



Meeting Logistics & Information

Date	Wednesday – October 20, 2021	Attendees
Time	9:00 – 11:00 AM	Betsy Ames, Andy Buccino, Mike Browne, Mike Turns, Nick Jones, Rich Martin, Sara DeVico, Dillon Swol (late), Chris Mazzola (late), Joe Rando (late)
Meeting Type	NEHERS Alliance – Board Meeting	Non-Attendees
Facilitator	Mike Browne	Special Guests
Web Link	https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/122221509	

Meeting Motions			
<i>Motion #</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Movement</i>	<i>Favor/Oppose/Abstain</i>
1	to approve Sept. minutes	Mike T motion, Andy second	7/0/0
2	to approve July minutes	Mike T motion, Andy second	7/0/0
3	to approve accounts payable of \$2,066.50	Nick motion, Mike T second	8/0/0
4	To approve slate of candidates for NEHERS board	Mike T motion, Sara second	8/0/0
5	To approve Betsy’s hours increase, pay increase, keeping the 10% training bonus, and increase paid sick/vacation time. And to update job description.	Sara motion/ Andy second	8/0/0
6	To update Betsy’s job description	Andy motion/ Dillon second	8/0/0
7	To submit a proposal for a RESNET conference session on embodied carbon	Andy motion, Sara second	8/0/0
8	To adjourn	Chris motion, Joe second	7/0/0

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- Vote on minutes from July and September
 - ❖ **Motion by Mike Turns to approve Sept. minutes, Andy second, unanimously approved**
 - ❖ **Motion by Mike Turns to approve July minutes, Andy second, unanimously approved**
- Treasurer's Report/ Vote on AP
 - One duplicate membership refund. Only other costs are normal overhead.
 - ❖ **Motion by Nick Jones to approve accounts payable of \$2,066.50, Second Mike T, unanimously approved**
- Training Provider Accreditation Renewal- Due 10-31
 - RESNET has not asked for curriculums, but we think it's still coming
- Approve Slate of Candidates for 2022 Election
 - PROGRAM: (1 seat) Nick Jones
 - RATER: (1 seat) Chris Mazzola, Ben Cohen and Bijan Khosraviani
 - PROVIDER: (2 seats) Cindy Zeis and Jonathan Harrison
 - ASSOCIATE: (1 seat) Keegan Ebbets
 - Mike T. got Jonathan Harrison of CLEAResult to run.
 - Andy stepping down, not sure when. Will continue on Embodied Carbon Working Group. Could be an opportunity to bring in ICF. Not sure when Keegan (or other ICF rep) would be ready to start. Betsy –it would be more transparent to have it on the ballot. But technically the seat isn't up for election, so we don't have to fill it until Andy actually steps down. If not included in this election, the board would appoint to fill the vacancy and then that person would run in the next election. Vote on slate without associate category. Vote on associate member via email before Nov. 15.
 - ❖ **Motion by Mike T to approve slate of candidates for Programs, Rater, and Provider, Sara second, unanimous**
- Betsy's Evaluation
 - Betsy is indispensable, discussion of changing title and job description to match Betsy's current responsibilities
 - ❖ **Sara motion to approve Betsy's request to increase hours, pay and sick/vacation time as proposed in her written evaluation, Andy second, unanimous. Andy motion to approve edits to job description, Dillon second, unanimous**

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- Brief update from each committee (about 5 minutes each)

- **MANUAL (Dillon)**
 - Utility Cost Input Date from GDS is due Nov 15th.
 - They will compile the data from October, Dillon will review when it comes in.
- **TRAINING COMMITTEE (Joe)**
 - Winter 2022 Training Registration Update
 - Update on Meetings with PSD
 - We weren't expecting PSD to hand over the curriculum.
 - NEHERS deserves to have confidence that scheduled trainings are held.
 - Working on having some recorded modules with industry professionals paired with live delivery, but lessens load for PSD to deliver.
 - Looking at how we can collaborate on development, maintenance, and delivery.
 - Opportunities for modeler and RFI components.
 - Two online only registrations and two coming from Integral and two coming from GDS.

STANDARDS (Sara)

- Update from October Meeting
 - Not a lot going on.
 - Draft 2 ANSI 301- no comments.
 - Sara is now on the 380 committee.
 - Software calibration method standard is up for comments, but they're not proposing any changes. Just getting it into comments cycle.
 - Separating CO2 emissions from "pollution", looking at GHG emissions more regionally. Focused on utility generation emissions but could be a step toward including embodied carbon.
 - Insulation grading standard amendment to scrap grading and replace with pass/fail. General agreement that it would screw things up that are working just fine, doesn't get rid of subjectivity problem. We recommend striking it entirely.
 - Still waiting on Draft 2 of IAP- we commented over summer
 - DOE Zero Energy Ready Program will have draft standards update soon in Q4. Still not addressing MF. With change to the Energy Star program MF even though it's been out a few years still have not produced draft for that. Only applicable to SF up to 3 stories.

