

### Meeting Logistics & Information

<b>Date</b>	Wednesday – February 20, 2019	<b>Attendees</b>
<b>Time</b>	9:00 – 11:00 AM	Doug McCleery, Joe Rando, Mike Browne, Rob Salcido, Mike Turns, Kevin Hanlon, Betsy Ames,
		<b>Non-Attendees</b>
<b>Meeting Type</b>	NEHERS Alliance – Board Meeting	Frank Swol, Nick Jones, Chris Mazzola
<b>Facilitator</b>	Frank Swol	<b>Special Guests</b>
		None
<b>Web Link</b>	<a href="https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/122221509">https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/122221509</a>	

### Meeting Motions

<i>Motion #</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Motion Movement</i>	<i>Favor/Oppose/Abstain</i>
1	Motion to approve December 2018 Board Meeting minutes	Moved by Doug McCleery Seconded by Mike Turns	6/0/0
2	Motion to approve January 2019 Board Meeting minutes, as amended	Moved by Doug McCleery Seconded by Rob Salcido	6/0/0
3	Motion to approve current accounts payable for December in the amount of \$2872.75	Moved by Doug McCleery Seconded by Kevin Hanlon	6/0/0
4	Motion to adjourn	Moved by Mike Turns Seconded by Chris Mazzola	6/0/0

### Administrative Items:

- **Updated Board Member Bios on Website**
  - Please check your bio!
  - Review committees that are available to be joined
    - Doug – join or participate in committees, even if you aren’t leading them.
    - Betsy – Training committee is everyone other than Trainer members, committee meets at 3pm on first Wednesday of the month
  
- **Clarification about when we move board and committee calls**
  - New committee chairs should work with Betsy to identify a new standing committee time if the current one does not work for them. Committee calls should not be moved month to month.
  - The board call will also not move month to month unless so many of the officers are unavailable on a given day that it would be simply unproductive to hold the call
  - Doug - Want to be flexible with setting board and committee meeting dates/times, but also want to be as consistent as possible with dates/times
  
- **RESNET Board Dinner Update**
  - Betsy – 31 total registered, possible there will be last-minute people, if we know of anyone else let Betsy know
  - Doug – people will try to meet beforehand to walk to the venue together (~6 blocks)
  - Betsy – printing sponsor membership forms, please help recruit members at the conference
  
- **Biennial (once every two years) NEHERS Report to State of Vermont**
  - Completed: Betsy - Updated them with names of new board of directors
  
- **Board Retreat**
  - Thoughts on going back to a Fall date for this year?
  - Last year’s attendance was not great, and given the proximity of the Easter/Spring vacation holiday it could be problematic to move the date up any. Likewise moving it until later in the summer will also probably not work well for many people.
  - Have met previously in CT – Energize CT in North Haven – but it is on a more limited schedule or may be closed. Last year met in Florence in co-housing conference room. Historically has been on a Friday.
  - Discuss monthly webinars, other things we haven’t had time to talk about. Downside to fall is figuring out meeting schedule, but this seems under control these days
  - Kevin and Mike T – fall sounds good. Mike – send poll soon.
  - Doug – late September to October is probably best
  - Betsy will send poll

- **Discuss Approval of December 2018 minutes if Rick Wertheim does not respond prior to board call**
  - Should be approved by people at Dec meeting, but no response from Rick. No comments/corrections from 4 people that did vote
- ❖ **Motion 1: Motion to approve minutes was made by Doug McCleery and seconded by Mike Turns. Vote was unanimous.**

#### Secretary's Report (*Doug*)

- Review and Approval of minutes from January 2019 meeting.
- ❖ **Motion 2 – Motion to approve minutes was made by Doug McCleery and seconded by Rob Salcido. Vote was unanimous.**

#### Treasurer's Report (*Nick*) -out with the flu

- Financial update – not given.
- Accounts Payable – reviewed.
- Compilation Report – not reviewed.
- Betsy presented financial position and accounts payable (NEHERS owes \$2,872.75)
- Doug – we are almost always current with our bills – a credit to our finance people
- ❖ **Motion 3 - Motion to approve current accounts payable of \$2872.75 was made by Doug McCleery and seconded by Kevin Hanlon. Vote was unanimous.**

#### Membership & Communications (*Frank*)

- Provider Renewals almost complete
  - Betsy - bulk of membership is Providers who pay for their raters, one Provider still outstanding
- Remind Board Members going to RESNET to review Sponsor List (Frank will travel to RESNET with flyers)
- [Utility Rebate] Program Letters- almost complete
- Doug – associate membership given to anyone who completes a training in that year (remainder of the year plus next calendar year). Did we convert anyone to full member. Betsy – usually people become raters and are members through Provider.
- Mike – do we want to make raters more aware that they are in fact members? Someone mentioned this last time. Betsy – everyone who is a member gets our emails. Doug will go back to the raters at MaGrann and ask them what they want from NEHERS. Maybe it's more up to the member organizations to connect with the raters. Betsy – biggest benefit is discount on webinars (get CEUs), access to Manual on website – not sure how many people access, other various things – e.g. Practical Simulation prep webinars and exam.

