes. 1p.
11. Attachment 5-1: Agreement Between California Water and Environmental Modeling Forum and Tetra Tech for Executive Director Services. 6p.

1. INTRODUCTIONS/DESIGNATE QUORUM REVIEW ACTION ITEMS

At 9:32 Friday May 17, Convener J. Jankowski calls the CWEMF Steering Committee (SC) meeting to order, declares a quorum, thanks all for attending, and shares his screen to display the agenda.

J. Jankowski announces he is designated proxy for Will Andersen (CCWD) and Shyamal Chowdhury (USACE). A. Huber is proxy for K. Heidel (Tetra Tech) until she can join the meeting.

Convener J. Jankowski reports out on the action items from the prior SC Meeting. Convener J. Jankowski (Chair) met with ad hoc subcommittee that included members Executive Director (ED) P. Hutton and volunteers R. Graziano, Y. Sun, S. Tanaka, and R. Satkowski to develop a proposal for an Annual Meeting (AM) financial exemption policy (item 3 on the meeting agenda).

Convener J. Jankowski also reports on the efforts to finalize presentation slides for the Business Meeting that will occur at 1:30 pm via Zoom. Convener J. Jankowski thanks Secretary B. Bray for his assistance in finalizing the slides and drafting up the 2023 Business Meeting Minutes to be taken up for approval in the meeting. Convener J. Jankowski opens the floor to any questions or inquiries concerning the business meeting.

A. Huber makes an inquiry regarding the rules for constituting a quorum at the CWEMF business meeting, adding that she may not be able to attend and asks whether she should designate a proxy for her vote. Treasurer S. Tanaka provides the appropriate quote from the CWEMF bylaws that addresses the question as follows:

Section 4.09 Quorums and Voting. The voting members present shall constitute a quorum. Every act or decision done or made by the members in good standing and present at a meeting duly held at which a quorum is present is an act of the Forum. Individual and organization members will each have one vote. Individual and organization members may not vote by proxy.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Executive Director's Report (P. Hutton):

Executive Director (ED) P. Hutton refers to Attachment 2-1. ED P. Hutton reports on successful negotiations for contract language with the State Water Resources Control Board that facilitates their dues payment and also elevates their status from mid to large organizational member. The term of the contract will cover the next three years. The contract negotiations were successful as both parties were able to agree on the contract language and reach agreement. ED P. Hutton adds that he continues to work with State agencies to expense their dues as representatives from those organizations are working through extraordinary procedures given the Statewide declared budget restrictions.

ED P. Hutton reports on a new organizational member, Geosyntec. This brings the organizational member list up to seventeen organizations. Convener J. Jankowski thanks Geosyntec for their organizational membership. T. Slawecki (via chat) comments that Geosyntec should be added to the 2024 Annual Meeting Program (see attachment 4-1 page 2). ED P. Hutton confirms that their firm will be added to the final list in the program and notes that their firm has been added to the CWEMF website.

b. Secretary's Report

Secretary B. Bray refers to Attachment 2-2, the CWEMF SC Minutes for March 15, 2024.

N. Johns requests a minor wording correction on page 7, under item 7 History Subcommittee, the last word of the second sentence, "prepared." should be struck.

Also on page 9, item 12, third sentence, the sentence should be reworded from, "B. Bray refers back to business meetings was conducted online in June 2020⁹ and June 2021¹⁰ during the... latter case the business meeting was scheduled up against the CWEMF SC meeting for convenience."

To the following:

"B. Bray refers back to the business meetings that were conducted online in June 2020⁹ and June 2021¹⁰ during the... latter case the business meeting was scheduled to follow the CWEMF SC meeting for convenience."

V. Bedekar moves to approve the amended SC meeting minutes for the March 15, 2024, S. Tanaka seconds, motion passes (20-0-0).

c. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer S. Tanaka refers to the Treasurer's report (Attachment 2-3). She comments that there has not been much change in the accounts since her last report. Treasurer S. Tanaka does not expect any significant changes through June 30th, the end of the fiscal year.

ACTION ITEMS

3. AM FEE EXEMPTIONS (J. JANKOWSKI): ATTACHMENTS 3-1, 3-2

Convener and ad hoc subcommittee chair J. Jankowski opens the topic beginning with an overview of the issue. As a result of the State Budget crisis, an ad hoc subcommittee was formed to consider proposals related to possible fee exemptions for State agency employees to mitigate for anticipated barriers to their potential participation in the AM. The ad hoc subcommittee met and discussed the issue. Some members of the subcommittee expressed serious concerns ranging from setting precedent that could be expanded upon in the future to concerns around equitability of the fee exemption proposal concept. Convener J. Jankowski refers to Attachment 3-2 which lays out key considerations, a brief description of the base case “as-is” or no action scenario as well as concepts for alternative proposals for an exemption. J. Jankowski highlights some of detailed considerations from Attachment 3-2.

