



ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS-USA DENVER PROFESSIONAL CHAPTER

Meeting Minutes

November 1, 2016

NOTE NEW LOCATION: ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE BUILDING ROOM 300

Officers in Attendance

President – Rocky Macsalka

Secretary – Benjamin Mapes

Treasurer – Leah Dougherty

See sign-in sheet for general attendance

Officer Reports

- **Membership Chair** - We have about 77 dues-paying members (as of June), over 618 people on the email distribution list. We welcome volunteers of all kinds. Use LinkedIn, facebook, twitter, etc. EWB-USA web site is being re-done. We use MailChimp to manage email lists, and it's available for chapters to use.
- **Treasurer**
 - Account balances as of about Sept 30:**
 - General Account \$4,601
 - Ecuador \$14,047
 - Madagascar \$17,784
 - Togo \$5,890 what to do about this balance? Would be a good idea to look at past transfers from the general account, and if it's more than this balance, then just send it back to the general account.
 - Tanzania \$9,131
 - EWB USA is changing their accounting system such that there will no longer be individual project accounts. There will just be one chapter account and it will be up to the chapter treasurer to track project balances, if the chapter wants to do it this way.
 - Madagascar won \$5000, Tanzania won \$4000 grants.
 - Chapter won \$2172 in the Volunteer Village contest.

- **Fundraising**
 - EWBs new fundraising program is called “Classy” and chapters and projects should set up Classy pages for fundraising. **The Chapter Classy page needs to be built.**
 - Film Festival in planning stages, 2017 call for entries is out. Looking at a show in January, going to try to attract students and young people in particular.
 - Madagascar fundraiser is coming up Dec 2, stay tuned for details.
 - Need to start thinking about wine tasting event too.
- **Outreach**
 - Jim Gusek is available to give presentations about EWB, feel free to ask.

Project updates

- **Ecuador Guantugloma project update** – Team is traveling Nov 10 for 10 days for irrigation project, which is about half done. Some difficult technical problems, including sediment entering at the source. Potable project is 100% complete, will have monitoring trip in May or June 2017 and hopefully close it out.
- **Madagascar project update** – Two staggered travel teams leave soon, Nov 11, to begin drilling first well, make contacts with Rotary. Well is 30 m and hand-drilled. There was a fire in Ambalona, need to assess the damage.
- **Togo project update** – none. Chris Fahlin working to close the project. Everything is on hold until we hear from EWB-USA.
- **Tanzania** – Did alternatives analysis of pit latrines vs. composting latrines, sent it to community, awaiting response.

New Business

- The Regional Conference happened, will be reported on next month.
- State EWB event at John Jankousky’s house on Dec 3, early afternoon. Includes cement and surveying workshop and food/drinks provide by Mountain Region.
- Perspectives of Two Anthropologists - Part 2 – Dr. Sally Hamilton, Professor from the University of Denver, continued the discussion from June regarding her personal experiences, perspectives, and work. Dr. Hamilton is an anthropologist specializing in Latin American cultures. She works in Ecuador, Guatemala and Honduras with indigenous communities, and 4 different states in Mexico. Also worked briefly in Philippines and Jamaica, and in Appalachian United States. She’s done research in gender issues, and made comments on general patterns that are nearly universal such as, in the context of water usage, there is one way to talk about household use and another way to talk about irrigation use. Women’s roles are visible and they have prominent responsibilities related to household water use. In the irrigation sector, women are less visible (usually). The differences in roles run deep and are reinforced through social norms. So, what can we put into practice based on this situation? Political quotas were discussed, such as mandates of 50/50 gender distribution for a project, and there are pros and cons and some positive anecdotal examples. It would be considered a stronger mandate to say that half of the project benefits must go to women.

Next Meeting

Devember 13, 2016. University of Denver Engineering Building Hall, room 300.

Project Contact Information

- **Ecuador**, team meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month, typically from 7 to 8:30 pm. **CANCELLED IN NOVEMBER DUE TO PROJECT TRAVEL**

Guantugloma - John Jankousky, John.Jankousky@eme-solutions.com

Malingua Pamba irrigation: ScottFanello@gmail.com

KKNThomp@gmail.com

Malingua Pamba erosion: Laura Backus, lbackus@gmail.com

- **Tanzania**, team meets on 4th Tuesday of every month, 6 pm. Malinda Reese, malinda.reese@apexdesignpc.com
- **Madagascar**, team meets on 4th Tuesday of every month, 7 pm. John Abrams, johnlabrams@gmail.com

Post-meeting

Socializing and libations at The Pioneer