

Meeting Logistics & Information

Date	Wednesday – May 15, 2019	Attendees
Time	9:00 – 11:00 AM	Frank Swol, Nick Jones, Doug McCleery, Betsy Ames, Mike Turns, Mike Browne
		Non-Attendees
Meeting Type	NEHERS Alliance – Board Meeting	Joe Rando, Rob Salcido, Chris Mazzola, Kevin Hanlon
Facilitator	Frank Swol	Special Guests
		None
Web Link	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/122221509	

Meeting Motions

<i>Motion #</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Movement</i>	<i>Favor/Oppose/Abstain</i>
1	To approve minutes from April Board Meeting	Motion by Mike T Second by Doug	5/0/0
2	To approve current accounts payable of \$5336.31	Motion by Nick Second by Frank	5/0/0
3	To adjourn	Motion by Frank Second by Doug	3/0/0

Discussion

Board retreat

- No discussion

EPA Energy Star items

Discussion: Frank reminded the board the VOO comments are due this Friday, May 17

NEHERS Presentation proposal for 2020 RESNET Conference

Discussion: Frank asked if Betsy had heard anything from RESNET about when proposal submission will be open. Betsy contacted RESNET and they said they're having a meeting in the next month to discuss it. Online submittal is not yet live.

Obstacles to Raters

- Member poll

Discussion: Frank noted that he will be limiting the poll to NEHERS members, HERS raters and trainings, as opposed to all program participants or associate members. Reminder that they will do a follow-up poll asking members to rank the issues.

Secretary's Report (*Mike T.*)

- Approval of April Minutes – No discussion.
- ❖ **Motion 1 – Motion to approve minutes was made by Mike T and seconded by Doug. Vote was unanimous.**

Treasurer's Report (*Nick*)

- Financial update – Nick got final minutes yesterday, hasn't gone through it yet. Frank – Why are we right up against the meeting. Betsy – invoices and receipts sometimes come in late, serious delay from Jasmine this time. Nick – not a huge deal on my end, some back and forth with Jasmine, if we make revisions it probably will come 1-2 days before meeting, they do a good job of accurate reporting. Would rather have accuracy than scramble to get it sooner. We are not overdue on any payments, no surprises, pretty much exactly where we were last year in terms of assets and liabilities. Income last month a little better. YTD a little over \$16k income. YTD gross profit \$29k, a little (\$7k) ahead of last year. A little hit on membership dues compared to last year. Betsy – still waiting on JMC check, will make a big difference. We're in pretty good shape.
- Accounts Payable – Mostly baseline expenses, one refund check to send out. Betsy – credit card fees when we use the website for registration, authorize.net and Worldpay. Cape Cod Energy Solutions wanted a full refund, but we get charged a fee to process, looked into fees (\$370 for last month's transactions), figured out % charge by month (3.15% for April). Fees don't seem to be exorbitant, not sure why they very month to month, IT guy said it can get pretty complicated – base fee, transaction fee, batch fee. Statement on website about cancelation fees – made sure it covers what we charge. Doug – why do we pay two different companies? Do they do different things? Betsy not sure, but it's been like this as long as she's been here. Frank – thinks Authorize.net is website, Worldpay is actual processing payment. Frank – left board dinner off the agenda, Betsy had Jasmine go further back in time to look at costs, will discuss in a future call.
- Compilation Report –
- ❖ **Motion 2 - Motion to approve current accounts payable was made by Nick and seconded by Frank. Vote was unanimous**

Membership & Communications

Standards Committee (*Rob Salcido*)

Two meetings in April.

- April 10th:
 - Draft PDS-02 of proposed Addendum 30: Quality Assurance: Submitted Comment
 - Discussion of Mike Browne's proposal for guarded testing

Discussion: Mike is just about ready to send in. If anyone wants to comment, last chance. One question – Should you do a baseline when you do a multifamily test? Frank – we don't do guarded testing, no opinion. Doug – Do out of necessity sometime, no strong position. Mike talking about center corridor test, always do baseline for townhouse test because fan directly to outdoors, but don't do for corridor. Frank – you are able to receive quite a bit of airflow down corridors with doors opening and closing, has seen an appreciable baseline pressure show up. Mike – gets complicated, which fans do you do baseline on, interior is shown to be same pressure. Frank – we look forward to seeing it go in. Doug – blower door testing for code compliance under 2018 IECC – reference 380 as an option, but because of ASTM standards nothing required multipoint testing and is silent on guarded testing, so OK for code compliance? Mike Browne agrees. Mike T – local jurisdiction decides but not sure how much you have to tell them or if they will understand or care. Doug agrees.