One SC member inquires whether the ad hoc subcommittee has a recommendation to the SC. Convener J. Jankowski responds that the subcommittee does not have a firm, unanimous recommendation to the SC. The subcommittee is not necessarily recommending against any action, however, there were some key considerations, risks, and some significant potential downsides that the SC should consider when weighing options. Capturing these various considerations and risks was the reason for Attachment 3-2 drafted by subcommittee member Y. Sun². Attachment 3-2 is not intended to lay out a specific recommendation, rather some of the parameters or considerations that necessarily would go into any proposal the SC may consider.

Convener J. Jankowski refers next to Attachment 3-1 drafted by R. Satkowski that lays out some potential options. Subcommittee member R. Satkowski provides an overview of the proposals and associated details listed in Attachment 3-1. R. Satkowski summarizes the considerations associated with three different possible options in addition to a base case “as is” scenario.

B. Geske thanks the subcommittee for their work in laying out the risks and the options in Attachment 3-1 and Attachment 3-2. In thinking about the bigger picture, he thinks that CWEMF’s ultimate goal should be to provide access to the AM to all the State employees that want to attend the meeting. The State employees receive benefits from attending the meeting. B. Geske suggests producing a one-page fact sheet that lists the benefits of participating and/or attending the AM might be a helpful resource to State employees working with their various agencies to try to attend the meeting. He wondered if this type of list can help reframe the debate by asking rhetorically why should a precedent setting fee exemption be instituted? It would help identify that there are a number of benefits that accrue from their employee’s attendance and participation. B. Geske adds that he feels the State budget problems are likely

² J. Jankowski adds that Y. Sun was unable to attend this CWEMF SC meeting.

to last longer than one year based on the latest information he has seen. He wonders if there should be a collective effort to argue for a long-term agreement to allow employees to be a part of the AM or to be engaged with CWEMF because it ties into their employment duties. He feels developing an accessible document for members that makes clear the various benefits and show a very positive return on the investment of their staff participating and attending the CWEMF AM would help put us on track for a long-term solution effort.

A. Khan shares his perspective based on his understanding with his employer DWR. From his perspective, State agency employees are dealing with a blanket policy decision. A. Khan does not believe agency leadership are concerned about the cost relative to the total cost budget deficit; given the 8% across the board reduction goal, CWEMF AM expenses would be insignificant within the context of a large State agency budget. Rather, State agency leadership seems more concerned about the optics or the perception problem associated with employees attending the conference that appears to be at odds with State policy. Given the serious State budget deficit, employees are simply facing an uphill battle to seek approval to attend workshops and conferences. Nevertheless, developing a pamphlet or document that helps our members make their case and advocate for attending the CWEMF AM is a helpful suggestion.

B. Geske, responds that one can look back 30 years now and see that CWEMF has been a partner with other organizations and agencies. The AM has sparked or facilitated mutually beneficial relationships. He feels that we need to help explain why this meeting is different than a, “run of the mill” workshop or conference. The information should be easy to gather, it would just be a matter of taking the time to put something together that’s well thought out and easy to digest.

ED P. Hutton asks whether B. Geske has any information he can share regarding the planning and attendance expected for the Bay-Delta science conference also tentatively scheduled to occur in 2024 given the State policy. B. Geske responds that he is just starting to get involved with the planning committee for that conference. Unfortunately, B. Geske has not been involved with the justification or discussions around any fee exemption proposals for that conference. There will be a significant cost associated with the event. The Bay-Delta conference will be held at the Sacramento Convention Center in downtown Sacramento, which has been remodeled since the conference was last held there. B. Geske thanks ED P. Hutton for the question and will check with his contacts and report back on any related information he can find out related to the planning and justification for that conference.

ED P. Hutton raises a point of order. The agenda item has moved past the allotted time. B. Geske agrees to table further discussion on this topic and advocates for taking it up later.

Convener J. Jankowski acknowledges there may not have enough time allocated to the agenda item and acknowledges the next hand raised.