#### Standards Committee (*Kevin Hanlon, Rob Salcido*) (*Doug McCleery & Mike Browne emeritus*)

- HERE IS A CHART OF ITEMS OPEN FOR COMMENT

<http://www.resnet.us/blog/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/RESNET-Pending-Standard-Amendments-3-28-18-Completed.pdf>

- Rob – most of discussion was around roles, meeting protocols, things they need to track. Can submit proposals, continuous maintenance proposals, amendments, etc. Only item open now is Addendum 36 – update RFI cert and remove HES. Group felt it was innocuous – no need to comment. A lot of recent RESNET approvals. 301-2019 probably approved in summer. Energy Star for multifamily – is out. Slew of addendums - N, L, others.
- Kevin – need more summary/simplification of amendments, etc. for raters

- Rob - New air leakage standards for MF in 301-2019. Raters could use clarification.
- Doug – staying involved with RESNET is important. Sometimes they pay more attention to south and west where there is bigger volume. (NEHERS came up with first standardized training.)

### Training Management (*Joe Rando*)

- Winter 2019 Training:
  - Online (BER): Jan 21- Feb 1
  - Classroom (PSD- Springfield, MA): Feb 11-15
    - Ended up with 10 students
      - One student with computer literacy issues not recommended for classroom training, accepted transfer to spring class at no charge.
      - Joe – missed meeting, stuck in airplane/bad weather. Discuss computer literacy issues with the BER and PSD – how to deal with in the future? Student is happy with current resolution. Computer literacy, geometry understanding issues, etc. – usually one person per class, need to be able to handle. Extreme problems – 90% refund.
    - Had to switch site at last minute due to internet issue
    - Had a request from a student to extend our Mass Workforce Training Grant to the BER’s independent training, committee decided no.
    - Joe - May look at policy change. Have invested a lot in this with the BER. Trainings that fall outside NEHERS – is this competition/conflict?
    - Betsy - The BER offers classroom on-demand for one person, only ~\$200 more than we charge. This has happened twice that we’re aware of. Does this hurt our registration? Noncompete clause in training procedures. Need to clarify what “training in same area” means.
    - Joe – probably needs attention before 2020. Need to make sure we’re getting decent profits. Don’t know what else we might not be capturing. Where is the BER offering training? New England? If we give an inch, they might take a mile.
    - Doug – Could be an opportunity for NEHERS to extend its reach. Partner with other trainings in some way.
    - Betsy – the BER offers flexibility for people who can’t make dates of 3 per year.
    - Doug – need further discussion, try to work in under training grant
- Spring 2019 Training:
  - Online (BER): April 29- May 10
  - Classroom (BER): May 20-24
  - Manchester, NH
    - Betsy – just sent announcement. Just one person registered
    - Joe – any publicity at RESNET? Betsy – no, should we? Joe – just wondering, April is not far away. Betsy – early bird expires April 2 – that’s usually when we have a good idea on attendance. Could send a one-page sheet. Joe – maybe people with booths could hand out. Betsy will distribute. Kevin – there are some old materials we might be able to use. Betsy – yes, but logo is old.
- NEHERS is assisting NESEA in obtaining RESNET credits for their conference in March and is assisting with publicity.
  - Betsy – Susan Farber, conference manager for NESEA, is slowly getting us the info we need to apply, they haven’t paid us yet, 2 course are set to be approved, more?
  - Mike Browne – much harder to get this type of session approved for RESNET credits, they’re trying hard, need info earlier, quiz questions from voluntary presenter. Susan is working hard. Is there a way we can make this easier for Susan in the future?
  - Betsy – we’re past the deadline (within 30 days) we established with NESEA

- Doug – our obligation has gone away. Betsy – we have to pay for RESENT credits, so we wait to be paid first. No guarantee RESNET will approve in time. Doug – we need payment first. NESEA can proceed at risk and we will still try. (We charge \$35 per hour + \$50 per course admin)
- Energy Star Multi-Family Training.
  - Doug – this is still developing as we speak.
  - Joe - Training is optional in 2019, required in 2020. We have an opportunity if we can be first.
  - Doug – reiterated MF is part of v3 training, can be offered as standalone, probably ½-day

### Manual (*Mike Browne*)

- DRAFT: RFP for Utility Cost Input List Manual Update
  - Mike B. - Betsy working on RFP, we have Manual funds to do updates. How detailed do we want this to be (statewide or by utility)? Committee will hone RFP.
  - Doug – what is purpose of statewide? Mike B. – RESNET minimum is EIA data
  - Kevin – their statewide website has data

