

MINUTES

NORTH DAKOTA ATMOSPHERIC RESOURCE BOARD

MARCH 12, 1998

A telephone conference call meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. CST by Chair William Geiger. Board members present were Mary Cichos, Judith DeWitz, James Haaland, Hattie Melvin, Jay Sandstrom, and Steven Weber. Board staff present consisted of Bruce Boe, Director; LeNor Dollinger, Business Manager; Darin Langerud, Chief Meteorologist; and Paul Moen, Associate Meteorologist.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mary Cichos to approve the agenda as provided. Second by Judith DeWitz. Motion carried.

REVISION OF BOARD RULES AND REGULATIONS

Bruce Boe summarized the draft language for the proposed rule change pertaining to the presence of contractor personnel in the field and communications with the contractor's licensees. He noted that the one substantive change from the draft provided to the Board during the February 19, 1998 meeting was the addition of the phrase, "...at a location made known to the board by the applicant." This phrase was added by counsel, he said, to ensure that providing the licensee's location was the contractor's responsibility.

A motion was made by Judith DeWitz that the revised rules be adopted as provided. Second by Hattie Melvin. Members Mary Cichos, Judith DeWitz, James Haaland, Hattie Melvin, Jay Sandstrom, and Steven Weber voted aye. There were no nay votes. Motion carried.

CLOUD SEEDING PILOT-IN-COMMAND QUALIFICATIONS

Darin Langerud noted that he had visited with two past project pilots-in-command (PICs) about how quickly one learns operational procedures. The draft language for acceptable alternative training (other than one season's cloud seeding experience) was based upon what he had learned, he said.

The draft language stated simply that in lieu of experience, the contractor would be required to provide a minimum of five hours flight time with an experienced PIC before the project, around convective clouds in the type aircraft to be flown by the new PIC during the project. Alternatively, this training could take place on the project itself, if the experienced PIC flew with the new PIC for the first five hours of the project. In addition, the contractor would be required to provide to the Director prior to project start, the total multi-engine PIC time of each proposed project PIC.

A motion was made by Judith DeWitz to accept the revised minimum qualifications for project pilots-in-command. The motion was seconded by Mary Cichos. Members Mary Cichos, Judith

DeWitz, James Haaland, Hattie Melvin, Jay Sandstrom, and Steven Weber voted aye. There were no nay votes. Motion carried.

HEARING ON HCR-3043

Bruce Boe summarized the March 5 hearing before the interim Insurance and Health Care Committee regarding HCR-3043, to study the possibility of a statewide hail suppression program. Overall, Mr. Boe indicated that he thought the day had gone well, though the committee made no recommendation at the conclusion. It was not certain if the committee would attempt to draft any legislation, he said.

STANLEY RADAR UPDATE

A proposal had been received by electronics technician Clem Aadland to build the structure to house the Stanley radar, and to move, install, and maintain that radar through the 1998 summer project, according to Bruce Boe. The proposal requested \$37,850, he said, about \$8,000 more than budgeted for the project.

Jay Sandstrom expressed concern that the Mountrail County Weather Modification Authority (of which he is Chair) did not have the time to take this on themselves, and suggested that the board staff should be given authority to go ahead with the construction as Mr. Aadland proposed.

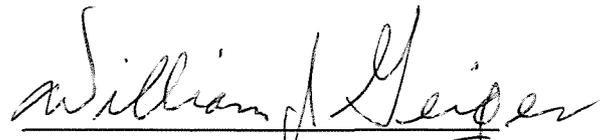
Mr. Boe noted that the minimum dollar amount for which bidding would be required was \$50,000. He added that he had also been discussing the radar building with another Mountrail County Authority member, Mark Nesheim, who was very interested in pursuing the construction with a local contractor. Mr. Boe indicated that he would continue to explore options to expedite a means through which construction could begin soon, at a cost closer to budget.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Hattie Melvin, Secretary

Date _____

Transcribed by Bruce Boe



William Geiger, Chairman

Date _____

