



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the International Association of Broadcast Meteorology held on Tuesday 10th September 2013 held during the 13th EMS Annual Meeting & 11th European Conference on Applications of Meteorology (ECAM) at The University of Reading, Palmer Building, Whiteknights, Reading RG6 6UR in Conference Room 104.

MINUTES

- 1) In attendance: John Teather, Bill Giles. Gerald Fleming (in the Chair) Jay Trobec, Panos Giannopoulos and Corporate Member Karl Eggestad (Weather One)
- 2) Apologies for absence and postal votes were received from: Inge Niedek, Paul Gross, Claire Martin, Tomas Molina, Dieter Walch, Steve Nyarkotey Quao, Yoshikazu Idesako, Mauricio N. Saldivar, Daniel Corbet.
- 3) The minutes of the 18th Annual General meeting were agreed as a true record and adoption was proposed by Jay Trobec and seconded by Gerald Fleming.
- 4) There were no matters arising.
- 5) The meeting received the tabbed report of the Chairman Inge Niedek.

The New Up-Front is up and has hopefully reached our members. If you have seen it already or have visited our website, you may have noticed our new “design” – as time goes by – web-sides do too. It has been the initiative of John Teather our publications director, who has designed the new outlook perfectly, professionally, transferring it with great enthusiasm and tireless commitment for IABM.

The Up-Front is the mirror of our organization, of our interesting privileged day-to-day work. Our paper, which is a unique way for a special type of communication. It widens everybody’s horizon to learn and hear about climate, weather and broadcasting in other parts of the world, but it lives from your contribution!!

The new Up-Front will basically tell you what has happened during the past year from the AGM in Boston to the AGM along with the EMS in Reading in different parts of the world. Let’s just summarize that our work is still based on a few shoulders, but business is still going on.

Cooperation with the foundation “We are Water” is very encouraging; taking on problems many people are not aware of today. But “water is live” and this theme will follow us on the screens of broadcast meteorology in one way or another, whether it be too much water and flooding or being not enough in combination with drought but also many other aspects. Thomas Molina has done some great work to make this cooperation happen.

The IABM is also trying to touch issues we will have to deal with in the future along with our day-to-day weather.

We are in ongoing talks with WMO about the World Conference in 2015 in Geneva and still trying to find some financial support in order to gather really a world community of Broadcast Meteorologists at this conference.

Climate Change is one of the most important issues mankind is being confronted with, although other “burning issues” the Syria war, worldwide economic problems, regulation of the banking and money markets are sometimes covering the climate problem. But it is and still will be there, in the future - possibly becoming even more visible.

Only a few weeks from now the new IPCC fifth Assessment Report will be published and the findings of “The Physical Science” have to be communicated to the public. At lot of our members will take on the role of communicating the condensed issues to the viewership, as liked and trusted as experts.

The IABM has the honor of being a member of a workshop initiative consisting of the World Meteorological Organization, The IPCC Secretariat, the IPCC Working Group 1 Technical Support Unit, the UN Foundation, the Danish Ministry of Climate and Energy with the strategy to inform broadcast meteorologists in more detail about the findings of the “Physical Science”, and empower them to communicate the findings more effectively to the viewership. We urgently need these initiatives to enhance the public understanding of climate change. The workshop will take part on the 23rd and 24th of October. (More details will be published on our website in short term)

This event is an excellent example that it is worth of being a member of the IABM, as a world uniting organization, giving us as a relatively small community the possibility to exchange views, news and strengthen our profession as serious broadcasters who have a strong and trustworthy position in the viewership.

A major step has been collecting and selling advertisement for “Up-Front” to companies working in the meteorological media environment. There is also the option of joining IABM, as other companies have done already. Anyway with this step, we want to open a platform to communicate information about meteorological systems to be used for meteorological broadcasting to all our members, who are busy in broadcast meteorology. To “put this idea in motion” we need our members who know their market best, that they get busy to collect advertisement.

We will continue to work for this position, but we need and want your support with all initiatives, propositions and questions.

We also would like to thank the members of our committee for their valuable, reliable, unselfish and constructive work over the years and hope for their continuous support. Without this cooperation IABM would not exist.

We still have the problem of meeting regularly to discuss new strategies, problems

and draft our way to the future. Skype has helped us to keep up with a relatively regular communication, but in my opinion we still need at least one face-to-face meeting during the year. The conference calendars are becoming difficult to follow. September is a month when someone who has time and money could travel from one conference to the other. But most of our colleges have to be busy working in television and don't have the chance to take part in several conferences. Therefore our communication is even more important.

Wishing us another fruitful year of working together towards the World Conference in 2015 in Geneva.

Adoption of the report was proposed by Panos Giannopoulos and seconded by Bill Giles

6. The meeting received a report from the Honorary Secretary Bill Giles OBE.

The usual problems for the Board in being able to meet face-to-face were the same in this period, although there was use of Skype video conferencing that did enable to Board to discuss many issues.

The Board did resolve to increase the opportunities to publish UP FRONT more often with funding through sponsorship and advertising. The aim is to produce 4 editions each year. Publications Secretary, John Teather, has already published the summer edition in a new exciting format, and the Autumn edition is in preparation. He also re-launched the website to better fit the style and content of UP FRONT.

The Board continued with its preparations for a 2nd World Conference on Broadcast Meteorology to be held in Geneva. They realized the difficulties of arranging this sort of event and have found it very challenging so far.

The Association continues to face difficulties over funding which makes it very difficult for the Board to travel to meet. Despite the best efforts of everyone, this still remains the case. With more editions of UP FRONT each year, it is hoped that our message is more widely spread and make it easier to attract funding. The notable factor is that the resolve of the Board is not diminished and everyone involved is determined to succeed.

Adoption of the report was proposed by John Teather and seconded by Jay Trobec

7. The meeting received a report from the Honorary Treasurer Gerald Fleming.

Adoption of the report was proposed by Jay Trobec and seconded by Panos Giannopoulos

8. Election of the Board of Directors. The meeting noted that following had been nominated:

Chairman -	Inge Niedek
Vice Chairman -	Claire Martin
Secretary -	Bill Giles
Treasurer -	Gerald Fleming
Membership -	Tomas Molina
Publications -	John Teather
Ordinary Directors -	Paul Gross, Panos Giannopoulos, Dieter Walch
African Representative -	Steve Nyarkotey Quao
Asia Representative -	Yoshikazu Idesako
South American Representative -	Mauricio N. Saldivar
Australasia Representative -	Daniel Corbet

Jay Trobec proposed election of all those nominated and this was endorsed by Karl Eggestad

9. There were no resolutions.

10. There was no other business.