

# Northwest Oklahoma Alliance



## Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 28, 2009

10:00 a.m. – 12 Noon

Northwest Technology Center

Incubator Conference Room & IETV & Conference Call

Alva, Oklahoma

### Minutes

1. Call to Order – Meeting was called to order by President Sonja Cook at 10:04 am.
2. Roll call – Board members present: Sonja Cook, Matt Gard, Patti Wilber, Melissa Washmon. Absent: Barclay Holt, Vicki McCune, and Con Pekrul. Quorum was met.
3. Recognition of Guests – Neal Williams, ODOC Rural Development Specialist was recognized by Cook.
4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting – Gard made the motion to accept the minutes of September board meeting; Washmon seconded. Roll call vote: Cook, yes; Gard, yes; Wilber, yes; Washmon, yes. Motion carried.
5. Election of officers – Cook presented to the members that election of officers occurs at the meeting following annual meeting. After further discussion, Gard made the motion to elect all officers to their currently held positions; Washmon seconded. Roll call vote: Cook, yes; Gard, yes; Wilber, yes; Washmon, yes. Motion carried. Board members were re-elected to the following positions:
  - President – Sonja Cook
  - Vice President – Barclay Holt
  - Secretary – Patti Wilber
  - Treasurer – Melissa Washmon
6. Discussion/possible action regarding NwOA trade show booth/display – Williams reported that Brian Gaddy has ordered 2 pull up displays and will be ready for the February 17 NwOA Legislative Event. Content of the displays will be similar to the web site information. The board expressed appreciation to Gaddy for doing this.

Note: Vicki McCune and Con Pekrul joined the NwOA meeting via teleconference.

7. Committee reports:
  - a. Finance – Washmon reported that Diann Adams of High Plains RC&D had received membership renewals and were mailed to the NwOA post office box. It was also reported that the financial report would include a quarterly summary as well as annual summary. Discussion followed to clearly define the fiscal year for NwOA and to check with HPRC&D with accounting process.

b. Communication – McCune reported that she needs pictures, activities, and other pertinent information from communities to put on NwOA web site. By continuing to build the web site, more people will be driven to the site for information such as the Legislative Event (on front page) and other information relevant to northwest Oklahoma. Additional information suggested were photos of industrial parks, events, and success stories.

c. Membership – Wilber reported that membership renewal letters were sent this month to 2008 members. Concern was expressed that membership may be slower coming in with the Legislative Event not prompting membership in NwOA for participation. It was agreed that the event is open to all northwest Oklahoma communities and the event would promote NwOA and joining the organization. Membership forms will be available at the evening event. Wilber will also send letters to those who did not join in 2008 to encourage joining NwOA.

d. Business Retention, Expansion & Recruitment – Pekrul reported on the recent wind energy class at Autry Technology Center and the presenter was aware of NwOA and expressed interest in the organization and future activities. Pekrul will contact people in the panhandle for updates on happenings in wind energy in the area. He has also talked with Enid about local activities related to BRE as well.

e. Special Needs – Cook reported that special activities currently is the upcoming legislative event in Oklahoma City on February 17.

f. Legislative – Cook reported that commitments are coming in for sponsors of the legislative event. While the State Chamber also has their legislative events that same day, it concludes before NwOA's evening reception and dinner at the Oklahoma History Center. Lieutenant Governor plans to attend the NwOA event. It was also reported that approximately 30 students from the local technology center will attend as part of the Superintendent's Leadership Class. Everyone was reminded to please encourage the youth from our area to attend. Bob Firth, Atlas Pipeline CEO and from Laverne, will be the keynote speaker in the evening.

The NwOA Legislative Event will begin at 9:00 am on the State Capitol 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Rotunda with a table set up with information. A list of legislators and committee membership will be available. A press release will be going out in area newspapers soon. Washmon will check with Touchstone Energy for the booklet of legislators for the NwOA table.

g. Events – Matt Gard

8. Discussion/possible action in regards to committee updates – None.

9. New Business – None.

10. Adjournment – Wilber made the motion to adjourn; Gard seconded. Roll call vote: Roll call vote: Cook, yes; Gard, yes; Wilber, yes; Washmon, yes; Pekrul, yes; McCune, yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.