N. Johns expresses his concern about the equity issue and counters with a modified 2a proposal. If the goal is to have the AM and maximize attendance, what would be the maximum financial loss that CWEMF would be willing to take. Each of the three alternatives in Attachment 3-1 have an additional cost. Then working from the maximum loss, the reduced fee is spread evenly across the board. Then to help mitigate the optics, we could re-title the AM as a technology seminar.

Convener J. Jankowski recaps, CWEMF is holding an AM this year. We are facing the likelihood of reduced attendance due to the State budget problem. We are exploring options to mitigate the reduced attendance and associated financial loss resulting from reduced registration. Convener J. Jankowski states time is up for this agenda and calls for any motions or for the SC to provide further direction to the ad hoc subcommittee.

B. Geske makes a motion to move forward with the base case “as is” option from Attachment 3-1 to not set a precedent for reduced registration fees or fee exemption and preserve our position to pursue other options in the future, A. Khan seconds the motion.

J. DeGeorge seeks to clarify; if the registration fees were waived, is it clear State agency employees could attend the AM? J. Jankowski responds the decision would still reside with supervisor discretion, although it is likely to improve the chances. A. Khan agrees that the cost of hotel, transportation, and registration fee are the main barriers to the approval.

N. Osorio adds that she recently attended a townhall at DWR. One of her takeaways from the townhall is that the State budget deficit is projected to extend into the next year.

A. Huber also seeks to clarify; if the base case is approved, would it not preclude stipends or scholarships for individuals volunteering to work? J. Jankowski clarifies that those considerations could be covered under a separate proposal.

Convener J. Jankowski calls to question by roll call vote. The motion to move forward with the base case “as is” offering no exemption to registration fees to State employees is approved with 18 voting in the affirmative, 2 opposed, and no abstentions (18-2-0).

4. 2024 Annual Meeting Program (ED P. Hutton)

- Contingency Planning (J. Jankowski & P. Hutton)

Convener J. Jankowski offers his perspective as one State employee. In his organization, when it comes to making a budget justification, if, for example, he wants to attend the AM, he would need to provide an additional mission critical justification statement.

From his point of view, the content of such a justification is dependent on the individual and their organization’s mission, among other factors. CWEMF could do some outreach and provide some helpful language that can be used to help justify their involvement, yet ultimately it will come down to the specifics for the individual, their management, and their employer’s policies and procedures.

- Outreach/Registration (P. Hutton)

ED P. Hutton comments that he will proceed sending out an email announcement for the 2024 AM to the membership and mobilizing registration for the AM as soon as possible in the coming weeks. ACTION ITEM

B. Bray inquires whether there might be any minor changes or adjustments to the AM registration process that the SC might consider to make it easier for individuals that want to attend on their own time and cost. Such as including a two-day registration option in addition to the one-day and full, three-day registration options, or extending the period for early bird registration.

- Program (Sessions) Subcommittee (P. Hutton & N. Johns)

- o Recommended Program: Attachment 4-1

ED P. Hutton refers to Attachment 4-1, the draft program that was previously assembled in January, 2024. Session 20³ will no longer be offered. There are several other sessions highlighted that are also withdrawn (e.g., Sessions 26, 35 and 36).

Given the approved motion to move forward with the AM without a fee exemption for State employees, ED P. Hutton recommends CWEMF plan for a two-track conference. Planners for the AM will need some way of getting firm commitments from State employees. If necessary, another announcement may go out to seek out a limited number of session proposals to fill up any vacancies on the program.

Convener J. Jankowski asks whether an email request to confirm the talks and sessions proposed is necessary. ED P. Hutton responds that he sent out an inquiry to the individual moderators and presenters in April to confirm commitments. The majority of respondents at that time confirmed their commitment. However, their commitment at that time was a qualified answer; registration was not yet open and formal approvals not yet sought. Now AM planners need firm, unqualified commitments one way or another to finalize the program and move forward with AM planning.

ED P. Hutton will meet with the Sessions Subcommittee to think through how to work with individuals that proposed sessions and talks to confirm their commitment, get a handle on the number of open sessions and talks in the meeting program, and revise the program layout to a two-track meeting program as necessary. ACTION ITEM

B. Bray asks whether we might want to allow for a portion of the talks in a session to be pre-recorded. ED P. Hutton reminds the SC that a policy was enacted in recent years that limits presenters at the AM to only registered participants. Pre-recorded talks would run counter to this policy.

- o Volunteers for 2 Grab Bag Session Moderators

[Tabled for later consideration]

³ 3DHP: Introducing the New Generation of National Hydrography Data.

o Plenary Session: Attachment 4-2

ED P. Hutton seeks a reaction from the SC on the plenary session. Assuming there will be reduced attendance due to the limitations at State agencies, does the SC want to consider postponing the 30th annual plenary session and have it in a future year?

