

**NOAA Science Advisory Board (SAB)
Environmental Information Services Working Group (EISWG)
Second Meeting**

April 19 - 20, 2010

MEETING SUMMARY

The second meeting of the EISWG SAB was held April 19 - 20, 2010, at the Courtyard Silver Spring in Maryland. Co-Chair Walter Dabberdt led the discussions, which are summarized in the following pages.

Meeting attendees included:

EISWG Members

- Walter Dabberdt (Vaisala (Co-Chair)
- Philip Ardanuy (Raytheon)
- Helen Brohl (Dept. of Transportation)
- Jeffrey Lazo (NCAR SIP)
- Ronald McPherson (AMS)
- Barry Myers (AccuWeather)
- Peter Neilley (The Weather Channel)
- Warren Qualley (Harris Corporation)
- John Toohey-Morales (ClimaData Corp.)
- Robert Winokur (Office of the Oceanographer of the Navy)
- Raymond Ban(The Weather Channel (SAB Liaison)
- Kelly Redmond (Western Regional Climate Center)
- Eugene Stallings (EASPE, Inc.)
- Eric Gruit (3TIER (via phone)

Other Participants

- Cynthia Decker (Executive Director, Science Advisory Board)
- Paul Doremus (NOAA, Planning, Programming and Integration)
- Andrew Winer (NOAA Office of Communication and External Affairs)
- Peter Wiley (NOAA Research Council Social Sciences Committee)
- David Herring (Communications Program Director, NOAA Climate Program Office)
- Tony Busalacchi, Univ. Maryland (Chair of SAB Climate Working Group)
- Tom Karl Interim Director (NOAA Climate Service; Director, National Climatic Data Center)
- Michael Babcock (OFCM)
- Kenneth MacDonald (NOAA NESDIS)
- Lewis McCulloch (NOAA NESDIS)
- Edward Johnson (NOAA NWS)
- Jennifer Sprague (NOAA NWS)

Dabberdt noted that Co-Chair, Nancy Colleton, sent apologies and was unable to attend the meeting as she was grounded in London due to volcanic ash that disrupted air travel throughout Northern Europe.

The following presentations were delivered to the participants on Monday, April 19 to provide the most up-to-date information on NOAA's environmental information activities (*in order*):

Presentations--April 19, 2010

Welcome

Walt Dabberdt (EISWG Co-Chair)

Cynthia Decker (SAB Executive Director)

Presentation: NOAA Next Generation Strategic Plan – Status Update

Paul Doremus,

Presentation: NOAA Stakeholder Engagement

Andrew Winer, Director of External Affairs, NOAA Office of Communications and External Affairs

Presentation: NOAA Response to the SAB Report on Social Sciences in NOAA

Peter Wiley, NOAA Research Council Social Sciences Committee

Working Lunch: Congressional Overview

Joel Widder, EISWG Member and Partner, The Oldaker Group

Presentation: NOAA Climate Service Portal

David Herring, Communications Program Director, NOAA Climate Program Office

Presentation: Overview of SAB-Climate Working Group (CWG)

Tony Busalacchi, Chair of SAB CWG

Presentation: NOAA Climate Service

Tom Karl Interim Director, Climate Service, NOAA; Director, National Climatic Data Center, NOAA

Discussion Summary--April 19, 2010 & April 20, 2010

In addition to the presentations, the EISWG discussed the framework for its work plan and a prioritized set of actions. This material is included in *Attachment A*. Information items requested by the group are included in *Attachment B*.

The EISWG discussed the role between EISWG and NOAA and the importance of being responsive as well as methods and channels available for EISWG to provide feedback in a timely manner to the SAB and NOAA/NWS.

The EISWG also discussed the importance of providing input, at the strategic level, to the NOAA Next Generation Strategic Plan (NGSP) and the NWS Strategic Plan. EISWG understands this role as consistent with its charter and a means to live up to the intent of the *Fair Weather Report*.

The EISWG heard from Cynthia Decker, the NOAA Science Advisory Board (SAB) Executive Director, on the different avenues and rules with regard to providing comment on the Plans. The EISWG decided it will not provide "formal" comments (via SAB) on current version of NGSP (version 2), but is interested, potentially, in providing formal comments on version 3. The intent is to review comments once version 3 is released and hold a conference call to determine whether the EISWG would want to recommend the SAB provide formal recommendations to NOAA/NWS or simply provide individual comments to NOAA's Planning and Program Integration office (PPI) from EISWG members. In addition to commenting on the NGSP and the NWS Strategic Plan, the EISWG also intends to provide comment to the NWS Science & Technology Roadmap and NWS Services Roadmap.

The EISWG decided it wanted to be more proactive in inviting NOAA officials to its meetings as a means to facilitate increased interaction with NOAA leadership. In addition, the EISWG has asked to have the NWS Director of the Office of Science & Technology, Don Berchhoff, and the NWS Director of the Office of Climate Weather and Water, David Caldwell, present on their respective NWS Roadmaps at the next EISWG meeting as well as the Director of the NWS Office of Communications, Curtis D. Carey, to speak on the www.weather.gov revamp. It was also agreed that Peter Neilley and Phil Ardanuy would lead discussion on "open weather service" concept at the next EISWG meeting.

The EISWG members requested additional information to be placed on the EISWG Website. These items are included in *Attachment B*.

Prior to adjourning, the members agreed to convene its next meeting in Summer 2010 timeframe, perhaps somewhere on the U.S. West coast. Jennifer Sprague will survey members for both the Summer 2010 and Fall 2010 meetings.