- RESNET Standards in Public Comment.
 - Draft PDS-02, BSR/RESNET/ICC 1101-201xB, Standard for the Calculation and Labeling of the Water Efficiency Performance of Low-Rise Residential Buildings Using the WER Index")
 - RESNET/ACCA/ANSI Standard 310 Standard for Grading the Installation of HVAC Systems
- RESNET 301-2019 – still pending approval date –

Discussion: Frank – Emelie still not sure when it will go into effect. Mike B – think you can use it but not required. Frank – 2019 will open taller buildings to HERS/ERI method. Thinks it's approved and locked, but not officially adopted. Mike B. loves how Energy Star does transitions, model for our industry. Frank agrees. 2021 is not that far away for larger building timelines. Waiting to see certain compliance filings to see when it would be required. Doug – adds flexibility for some buildings but ups the game for others. Frank – continuous foam will be required for 4 story buildings. Hopes for grandfathering for permits up to the end of 2020, hopes utility programs don't try to force the issue.

- April 25th:
 - RESNET/ACCA/ANSI Standard 310 Standard for Grading the Installation of HVAC Systems
 - List of questions for Dean generated, Rob following up Frank and Betsy have not heard if Rob has followed up or not. We talked through the standard and different field tests and came up with questions for EPA, especially how the performance benefit is represented in the software (e.g. just impacts HERS Index or also savings?). Not sure if comment period is even open yet but wanted answers from Dean to inform our questions. No comment period yet for RESNET. Betsy – from RESNET - after 30-day preview period there will be a 60-day comment period. Came out March 28, so initial 30 days is done, but haven't seen anything official about a comment period opening. Frank asked Betsy to follow up with RESNET. Wants to make sure we have time to make comments once Rob gets back.

Training Management (*Joe Rando*)

- Spring 2019 Training:
 - Online (BER): April 29- May 10

Discussion: Student with computer literacy issue, still had issues during this class so the BER didn't recommend they move on to the classroom. Otherwise, no issues with the platform

- Classroom (BER- Manchester, NH): May 20-24
 - Running now
 - BER agreed to release online content within 3 business days of the decision of whether a training will run.
 - Accounting issues with transfer students from winter and spring. Decision to count both revenue and expenses for training the student participates in, not the one they register for. And adjustments to Betsy's 10% training bonus comes out of upcoming bonuses.

Discussion: Big question was transfer students and how to count training revenue and expenses when a student transfers. Sometimes they register for one class and we pay for their exams and then they switch to another training. This complicates the accounting to see if we turn a profit on a given training. Training committee decided to count both revenue and expenses towards the training the student actually participates in, not the training they register for. That means the books might not line up for a certain period in terms of showing a profit after a student transfers. Betsy's bonus will be reduced in subsequent bonuses if someone transfers to a later training after her invoice is submitted.

- Fall 2019 Training
 - Online (BER): September 3-17
 - Classroom (PSD): September 23-27
 - Location, Eversource, Berlin CT.
 - Publicity is out
- Winter 2020 Training- RFP for classroom won by BER.
- Competition Pricing- Free RI Training.
 - Training committee was not sure this could be a significant loss of revenue.
 - Check with Chris Mazzola if there is still concern on his end. Frank – tabled because Chris not here. Betsy will follow up with Chris offline to see if he still has an issue.
- Multi-Family Energy Star Training

Discussion: Frank and Mike B were in the training, Frank asked Mike for his thoughts, Frank thought content from EPA was too much review, Mike B agrees. Frank - It's a prerequisite that you've already taken the V3.0 training. Should spend more time on HVAC design checklist because this is where they get tons of questions. Mike agrees. PSD did fine, but content from EPA is lacking. Frank – people tune out when going over old stuff like Grade I insulation. Mike B would like to see some type of review of the questions people got wrong. Was confident on all 50 questions but got 5 wrong. Frank had about the same # of questions but after spending a lot of time of them thinks he figured out what they were going for. Frank may write up some comments for Ethan and Emelie and will share with Mike B and others as an FYI.