Convener J. Jankowski recommends we move forward with our plans to celebrate the anniversary. Several other SC members express their concurrence.

o LTO Briefing (J. Medellín-Azuara)

J. Medellín-Azuara has been recruited to serve on a review committee by the National Academies of Engineering Science that is evaluating the long-term operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. Dr. Peter Goodwin is chairing the Committee. The Committee had a second meeting this past February, 2024. The idea to organize a session or present a talk at the CWEMF AM was discussed at the meeting. However, earlier this year at the SC meeting in January, the AM program appeared to be full. Given the full program and the fact that the Committee is expected to be convened for a two-year term, the proposal for the 2024 AM is for a 5-minute pop-up talk. In the pop-up, a representative from the Committee would give a snapshot about the study purpose, the vision in terms of expected outcomes, and seek some type of feedback such as two or three targeted questions that can be responded to after the meeting collected digitally through a QR code. The Committee is looking to understand the nexus between this review effort and Delta Science Program's integrated modeling community effort. Jay Lund—confirmed AM keynote speaker—is also a member of the Committee and expressed his willingness to integrate the survey (accessed via QR code) into his presentation if necessary.

Convener J. Jankowski responds that there may be more than enough content for a pop-up and would look to see a full session given the importance of the Committee's charge and the people involved. Convener J. Jankowski welcomes the information and engagement and wonders if, given potential cancellations in the program, that there may be room to accommodate a session if there is a willingness to step up their engagement. J. Medellín-Azuara responds that the Committee's work is underway, the information that will be ready to present may be limited in September 2024 where the discussion was focused on gathering information on the integrated modeling effort.

ED P. Hutton closes discussion recognizing that the AM program is going to change, the AM planners will keep this specific Committee in mind and reach out if AM planners are looking for additional session proposals to fill in the program.

- Awards Subcommittee (Kadir/Medellin)

J. Medellín-Azuara reports on the Awards Subcommittee deliberations⁴. The Awards Subcommittee is composed of M. Deas, S. Chowdhury, J. Jankowski, J. Medellín-Azuara, and T. Kadir (chair). They convened a meeting on November 9th and developed a set of rubrics as an aid to assist in processing and rating nominations. The Awards Subcommittee received one nomination for Career Achievement Award and one nomination for the Hugo B. Fischer Award. J. Medellín-Azuara provides a detailed report of the nominations, the subcommittee deliberations, and their final recommendation to the SC.

J. Jankowski moves to approve the nomination for the 2024 CWEMF Hugo B. Fischer Award, with seconds by both J. DeGeorge and N. Johns, the motion carries by unanimous vote (20-0-0). Regarding protocol, J. Medellín-Azuara closes commenting that given the final decision by the SC, notification letters will be sent out indicating the decision with a CC sent to all the nominators.

For the Career Achievement Award, J. Medellín-Azuara reviews the criteria for the award, provides an overview of the rubric used to evaluate the nomination against the criteria and ensure each nomination meets minimum requirements. The Awards Subcommittee provided a unanimous recommendation for the Career Achievement Award. M. Deas expresses his appreciation for the other subcommittee members relaying that there was a lot of thought that went into the deliberation. J. Jankowski notes that subcommittee member S. Chowdhury is unable to attend this SC meeting due to a medical appointment but asked that Convener J. Jankowski express his concurrence to the SC.

N. Johns moves to approve the nomination for the 2024 CWEMF Career Achievement Award, J. DeGeorge seconds, with no further discussion the motion is approved with 19 affirmative votes and one abstention (19-0-1).

- Nominations for Distinguished Life Member Award (Kadir/Medellin)
[ED. P Hutton tables this item in the interest of time. Nominations for the award will be taken up at the July SC meeting.]
- Sponsors (Hutton Attachment 4-3)
ED. P Hutton refers to Attachment 4-3 recognizing that eight organizations have committed to sponsorships where five have already sent payment. J. Medellín-Azuara confirms his sponsorship commitment for Pacific Agroecology. V. Bedekar confirms sponsorship for his firm, S.S. Papadopulos & Associates, at the same commitment level as last year⁵.
- Presentation Guidelines (N. Johns): Attachment 4-4
[Tabled for further consideration in the Session subcommittee.]

⁴ Before proceeding with the report there was a request for A. Khan leave the meeting, upon which A. Khan left the online Zoom meeting for the remainder of the subcommittee report.

