



**AIR & WASTE MANAGEMENT  
ASSOCIATION**

MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER  
SOUTHERN SECTION

**May Board Meeting Minutes  
May 13, 2025, 12:00 PM CST**

**Zoom Link:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86309195079?pwd=CK8OYKqT8b4vmwIYGVXyfJlwKCxakR.1>

1. **Call to Order** – Carla called to order at 12:05 pm.
2. **Roll Call (5 of 8 board members must be present for a quorum.)** – Betty Ruth Fox, Carla Brown, Morgan Hodges, Ryan Ozment, Haley Roberts, Michelle Vinson, Ashley Kimes
3. **Approval of April 2025 Minutes** – Ryan motioned to approve April minutes, Michelle seconded motion.
4. **Treasurer’s Report** – Previous balance was \$15,345.28. Decrease from previous month is due to PO Box fee, reimbursements to Carla for Science Fair prizes, and check to food vendor for the MS Air Workshop lunch.
5. **Committee Chair Business**
  - a. **Membership Committee** – Currently at 45 members. GA membership committee chair is looking into competing organizations and how to increase AWMA membership.
  - b. **Program Committee** – Air Workshop was held on May 6, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. 64 total attendees. Checks paid at door for last-minute registration have not been cashed yet. Per Haley, overall good workshop. Industry representative said it was informative and helpful. Less MDEQ content than typical.
  - c. **Young Professionals Committee** – No updates.
  - d. **Publications Committee** – Review StarChapter website (<https://awmams.starchapter.com/index.php>). Training was recorded and available to watch if you would like. Roll out new website with conference registration information.
  - e. **Science Fair Committee** – No updates.
  - f. **Finance Committee** – See Treasurer’s report above.
  - g. **Scholarship Committee** – One \$1,500 scholarship to graduate student. Scholarships - 3 applications submitted (2 JSU, 1 Ole Miss). Need a 3-person committee to review and make decision on award by May 30<sup>th</sup>. Michelle, Betty Ruth, and Haley will form the review committee.
6. **Other Business**
  - a. **Southern Section Conference** - SS conference – Signed contract for Aug. 26-29, with room blocks on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday and conference starting Wednesday after lunch through Friday at lunch. **Ideas for agenda topics?**

**Conference Agenda:**

- Katrina/emergency response presenters – Betty Ruth reached out to George Malvaney, Chris Sanders and Richard Harrell.
- Discussion on Southern Section call about Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation panel on response to Hurricane Helene.
- Allen Engineering has offered engineers to speak on waste and storm water issues.
- Yates Construction had a contract for waste removal after Katrina. They could speak on that.
- Leah Blinn, president of AWMA International, can attend the conference on the full day. She can give a state of the association talk, possibly during lunch.
- Donna Hodges to possibly give ethics training on Friday morning.
- Carla will touch base with States' agencies to present once registration link is available.
- Carla reached out to EPA Region IV personnel in air and waste to attend and give updates.
- Email the board with any other ideas for topics or activities to do after hours.
- Carla will email previous conference agendas to the board to review.
- Haley will check to see if she could present on the air monitoring they have been involved in.
- Michelle recommended a companion presentation to air modeling/monitoring presentation could be that data obtained from all these other types of sources would not be viable for regulatory actions.

***Discussion and decision on conference registration fees.***

- If speaker is only staying for the day, do not charge registration fee. But if staying for the entire conference, we would charge registration fee. Ashley motioned to approve rates as listed, Michelle seconded motion. No opposition.

***Using StarPay to accept credit cards. We would need to apply and get set up. More information [here](#).***

- Decision was made to absorb the transaction rate and fee charged for using credit cards to pay registration. Betty Ruth will check with Star Chapter to see if that applies to debit cards as well.

b. ***Good and welfare***

- 7. Adjourn (Next meeting scheduled for noon on June 10, 2025 via Zoom.)** – Ashley motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12:48 pm, Carla seconded motion. No objections.

