

## SUSTAINABLE REMEDIATION FORUM

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING SUMMARY

August 27, 2012

- New Additions to Agenda
- Approve meeting minutes
- SURF 2013 Meetings
- Membership Fees for Regulators
- Student Chapter Funding Policy
- Committee reports
  - Meetings
  - Finance
  - Technical Initiatives
  - Communications/Outreach
  - Membership
  - Nominations
- Other business
  - US: new developments, policies, or conferences
  - International: new developments, policies, or conferences
- Next meeting

Attendees:

Karin Holland, President	✓	Stewart Abrams	✓
Nick Garson, Vice President	✓	Angela Fisher	✓
Karina Tipton, Secretary	✓	Mike Miller	
Brandt Butler, Treasurer		Curt Stanley	✓
Paul Favara, Past President (non-voting attendee)	✓	Dan Watts	✓
Mike Rominger			

Quorum confirmed. Meeting called to order at 2:05 ET.

- Approve meeting minutes – last meeting August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012. Meeting minutes approved.
- EPA notice for “Value of Water” meeting – EPA science advisory panel at National Academy next month presented by the Office of Water. Curt will be on panel. The meeting is by invitation only. His presentation will be the value of water related to Shell and the oil industry, and will include a note on SURF.
- SURF 2013 Meetings – earlier this year two meetings approved with dates to be determined in the mid-US area. This impacted the cycle of board elections

- Two types of get-together suggested to meet the evolving needs of attendees – including those who are unable to meet more frequently or travel.
  1. A SURF working meeting with only SURF members permitted to attend, low cost, higher frequency. Meeting duration can be variable.
  2. SURF conference with presentations only and higher cost for non-members/no other discounts other than student memberships. Could be at the same time of SURF working meeting immediately prior to or following.
- Concern that there is less interest in working meetings than the conference content. Currently breakout sessions are less popularly attended than historically and the working group mentality is diluted at the SURF meetings. There is a divide developing between working groups and planners between purposes of the meetings – if they are for working groups or for presentation of information. Also sense of production and initiative is a selling point for the organization. May make it easier for larger commitment by more individuals to attend if more types of meetings as well. Revisited the mission of SURF – need to find a way to link together the exchange of professional information and outreach with the production of best practices and technical information
- Action: Karin to reach out to Stephanie and Maile to create more structure around what this will look like and in 2 weeks the board will take more concrete steps.
- Membership Fees for Regulators – membership committee has been approached by a state regulator who can not afford the membership fee. Historically board has tried to balance accommodating restricted regulator budget while maintaining a level of ethical assurance.
  - Is there a benefit to the regulator to be a paying member? They can still attend meetings and participate in committees. There is a benefit to SURF to have regulators on the membership roles, however.
  - How to balance ethical concerns/membership goals/paying members understanding with potentially reducing the cost for regulator membership.
  - Action: Dan to follow up with the individual and find out what the root of the query is. Also will reach out to other regulators.
- October 9<sup>th</sup> All-Membership Conference Call – call is to be scheduled. Karin has proposed an agenda/bullet points and requests comments within next day before published to membership.
- Committee reports
  - Meetings
    1. SURF 21 – postponing discussion of raising fees until sponsorship can be solicited for meal costs. Travel sponsorship for individuals is progressing through the travel policy and should be submitted any day now.
    2. The committee had a telecon on August 7th to discuss the Board-approved Meetings and Programs guidance document and discuss meeting dates and locations for 2013. Unbeknownst to the committee chairs, Mike Rominger had already discussed this topic w/ the Board and the Board had decided that two meetings were enough for 2013. However, the committee members felt that the topic should be explored further, as there are many Technical Initiatives that are in progress and may need additional time to meet and achieve the objectives of their initiatives, and the face-to-face meetings may be the best (or only) way to focus and accomplish work. Potential locations are: Chicago, Houston, and the San Francisco Bay Area. EPA Region 5 has offered to host the Chicago meeting, however, there were A/V and connectivity issues with that location that created challenges for our remote attendees. University of Illinois

at Chicago has offered to host if Region 5 would be available to attend a meeting at their campus. WM offered to host in Houston, with Stephanie exploring Rice University as a back-up. After the telecon, we learned that WM cannot host in 2013 due to company restructuring. Maile is reaching out to Cal/EPA and EPA Region 9 for a San Francisco Bay Area venue. Also briefly discussed Dick Raymond's offer to host a "regional meeting". More information is needed re: meeting format, topics to be discussed, SURF Board attendance, SURF financing of a regional meeting, supported facilitation, etc. The committee chairs are also brainstorming about meeting format, and revisiting past survey responses and recent feedback as a way to check in with member satisfaction with current meeting practices.

- Finance – no updates
- Technical Initiatives –
  1. Sustainable redevelopment paper final technical edits in progress.
  2. Suggestion to brainstorm in future call how to maintain momentum and meet our internal SURF deadlines for development of new material now that we have moved towards self-publication.
- Communications and Outreach:
  1. After first reaching out to Karin, the organizers of RE3--a remediation conference similar to Redox Tech--had a call w/ the committee to discuss potential partnering opportunities. The conference is hosted by Enviroblend (a Mg-based metals stabilization product; Premier Magnesia LLC is the parent company); it is a two-day, presentation-based conference with a focus on applied technologies. It does not appear that any presentations are focused on sustainable remediation, or the subject is covered in any way. The committee's conclusion is that it would not be appropriate to formally "partner" with this group and have SURF's logo displayed on their website--there would be a risk that SURF would appear to endorse the conference or the subject matter. However, the committee suggests that SURF put a call out to a subset of members, to include the Trustees and other long-time members who are in the northeast geographic region, and see if there is interest in presenting at the conference. (Follow-up conversation w/ Karin: She suggested that perhaps Mike Miller could present on behalf of SURF, if he confirms that he is attending the conference.) The presentation would be a general overview of sustainable remediation, SURF, and GSR frameworks and guidance, using the 'Who Is SURF' presentation as a starting point. The SURF Communications Committee would provide an updated 'Who Is SURF' presentation as a starting point, and review the draft presentation on behalf of SURF to ensure that SURF's mission/vision is honored in the final product. We would also send out an email announcement to our members and distribution list, announcing the conference and that a SURF member will be presenting. The conference is willing to extend registration discounts to SURF members (early bird price extended to a later date). Conference website: <http://www.enviroblend.com/RE3/>
  2. Board discussion – this is a good example of how the process should work within the committees.
- Membership – no significant change.
- Nominations – Brandt will act as Nominations Chair. No report.

- Other business
  - US: new developments, policies, or conferences –
    1. NJ will not go forward with Sustainable Remediation guidance document, and it appears that they do not see the benefit of a guidance document to promote and explain SR when there are other guidance documents available from SURF and ITRC. Karin suggested that Stew or Karina reach out to Tom O’Neil for his input. The concern is that with the LSRP program in NJ, people will fall back to more status quo remediation. Suggestion to get NJ regulators involved in the Philly social gathering tentatively planned for October, within ethical guidelines.
    2. Brownfields 2013 – no submissions were made.
  - International: new developments, policies, or conferences
- Next meeting – September 14<sup>th</sup>

Meeting adjourned, 3:08 pm ET.

The preceding represents the author's interpretation of the items discussed at the meeting.

Please contact me with any discrepancies, changes, or clarifications in writing for inclusion in the record.

Respectfully submitted by,

Karina J. Tipton, Secretary