⁵ According to the CWEMF SC Meeting Agenda and Attachments (CWEMF SC Mtg Packet 03-17-23.pdf, Attachment 3-3 on page 45 of 46), Papadopulos & Associates is listed at a sponsorship of \$500 earmarked toward defraying the costs of a social.

- Venue Update (Hutton)
ED P. Hutton recalls that Cliff House has closed, and the restaurant was purchased by Crawdads. Upon further research, he found that the restaurant is planning to reopen sometime in the summer of 2024. ED P. Hutton reached out to a contact with the Crawdads restaurant in Sacramento and has not heard back in more than a week. ED P. Hutton is not sure how the reservation might work if the franchises are independently operated; he may just have to wait until later this summer to reach out again and inquire about reserving the facility for a CWEMF social⁶ as part of the 2024 AM. Given a lack of alternative venues that could accommodate the size of our event, planners for the annual meeting may need to consider having the social at Lake Natoma Inn as an alternate location.
- Theme / Program Cover Graphic (Satkowski): Attachment 4-5
January 9, 2024, R. Satkowski assembled a list of alternative themes based on input from the SC received on November 17, 2023. A list of eight alternative themes for the 2024 CWEMF AM are included as Attachment 4-5 for the SC to consider. The theme alternatives were reviewed and discussed by the SC.
A. Huber moves to adopt a theme of “CWEMF at 30: Looking to the Past, Recalibrating for the Future”, seconded by R. Satkowski, motion was approved by unanimous consent without any objection.
- Screencast Recording Volunteers (Nam)
[Absent, no report.]

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CONTRACT RENEWAL (J. JANKOSKI): ATTACHMENT 5-1

Convener J. Jankowski introduces the agenda item referring to the ED contract included as Attachment 5-1. Despite a change in CWEMF’s AM scheduling this year, he proposes to move forward with renewal of the Executive Director contract renewal as has been standard practice since 2016. J. Jankowski as Convener has been the designated representative signing the contract for CWEMF and Dr. Sujoy Roy is the signatory as representative for Tetra Tech, although the contract is for the scope and associated budget for Paul Hutton to continue his responsibilities and carry out his duties as the CWEMF Executive Director.

S. Tanaka moves to approve and extend for another fiscal year the CWEMF Executive Director contract executed with Tetra Tech, seconded by J. Jankowski.

There was a question whether the compensation should be changed or increased in consideration that the AM was moved to the end of September with the implication that there will be two AMs anticipated within the term of this contract. After further discussion, it was agreed that any additional expense necessary to cover additional time spent on planning and organizing the AMs can be covered by an addendum to this agreement.

⁶ As a technical matter, CWEMF would not necessarily need to plan for holding a business meeting, but we might still want a social and an informational program.

There was further discussion on the motion. ED P. Hutton notes that the compensation has not kept up with inflation. He recommends the SC should potentially consider an incremental increase in compensation to keep the position competitive in relation to the market and as a standard cost of living adjustment or COLA⁷.

The motion was withdrawn, Convener J. Jankowski will take the discussion of the COLA offline; the CWEMF officers will proceed with the contract approval offline via email with potentially revised contract rates included as part of the agreement.

INFORMATION ITEMS

6. STRATEGIC PLAN (J. JANKOWSKI)

[J. Jankowski reports no updates on this agenda item.]

7. BRANDING SUBCOMMITTEE (A. KHAN)

Chair of the branding subcommittee A. Khan was absent and there was no substantive report for the Branding Subcommittee provided⁸.

Convener J. Jankowski took a moment to open discussion regarding a lack of progress in the Branding Subcommittee to meet and conduct their business. Convener J. Jankowski would like to see some activity and potentially inquire if there is any interest in any SC members interested in taking more of a leadership role with the subcommittee? B. Geske responds that he would like to re-engage with the subcommittee and come back up to speed especially because A. Khan is not online to discuss this issue. Convener J. Jankowski agreed, reiterating his concerns. There was no additional discussion.

8. HISTORY SUBCOMMITTEE (R. SATKOWSKI)

R. Satkowski (chair) reports that work is ongoing. The History Subcommittee has met several times since the last SC meeting in March. The Subcommittee is working on completing a slideshow presentation showcasing pictures taken over the past 30 years of the organization's history. The History Subcommittee work is ongoing.

