

AMS/NWA MEMPHIS CHAPTER 26 SEP 2017 MEETING MINUTES

1. The president welcomed everyone for the first meeting of the 2017-2018 year.
2. The president announced the chapter's officers. Tom Salem as President, Ned Savage as Vice President and Jim Branda as Secretary/Treasurer.
3. The treasurer's report was given with total funds of \$1,207.93.
4. The president announced that Andy Lenz from Collierville, TN was our recent 2017 scholarship winner. Andy is currently a freshman at Penn State.
5. The president asked if the chapter would like to become a Weather Ready Nation (WRN) ambassador with the National Weather Service. A vote was taken with 11 Yea's and 0 Na's.
6. The president introduced Erik Proseus as the chapter's webmaster and thanked him for designing a new webpage over the past summer. A vote was taken with 11 Yea's and 0 Na's to maintain the webpage for two years at a cost of \$120.00.
7. The president introduced Stephen Kearney to discuss the highlights of his recent trip to the NWA national conference held in Garden Grove, California titled "Putting Science into Service". Stephen stated there were about 500 attendees, and included in the conference was a separate GOES 16 session, a student mentoring session and broadcast session. A few of the agendas had to be changed due to the hurricanes impacting the country at the same time. Stephen also stated that you can be on one of their established committees, a typical three-year term, or you can run for an officer position. Social Media allowed for the meeting to quickly be disseminated out to non-attendees and numerous partnerships came from the conference. Several awards were presented to include a first "Best Student Presentation." Stephen also hinted that a Local NWA chapter award is given each year. Stephen finished by reminding everyone that next year's annual meeting will be held the last week of August 2018 in downtown St. Louis leading to an abstract deadline in the Feb/Mar timeframe.
8. The president introduced guest speakers, both Stephen Kearney a Federal Aviation Meteorologist working at the Center Weather Service Unit (CWSU) and Erik Proseus a FedEx Aviation Meteorologist. Their presentation was titled "The Package has been Delivered." They showed the configuration of the Memphis airport and that Memphis is the busiest cargo hub in the U.S. and the second busiest in the world. They described how FedEx planes can fully maximize their operations if the weather allows them to land to the north and take off to the south due to the terminal location on the north side of the airport. Erik described that FedEx runs both a nighttime and daytime operation with the nighttime operation about twice as busy, with 1.3 million packages during the night cycle and roughly 500 to 600K packages during the day cycle on average. In the heat of arrivals, 90 planes can land on the three runways per hour. Stephen then described that the CWSU's area of responsibility extends from roughly Tulsa, Oklahoma southeast to near Jackson, Mississippi, then northeast to include northern Alabama and middle Tennessee. Stephen also stated that though a majority of the aircraft they watch the weather for is FedEx, they also have plenty of other commercial and civilian aircraft that fly in and out of Memphis. Both gentleman displayed the weather products generated specifically from their unique offices and a timeline

that is critical for operations to run smoothly. A few videos were aired showing the flow of air traffic into Memphis and how it can quickly be disrupted by different weather hazards, with a strong emphasis on the impacts from thunderstorms. The presentation ended with a couple of questions from the floor, specifically “What is the chance that the CWSU would go to 24-hour ops” and “How did Hurricane Maria impact FedEx ops?”

9. The president gave a final thanks to those who attended, and reminded everyone of our fall lunch slotted for October and the next official meeting in November.

Jim Branda, Secretary

Approved,

Tom Salem, President