

ENRLS Council Q4 Meeting DRAFT Minutes – Wednesday, October 21, 2020 – 11:00am
[GoToMeeting Videoconference](#); Dial-in: (877) 309-2073, Access Code: 486-228-317

I. Welcome and Introductions – David Klein.

David Klein opened the meeting at 11:06am with roll call:

- a. ENRLS Council and Committee Co-Chairs Present via Zoom: David Klein, Nathan Block, Pete Wahl, Mike Dillinger, Erin Chancellor, Susan Maxwell, Kristen Fancher, Ashleigh Acevedo, Aaron Vargas, Buck Benson, Chris Schlag, Heather Palmer, Ty’Meka Reeves-Sobers, Amber Ahmed, Paul Sarahan, Walt Shelton.
- b. ENRLS Council and Committee Co-Chairs Absent: Lisa Dyar, Kimberly Kelley, Jon Bull, Steve McMillen, Greg Ellis, Mary Mendoza.

The business agenda began with the Secretary’s Report.

II. Secretary’s Report – Erin Chancellor.

- a. Approval of minutes of the ENRLS Council Q3 Meeting.

Draft minutes for the ENRLS Council Q3 Meeting, held virtually on August 5, 2020, were circulated prior to the meeting. Edits received prior to the meeting were incorporated. No further corrections or edits were offered at the meeting. Block moved to approve the minutes. Maxwell seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

III. Treasurer’s Report – Mike Dillinger.

- a. Review and synopsis of latest financial reports.

This is the first meeting with the Council’s new Treasurer, Mike Dillinger, who thanked Pete Wahl for his two years as Council Treasurer.

As of October 1, 2020, ENRLS had \$360k in assets and \$21k in liabilities. At this time last year, ENRLS had \$367k in assets and \$48k in liabilities. This leaves ENRLS with ~\$20k more than at this point last year.

Dillinger noted that the Council may need to amend the budget at the 2021 Q1 meeting due to receiving more complete accounting data from the virtual Superconference and more sponsorships than projected. He added that at the 2020 Q2 meeting, the Council projected \$5k in Superconference sponsorships, but as of October 1, 2020, \$48k has been collected.



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IV. New ENRLS Committees.

- a. Social Media Committee – David Klein & Amber Ahmed, Co-Chairs.

Klein proposed the creation of an ENRLS Social Media Committee, explaining that this Committee could serve as a mechanism to pro-actively reach out to the Section membership to make them aware of all of Section events, publications, and other important work that the Section is undertaking. He indicated that according to the Section Bylaws, the Council could decide at a Board meeting to create new committees. The Council discussed the potential of hiring a third party to manage the ENRLS social media presence, preferred platforms, and level of Council control. Klein added that he would volunteer to serve as the initial Committee Chair, and that Ahmed had volunteered to serve as the co-Chair. Benson moved to create the Committee and task the co-chairs with determining a path forward towards those goals. Klein seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Diversity, Engagement, & Inclusion (DEI) Committee – David Klein.

Klein next reminded the Council of a proposal from the new Executive Committee members to create an ENRLS DEI Committee. The Council gauged interest in Committee participation. Block moved to create the Committee and task the ENRLS Council Chair, Klein, with appointing Committee co-chairs and members. Wahl seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Committee Reports – Updates & Recommendations – Committee Co-Chairs.

- a. Law School Programs Committee – Walt Shelton & Kristen Fancher, Co-Chairs.

Fancher reported that Kelley continues to coordinate the Professor Corwin W. Johnson Memorial Internships, while Bull is working on the Buck J. Wynne Memorial Scholarships. Dillinger suggested the committee incorporate LLM programs into their outreach efforts.

- b. Publications & Communications Committee – Ashleigh Acevedo & Aaron Vargas, Co-Chairs.

TELJ updates and recommendations – Ashleigh Acevedo.

Acevedo reported that TELJ student membership is up, with about 50 members. Volume 51-Issue 1 will be ready to go out in the next couple of months, and they are in good shape moving forward. The Committee is finalizing transitioning the development articles portion of TELJ to a digital format. Archived articles will also be available in this page of the Section's website.





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Historically, TELJ has had a Solicitation Editor that reaches out to environmental professionals for articles and content. The Committee is interested in finding someone to fulfill that role.

Sponsorship of Essentials of Texas Water Resources (7th edition) – Susan Maxwell.

Maxwell reported that the 7th edition is moving along as planned, and she will participate in a future call about marketing of the publication. Moving forward, the Council needs to designate a TexasBarBooks liaison to fulfill this role, as Maxwell will roll off the Council next year.

- c. Education Committee – Lisa Dyar & Greg Ellis, Co-Chairs.

Planning for 2021 Changing Face of Water Law – Greg Ellis.

Klein reported that a decision has not been made on whether the 2021 program will be virtual or in-person. It was decided that ENRLS will recommend to the program planners that the event be held virtually.

Planning for 2021 Superconference – Lisa Dyar & Mary Mendoza.

No update.

- d. Pro Bono & Community Outreach Committee – Buck Benson & Chris Shlag, Co-Chairs.

No update.

- e. Sponsorship & Membership Committee – Heather Palmer & Ty’Meka Reeves-Sobers, Co-Chairs.

No update.

- f. Website & Technology Committee – Steve McMillen & Paul Sarahan, Co-Chairs.

Sarahan reported that the Committee has no update.

- g. Nominating Committee – Susan Maxwell & David Klein, Co-Chairs.

Maxwell reported that the Committee has no update, but that this Committee will become more active in 2021 as the beginning of the nominating process approaches.



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VI. Other Business.

a. Climate Adaptation Symposium – Nathan Block.

Block re-proposed the Climate Adaptation Symposium, which potentially would include a special TELJ edition with shorter articles focused on climate adaptation, ultimately culminating in a symposium with high profile speakers. The Council discussed issues including timing of the symposium and the potential to partner with a program that is already established (e.g., Environmental Superconference in August, TELJ’s Annual Symposium in April).

Klein motioned to approve the symposium and task Block with exploring options. Fancher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Open Forum.

No comments.

c. 2021 Meeting Dates.

Thu., Feb. 11, 2020, 6:00pm. The Q1 meeting will be held virtually (likely) or in-person at the Hyatt Hill Country in San Antonio, in conjunction with the Changing Face of Water Rights Conference.

Wed., May 19, 2021, 3:00pm. The Q2 meeting will be held virtually or in Houston.

Wed., Aug. 4, 2021, 3:00pm. The Q3 meeting will be held virtually or in Austin, in conjunction with the 33rd Annual Texas Environmental Superconference.

VII. Adjourn.

Klein adjourned the meeting adjourned at 12:44pm.