9. WEBSITE UPDATE (K. NAM)

K. Nam submitted a comment that he has no report for the Website subcommittee⁹.

Convener J. Jankowski adds that this is another subcommittee where he would like to see more activity and more coordination with the Branding Subcommittee. N. Johns concurs,

⁷ Anne Huber (ICF) via chat provides the following reference: social security administration COLA through time: <https://www.ssa.gov/oact/cola/colaseries.html>. Josue Medellin-Azuara via chat provides another reference to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Employment Cost Index Summary, <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/eci.nr0.htm>.

⁸ A. Khan was asked to leave the Zoom meeting earlier in the meeting during the Awards Subcommittee and associated deliberations report out. Convener J. Jankowski and Secretary B. Bray both reached out to A. Khan via email after the 2024 Awards deliberations and A. Khan replied via email that he got tied up with other work and was not planning to rejoin the meeting, offering no additional updates.

⁹ Via chat upon indicating he needs to drop off the meeting, K. Nam provides his brief reports for the Website Committee and Model User Groups agenda items.

noting that there is a lot of work on the website needed. N. Osorio volunteers to help with the website subcommittee and updates.

10. MODEL USER GROUPS (K. NAM)

[Absent, no report.]

11. DSC INTEGRATED MODELING FRAMEWORK UPDATE (B. GESKE)

B. Geske reports that the Delta Science Program staff got a lot of feedback from the workshop as well as the presentations from the Lead Scientist at the DPIIC and the ISB meetings. He comments that some individuals are rallying around the idea of developing a short list of use cases to help launch the integrated modeling framework and the collaboratory idea. They are currently working to build out and develop some use case profiles that will have a lot of benefits to the project specific scope as well as building out the framework and collaboratory elements. As it looks now, the three use cases rising to the top are harmful algal blooms (or HABs), salinity management, and salmonid outmigration. Delta Science Program staff are starting to collect information on models that can be used, some goals to inform a scope of work, and gathering information from subject matter experts. They have a set of criteria to measure each use case against to see what can be feasibly accomplished. B. Geske is looking for CWEMF members that have subject matter expertise in these areas that can help collect the information, data and tools, and vision in terms of goals and objectives for the initiative. Any members that want to brainstorm ideas on use case development, please reach out to B. Geske. J. Jankowski recommends reviewing the 2023 AM program to look for any potential contacts (such as Keith Bouma-Gregson on the topic of HABs) that presented on the use case subjects as a good way to establish contact with subject matter experts from the CWEMF membership to facilitate exchange of information and invite potential volunteers to help with the initiative.

12. WORKSHOPS (T. Kadir)

[No report¹⁰.]

13. OTHER BUSINESS (ALL)

There was a question whether there is a need for a special CWEMF SC meeting before July to approve the AM program. ED P. Hutton responds that the Sessions subcommittee will need to get to work immediately on logistics for revising and reformulating the program for the AM. While there is not a formal requirement for the SC to approve the AM program to finalize it, usually the SC tacitly reviews and approves the draft AM program. The AM program can still be reviewed and finalized in July; hence ED P. Hutton thinks calling for a SC meeting before July 19th is unnecessary.

ED P. Hutton gives final reminder that the CWEMF 2024 Business Meeting will be conducted online with a different Zoom link soon after this SC meeting.

¹⁰ T. Kadir submitted his report in writing that there were no updates for this item.

14. NEXT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING – JULY 19, 2024

15. ADJOURN – 12:26pm

Respectfully Submitted
Ben Bray, Secretary, CWEMF

ATTENDANCE

Jesse Jankowski	Convener	SWRCB
Vivek Bedekar	Vice Convener	S.S. Papadopoulos & Assoc.
Paul Hutton	Executive Director	Tetra Tech
Stacy Tanaka	Treasurer	Watercourse Engr.
Ben Bray	Secretary	EBMUD
Abdul Khan		DWR
Anne Huber		ICF
Ben Geske		DSP
John DeGeorge		RMA
Jon Traum		USGS
Josue Medellín-Azuara		UC Merced
Katherine Heidel		Tetra Tech
Kijin Nam		DWR
Mike Deas		Watercourse Engr.
Nicole Osorio		DWR
Norman Johns		SWRCB
Om Prakash		DWR
Puneet Khatavkar		Stantec
Regina Graziano		SWRCB
Rich Satkowski		Public Member
Tad Slawecki		LimnoTech
Yiwei Cheng		DWR

Proxies: J. Jankowski is designated as proxy for Will Anderson (CCWD) and Shyamal Chowdhury (USACE). A. Huber is designated proxy for K. Heidel for approximately the first hour of the SC meeting until K. Heidel joins the meeting.