QAD (Sara)

- Update from First Meeting
 - Had initial QAD meeting. Was sparsely attended, created a schedule for meetings, hopefully more people will join in the future. Will be good going forward. Adds weight to comments.
 - Duct inspection at pre-drywall issue.
 - Rate of QA for modeler designation.
 - Opens perspective for regular standards comments as well.
 - Keep people up to date when standards go live.

- **Questions: Insulation inspection. People primarily use grade 1, not use grade 2 or 3. QA issue.**
Can do a percent of QA at pre-drywall now. If do QA on ES project supposed to submit photos.

WEBINARS (Andy)

- October 20th: Roles and Responsibilities- Tony Lisanti (PH SERIES #3)
- November 10th:
- December 8th: RESNET overview?
- **PELIMINARY 2022**
- January: Building Engineering- Darol Harrison- potential paid?
 - OR
 - Air to water heat pumps- SW Webb/ Smart Pac
 - John Seigenthaler (siggy0269@gmail.com)
 - Jake Marin (jmarin@veic.org)
- February: Monitoring Electrification- Mike Duclos
- March: RESNET Conference Recap
- April: Carbon Credits- Carrie Gill/ David Goldstein/ Boston Decarbonization Committee/ Carbon Leadership Forum (formerly Boston) New England
- May: Programs Webinar- Mike Turns code change coming in July 1 for IECC
 - **Planning to add a standards update to each webinar and keep a list so we are well-stocked with ideas. Item related, not what's open for comment, a discrete item related to ratings.**
 - **Do a January webinar on Standards. Will think about co-presenter, maybe from modeling.**
 - **Last in Passive series this month. Great attendance.**
 - **Lots of good content planned. Nothing for November. RESNET for December.**

MEMBERSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS (Mike B)

- Year-end membership renewals will begin in November
 - **More in strategic planning.**

ENERGY CODES (Mike T and Rich)

- 2024 IECC public comments
- State-specific updates
 - **Committee can focus on making comments to proposals in the 2024 IECC development cycle. People can apply to be on technical working groups. Deadline today. Sent email to board and Betsy will send to membership.**

EMBODIED CARBON (Chris and Andy)

- Investigating a new RESNET Standards Committee for EC
 - **Met with Ryan Meres, RESNET Program Manager, about how developed HERS H2O, took 2-4 years to integrate it. Determined who we are contacting on RESNET board. David Goldstein thinks that RESNET is the pathway, we will be meeting with him soon.**

STRATEGIC PLANNING DISCUSSION TOPICS

- RESNET CONFERENCE SESSION PROPOSAL

- Session proposal on Embodied Carbon- by October 29th
 - Andy drafted a letter of support to campaign for a RESNET embodied carbon standard.
 - We have a long list of potential partners.
 - We think having a RESNET standard on Embodied Carbon is important.
 - How to prove it's viable? Met with Stacey from EC3 tool, much collaboration possible.
 - Submitting a RESNET session on the topic, based off 1-pager and Andy's outline.
 - There will be a recorded component of RESNET conference, and then the live component. Limited number people allowed to attend live. Live presentations will be selected from recorded sessions.
 - Form needs abstract, learning objective, four presenters.
 - Vote to agree that NEHERS submits a presentation proposing that there is a standard for embodied carbon. Language for proposal will be drafted over email.

❖ **Motion by Andy to submit a proposal as NEHERS, Sara second, unanimous**

● ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND OUTREACH (Betsy)

Our membership base includes all dues-paying members in all 6 membership categories. Membership dues are a key source of revenue for the Alliance. Membership also determines who is eligible to run and serve on the Board.

- Overview current membership base
- Overview current outreach for membership categories
- Overview needed outreach for Providers, Programs and Sponsors
- Overview needed outreach for Board Development
 - Majority of rater members come from providers. To sustain and increase membership we must go after more providers.
 - Program memberships are important because significant source of revenue
 - Sponsors also can generate revenue.
 - Reviewed list of current providers.
 - Reviewed list of prospective providers. Best if we have personal contacts:
 - Mike Browne- Building Performance Solutions- John Hensley
 - KBSI
 - Nick Jones- Steven Winter- previous member, into embodied carbon
 - Mike Turns- PEG, TopBuild, Cornerstone and Tacoma
 - Reviewed list of Programs
 - Eversource used to be just CT but this year they signed up for CT, MA, and VT
 - Nick and Mike Laughlin- when renewed- did increase cost to \$3000 (\$1000 per state)
 - Tricky with National Grid because although they span across MA, RI, parts of NY, actual structure is different than what it is with Eversource. Span much larger service territory so not as aligned.
 - Eversource is across MA, NH and CT, programs are pretty aligned.