Doug – sometimes we make decisions about whether to hold or cancel a training based on a few dollars. Should we be more willing to run trainings at a small loss because our mission is to provide regular training? We are doing well financially overall. Mike B agrees. Doug – Would need to change how we do Betsy’s incentive. Maybe we need to change the way we do it because it’s based on % of profit. Frank – We kind of do this. Do you think we need to put something in the bylaws for future boards? Doug – that’s probably what I’m asking, we should bring up in training committee. General agreement that turning a profit on an individual training is not imperative, but we can’t take too big a loss, so need to draw a line. Frank asked Betsy to put on Training Committee agenda. Betsy – OK.

Manual (Mike Browne)

- Utility Cost Input List Maula Update

Discussion: Mike B – Only one open item – incorporating utility rates in the manual and put on the website. Trying to see what they could get from Ekotrope but sounds like we should probably put out to bid like we originally proposed. We should pay someone to mine the data and populate our website. Frank thinks it’s a great idea, get out as a resource to housing agencies in different states Mike – great idea may be put on public portion of website

Professional Development (Chris) Chris not present. Frank provided update

- January- *Real World Performance of Air Source Heat Pumps* with Mike Duclos
- February 13th *Using European Windows in Energy Efficient Construction*- Rob Shearer
- March 20th *Duct Testing- Exempt or Not Exempt*- Emelie Cuppernell and Ethan
- April 24th-*Smart and Simple Residential Ventilation*- Carly Maltais from Air Cyclor
- May 8th *The Hidden Story Behind Energy Modeling*- Mike Duclos –
- June- Joe Rando
- July 10th *Smart Ventilation and Smart Air Distribution*- Tim Montague
- August (often skip)
- September- Rob Salcido
- October- Mike Browne
- November- Kevin Hanlon
- December- Meet the Candidates/ Something Else

Discussion: Frank – How was the May 8 webinar? Betsy said the presentation was great. He’s done 2 for us this year and both were fantastic. He’s also really good about getting slides in advance to get CEU approval.

Frank - Have we heard anything from Joe about June? Betsy – He is asking for help. Rob said he has something he could do but he’s not on the call. Frank he’s back at the end of the month, if we do it on the 19th that should give him plenty of time. Or we could move Tim up to June but wanted to get more separation between ventilation webinars. Then we’ll be good until September – will need to swap out Rob. Frank wants a program updates from each state in the fall, we should reach out to people soon to do a September or October webinar. Can we look at the same list of people who did them before? Frank will send an email to the group. Nick – for CT it would just be me. CLEAResult would probably be good for MA, unless you want my Eversource counterpart. Frank – will defer to Nick on what’s best. Betsy will send list of contacts.

Energy Code Committee (Mike Turns)

- Energy Codes Poll sent and member responses received. To be reviewed on next committee call

Discussion: 31 responses, most from MA. Mike T– will provide summary of responses to give us more actionable info. Next Energy Codes Committee meeting is June 21.

❖ **Membership & Communications (Frank)**

- JMC sponsor paperwork in process with Peter’s assistance
- 2nd Round of attempts at Program Sponsor Letters

Discussion: Frank – Need to follow up. Did not get responses from most people. Want to get a response one way or the other. Talked to Tony this morning about NYSERDA. Sending letter to Tony and Emelie to facilitate getting responses. Sent a copy of the letter to Mike T. Mike – what is elevator pitch to utilities. Frank – we revised the letter to make it fit on one page. NEHERS is supporting the raters that make their programs work, training, continuing education, manual, make sure they’re in good standing with RESNET and have a place to go for questions. Don’t care if renewal is staggered as opposed to on a calendar year like other memberships, which are prorated at half off.

Other business

Mike T brought up Ohio nuclear bailout bill that would kill EE programs in Ohio, including a planned expansion of new homes programs. Asked if NEHERS could send something out. Mike Browne expressed support and had to leave the call. (Nick also had to leave prior to the end of the call.) Mike T., Doug, Frank, and Betsy edited form email to send, on behalf of the board, to NEHERS members who wish to voice their opinion to the OH legislature. Betsy agreed to send to the membership and Laurel and Steve at RESNET.

❖ **Motion 3 –Motion to adjourn was made by Frank, Doug second. Unanimously approved. 3-0**