

MINUTES
MARC COMMISSIONERS WINTER RETREAT
BUSINESS MEETING
January 11, 2002
San Antonio, TX

The following MARC Commissioners were in attendance at the meeting:

Sandy Hochstetter	Arkansas	David Ziegner	Indiana
Betty Dickey	Arkansas	Diane Munns	Iowa
Lavenski Smith	Arkansas	Bob Nelson	Michigan
Ruth Kretschmer	Illinois	Dave Svanda	Michigan
Richard Mathias	Illinois	Edward Garvey	Minnesota
Terry Harvill	Illinois	LeRoy Koppendraye	Minnesota
David Hadley	Indiana		

Phyllis Reha	Minnesota
Lowell C. Johnson	Nebraska
Anne Boyle	Nebraska
Frank Landis	Nebraska
Jerry Vap	Nebraska
Susan Wefald	North Dakota
Anthony Clark	North Dakota
Judy Jones	Ohio
Bob Anthony	Oklahoma
Jim Burg	South Dakota
Becky Klein	Texas
Brett Perlman	Texas
Ave Bie	Wisconsin

The meeting was called to order by MARC President Susan Wefald at 9:00 a.m. and a quorum was established.

Introductions

Table introductions were made.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the November 13, 2001, MARC business meeting in Philadelphia, as amended, were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ave Bie went through the MARC financial statements and President Wefald noted that this annual retreat was designed to encourage more in-depth discussion of MARC's financial policies and objectives.

A. Discussion of MARC Expenses

The annual Commissioners-Only Winter Retreat is the largest MARC expense each year. Reimbursement checks to Commissioners for airfare will be available at this meeting. Hotel and meals will be covered by MARC.

MARC has advanced \$15,000 seed money to North Dakota and \$15,000 seed money to Nebraska. Due to the huge success of the MARC Conference in Mackinac Island last year, the MARC balance is the highest it's been in many years.

B. Discussion of MARC Investments

A.G. Edwards, Illinois, is the

MARC Account manager. Changes to the MARC investments were highlighted on the financial report. A bond roll-over and new investments were mentioned. The Audit Report (performed by a Wisconsin PSC Staff auditor) was presented on the MARC funds and the last MARC Conference. The results of the audit indicated no exceptions. An Audit on the Treasurer's function from last year will be performed next. MARC's goal is to maintain a 3-year cushion in accounts (net assets). Ave will get more detailed information on the multi-step up note for us and present it to the group at a future meeting.

A Motion was made, seconded and passed to include the specific details of MARC conference expenses and proceeds as part of the January audit report at future MARC Winter Retreats.

A Motion was made, seconded and passed to present a gift to Kathy Fortney for helping out at the 2002 Commissioner's Winter Retreat and the Summer Conference meeting.

A Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the Treasurer's Report.

Agenda Item No. 7

There was discussion of whether or not we needed to continue to collect the annual \$100 state membership fee. A Motion was made, seconded and passed to suspend the collection this year (due to MARC's healthy account balance).

Update on North Dakota Summer Meeting

The MARC Summer Conference will be held in Bismarck, North Dakota on June 22-26, 2002.

The following social activities are planned:

- Saturday night show at Teddy Roosevelt Park (amphitheater)
- Visit to Louis and Clark sites
- Canoe trip, hiking, golfing, etc.
- Trip to Ft. Lincoln State Park - Monday; infantry and calvary site (Monday night)
- Wednesday morning tour of open-pit coal mines and a coal gasification pit tour.

MARC Website

President Wefald reported that the Yahoo search engine is not picking up the MARC website. We need to check other search engines to see if they work. Michigan is maintaining the website. There's also a link from the NARUC website. Commissioner David Svanda of Michigan will do the follow-up. We will be able to register for the MARC Conference on-line, but

not at this time.

Old Business

None.

New Business

The location for next year's MARC Winter Retreat was discussed. A Motion was made, seconded and passed to keep the St. Anthony Hotel in San Antonio as the location for next year. The retreat will be held the 2nd weekend in January.

Commissioner Bob Anthony of Oklahoma mentioned interest in forming a relationship with our Mexican regulatory counterparts regarding the topics of telecomm synergies and natural gas pipelines. Commissioner Svanda previously explored that with the Mexican regulatory agency - he worked through Chuck Gray at NARUC, but they weren't able to work things out this year. They may try next year with Mexico as a 1st choice; then possibly Canada.

Appointment of Nominating Committee for 2002-2003 Officers

President Wefald asked for volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee for new officers for the upcoming year. Diane Munns will serve as Chair and Bob Nelson and Frank Landis will be the other two Commissioners on the Committee. Anyone interested in serving as Secretary next year should contact the Committee with a letter, plus

send a letter of interest to the rest of the MARC Commissioners. Interested Commissioners need to keep in mind that this job entails a future conference preparation and hosting responsibility.

The business meeting was concluded at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandra L. Hochstetter, Secretary