### Professional Development (*Chris*)

- Chris anyone who you've been talking to that might want the April slot? -Frank
- Chris - Still working on trying to find new and interesting presentations, we've covered low-hanging fruit. Reaches out 3 times a month to industry.
- Doug – you're doing a great job providing a good mix. Keep eyes peeled at RESNET and speak to presenters about presenting NEHERS webinar. Chris – has a list of targets already. Joe – will do the same thing for June slot. What is sponsored presentation vs. normal? Betsy – no CEUs if promoting a specific product or service. Feb webinar content was originally too generic regarding educational material and was too specific to his brand of window (per RESNET), revised presentation. Revised to be acceptable. Doug- most manufacturers/vendors are used to this. Betsy – sponsor members can do promotional webinars (without CEUs), use this to recruit at RESNET, cost \$500/yr, will email brochure.
- ~~January *Real World Performance of Air Source Heat Pumps* with Mike Duclos~~
- ~~February 13<sup>th</sup> *Using European Windows in Energy Efficient Construction* Rob Shearer~~
- March 20<sup>th</sup> *Duct Testing- Exempt or Not Exempt-* Emelie Cuppernell and Ethan
- April- Frank
- May- *The Hidden Story Behind Energy Modeling-* Mike Duclos
- June- Joe Rando
- July- Nick Jones
- August (often skip)
- September- Rob Salcido
- October- Mike Browne
- November- Kevin Hanlon
- December- Meet the Candidates/ Something Else

### Additional Possibilities:

- Heat Transfer and Heat Loss Calculations- Mike Duclos
- Program Updates from each state
- Anna Walter- international codes

- National Water Rating System Standard- Ed Osann- Chris has an inquiry out with him.
- FEMA to possibly do one on disaster recovery and rebuilding communities- Chris
- HELIX would like to do an update in the fall of 2019
- New ASHRAE Course: Benchmarking and Assessment of Building Energy Performance
  - [https://www.ashrae.org/File Library/Communities/Student Zone/Educational Resources/Building-EQ-course-flyer.pdf](https://www.ashrae.org/File%20Library/Communities/Student%20Zone/Educational%20Resources/Building-EQ-course-flyer.pdf) from Chris
- SCN Webinar-Sian Martins [sian.martins@autocase.com](mailto:sian.martins@autocase.com) from Chris
- Autocase models the environmental and social dollar values of designs and, together with financial costs, evaluates their net, Triple Bottom Line (TBL CBA) benefit over the life of a project using a rigorous cost-benefit analysis (CBA) framework, enabling design teams to make the most informed decisions. – From Chris

### Energy Code Committee (*Mike Turns*)

- Updates from last committee meeting
- Member polling on energy code issues
- Mike T – committee discussed goals: participating in code development, making members aware of public comment periods (esp. state-level) and encourage them to write letters, code interpretations and guidance. Topics of interest: DOE Rater variability study, proper implementation of ERI, existing buildings, guarded blower door testing

### Other business

- Try to determine the 5 or 10 every day obstacles that raters face that slow down their progress towards successful completion of HERS ratings.
  - Kevin originally brought this up, he will do more research to come up with the items to cover
- Technical support forum for Raters
  - Chris Mazzola and Frank were discussing some sort of technical support forum for Raters. Either through RESNET and/or NEHERS. Some years ago the QA committee used to operate a questions email that technical questions would come in to, and committee members would answer. It was never particularly popular, but it also probably wasn't well advertised either. We'd just like to explore whether there is some need for this, and potentially whether it could be a revenue stream for NEHERS.
  - Chris – how raters are trained is broken, should be a mentorship/apprentice program, 1 week of training isn't enough, need more to be able to sit for the exam. Not sure how to advance this. Maybe bring it up at RESNET town hall meeting. Kevin – are you suggesting they take training first, then apprentice for a year and then sit for exam? Chris – Our employees do the year before they take the class. Not sure what is best.
  - Mike – maybe this is an additional level of certification. Tough cell to make it mandatory to be a rater.
  - Doug – agree, difference between certified and qualified, will be a tough slog, table for further discuss. Talk about Sunday night.
- Propose a discussion for early or mid-2019 about rates and about how to grow more membership. Nick suggested rebranding as an option to expand appeal beyond rating industry. No action was taken at the time. Would potentially make for a good topic at the retreat if the board feels like it can wait until later in the year?
  - Doug – this sounds like a good topic for the retreat where we have more time. Betsy – sounds like great thing for the retreat. No discussion during call. Provide ideas in the meantime.

- From Nick Jones- The president of the Home Builders Association in CT called me last week. One of the things some of the members are advocating for is a tax credit for HERS rated homes (new construction or retrofit). He was wondering if I had heard of anything like this happening in other regions, and was wondering if I could dig up some background before he recommends anything. So naturally I figured I'd ask the NEHERS folks for some help here. Any information you can provide is helpful
  - Doug – recent practice of retroactive federal tax credit is dumb.
  - No one aware of anything on the horizon.
- Gripe about Frank with any time remaining (assuming this topic did not lead off the call)
  - Mike – Frank is too nice

❖ **Motion 4 – Motion to adjourn was made by Mike Turns and Seconded by Chris Mazzola. Vote was unanimous.**

**Action items:**

- Betsy
  - Send poll for retreat date
  - Send out one-page flyer on upcoming training for distribution at RESNET
  - Send sponsor membership flyer
- Mike T – Add Doug to codes committee distribution list, verify Rob is on the list