- Updated info for each state.
 - Avangrid service territory in NY as well, Nick can make a pitch to them.
 - ME- Efficiency Maine Trust
 - VT- VEIC- already provider member, we don't solicit as program. What about Efficiency VT? Chris Gordon- Josh isn't there anymore.
 - NH- is it covered because Eversource member? Mike is running whole state. Other three utilities, would go through Mike. Joe can talk to him. Mike B deals with Ben Stevenson. First step is to talk with Mike- Joe will follow up. If other utilities involved, then under NH Saves. Program sponsor.
 - Our membership is structured as program is the member, no category for utility. We are looking for program.
 - Eversource is a utility that runs the program, so they are member as program.
 - Tricky for even people who runs programs. In CT, programs under Energize CT, in MA it's under Mass Save and NH is under NH Save. As program administrators done a lot of work to get away from branding of programs, trying to align under Eversource instead of state programs. Smaller utilities in NH or MA would try to get it under unified specific program, not double dipping.
 - NJ, NY, PA and OH? People send in ideas.
 - Sponsor members- if you are aware of an organization where you already have a contact that would be good to reach out to, please suggest.
- REVIEW BYLAW CATEGORIES (Betsy and Mike)

Any gaps in our membership categories make it difficult to fill board seats according to the requirements in the bylaws.

 - Overview challenges to filling seats on the board.
 - Requirement for majority of board to be providers.
 - Do we add something for software providers?
 - Discrepancy between utilities across states and programs by state.
 - Determine if there are any changes needed to section 7.2 (see attachment)
 - Membership must approve any changes (see section 4.6.5.5)
 - Structure of board affects how we find candidates.
 - We have 9 members on board. Changed in 2018 to match membership categories in database and instead of accredited HERS providers to accredited RESNET provider categories. Majority of 5 can come from any board membership category that is a provider.
 - Do we want to change anything in terms of program vs utility membership categories?
 - If we need to change anything to make it easier to fill slots that are hard to fill?
 - Associate, mostly recent students and some sponsors or publicity partners. Sometimes a program member ends up in that seat.
 - If we change or add categories (like independent trainer) must fill each time.

- We have 9 Board Members and 4 Rating Provider and 1 Training Provider. 2 Rater, 1 Associate and 1 Program.
- Odd thing is that we have independent trainer when we don't have it now, but could have one in future.
- No changes. Slate full.

- TRAINING CURRICULUM AND MANUAL UPDATE DEVELOPMENT

Trainings are also a key source of revenue for the Alliance. We are working with PSD on streamlining the delivery of the current training. Manual updates could be included.

Additional opportunities to expand our offerings may include:

- Standalone HERS Modeler/ RFI modules within current training
- HERS modeler and RFI mentoring program (Chris)
- Coordinating the manual updates with the current training curriculum.
- Additional possibilities for expanding offerings?
 - Would like to hear how people feel about how conversations progressing with PSD.
 - Still unclear what modeler requirements will be. Sara clarified:
 - For raters, there was something out recently to include modeler training as part of the PDH's for raters. Either through the conference or as a course that people take. It's likely going to be part of rater training and re-certification going forward.
 - For modelers, there is a training curriculum, a practical evaluation and some probationary/provisional things they need to get certified, plus ongoing maintenance and professional development courses that modelers will have to take as well.
 - Coordinating manual could be done along with development with curriculum. Pare it back to building science- and direct people where to find changes. May need fundraising. Annual changes have been on hold.
 - Expanding to modeler or RFI- Chris has been thinking about this long term.
 - Training for people who don't want to become HERS raters- already included as online only.
 - HERS Affiliate
 - Streamlining of manual and curriculum together. Point to standards.
 - Collaboration between Standards and Training and Manual- Betsy is link.
 - Should have joint meetings. Or Manual and Training Curriculum Committee.
 - Scaling back the manual
 - Agreement to add curriculum development under the scope of the training committee.
 - Put standard updates on website, rater toolbox, have manual direct people there. Hard to find stuff on RESNET website.
 - Building science doesn't change/ software does change/ standards does change.
 - REMRate/ Ekotrope develop 1 day training for us.

- Develop a la Carte offerings- community colleges tried but have not developed building science curriculum. Mentoring. Industry grew with us, someone coming in hard time to catch up with industry knowledge.
- Continue the discussion in subsequent board meetings.

- **INCREASING SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH**

Currently NEHERS has 117 followers on FB and 86 followers on LI.

- Hiring a consultant
- Webinar raffle prizes/ swag
 - Items tabled for next mtg...

- **RESNET CONFERENCE BOARD DINNER**

- Invitation list
- Swag/ golf shirts
 - Items tabled for next mtg...

Motion by Chris to adjourn, Joe second, unanimous