Action Items:

- Workshops and Meetings
 - EISWG should seek to be on the agenda at the upcoming AMS Summer Community Meeting (State College, PA) and also the Spring 2011 AMS Public-Private-Partnership Forum (Washington, DC) (*Dabberdt & Colleton*)

- EISWG will consider organizing a workshop in Summer 2011 (perhaps in conjunction with the AMS Summer Community Meeting) (*Dabberdt & Colleton*)
- EISWG outreach (AMS, etc)?
 - AMS Bulletin article (Nowcast Section??) as a mechanism to foster increased outreach and community input (*Dabberdt & Colleton*)
 - Keep Gary Rasmussen apprised of EISWG activities (i.e. minutes) for him to broadcast through the AMS PLS (*Dabberdt & Colleton*)
- EISWG Website: Internal & External sections (*Sprague/Johnson*)
- Check into a NOAA Cooperative Agreement with UCAR (JOSS) for help in organizing EISWG travel and meeting support (*Sprague/Johnson*)
- Check with Paul about placing the NOAA NextGen Strategic Plan v2.0 on the EISWG Website (*Sprague/Johnson*)
- Consolidate and organize EISWG comments on the NOAA NextGen Strategic Plan (website/low-tech) and arrange an EISWG teleconference (*Sprague/Johnson*)
- NWS Strategic Plan: Process for accepting comments, timeline, etc. (*Johnson*)
- Link EISWG into review process of pertinent NOAA/NWS Documents (e.g. NWS Science & Technology Roadmap, NWS Services Roadmap, and various SAB Reports/NOAA Response (SAB Social Science Working Group, etc.) (*Sprague/Johnson*)
- Organize next EISWG Meeting via survey (Conference call with Walt/Nancy/Ed/Jen):
 - Summer (June/July) (perhaps at Irvine (Beckman Center)) (*Sprague*)
 - Fall (November) (*Sprague*)
- Obtain high-level (compressed) budget information (history and projections) for NOAA and NWS (*Johnson & Sprague*)
- A Communication Technologies Subgroup of EISWG (Ardanuy, Qualley, Widder, Lazo & Myers) was formed
 - Subgroup to provide a paragraph as to what they believe is the charge for the subgroup. (i.e. What message to convey, what should the audience do with the message, etc.)
- An EISWG Subgroup on NOAA Climate Service and the Role of CWG/EISWG was formed (McPherson, Redmond, Toohey-Morales & Winokur)
 - Subgroup to provide a paragraph as to what they believe is the charge for the subgroup. (i.e. What message to convey, what should the audience do with the message, etc.)
- Open Weather Service Concept (Neilley & Ardanuy to lead discussion at next regular meeting of the EISWG)
 - AWIPS 2 - Develop governance mechanisms and partnering philosophies that may best enable and accelerate the transition of new applications into NWS operations and the NWS AWIPS 2 decision support platform, and access to low-level data by academia and the private sector.
 - 4D Weather Cube - Define what the Cube is and how to exploit it properly. Develop governance mechanisms and partnering philosophies

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that may best enable and accelerative pervasive and enterprise-wide exploitation of the new Weather Information Data Base (WIDB).

*Attachment B***Information Needed (Bold Typeface) and In Hand**

- **SAB**
 - Final report of the Partnership Working Group – *Complete. On website.*
 - Information (including reports/recommendations/NOAA Response) from SAB Climate Working Group (CWG) and Data Archive and Access Requirements Working Group (DAARWG) and Social Science Working Group (SSWG) and their relevance/overlap with EISWG. – *Complete. On website.*
- **NOAA**
 - Organization chart - *Complete. On website.*
 - Including functional organization of major NOAA offices, labs and NOAA Councils.
 - More detailed NOAA budget allocations consistent with the organization chart. – *Complete. On website (Entitled “NOAA FY10 President’s Budget - Blue Book”)*
 - **High-level NOAA budget history and projections**
 - Information on an emerging “National Climate Service”
 - Presentation from NOAA lead on Climate – *Complete. Karl presentation on 4/19/10*
 - Mutual exchange of info between CWG & EISWG – *Complete. Conference call with CWG and DAARWG chairs in Feb. 2010. Busalacci presentation on 4/19/10*
 - Roles and responsibilities of NOAA Climate Services – *Complete. Karl presentation on 4/19/10*
 - **Role of NWS in NOAA Climate Service – Ongoing. NOAA in process of determining NWS Role.**
 - NOAA Partnership Implementation Status/Activities - *Complete. On website.*
 - NWS Implementation Guidelines, etc.
 - **Any information on how NOAA plans to implement NOAA Policy (successes, failures, opportunities for improvement). – Ongoing.**
 - **Information on current practices on “communicat[ing] among the sectors” – what is being done formally and informally - are the identifiable gaps or weak links. - Ongoing.**
 - **Intergovernmental partnerships, etc. – No set document.**
 - **NOAA’s view of its core activities vs. those that are (or should be) context – as available**
 - **“Document Tree” for NOAA - NEED (Johnson/Sprague to add)**
 - **Get Wylie presentation to the March SAB - NEED (Sprague to add)**
- **NWS**
 - **NWS Organization Chart – NEED (Sprague to add)**
 - **List of NOAA Steering Committees – NEED (Sprague to add: NEC, NEP, Observing Council, etc.)**

- **Information on where NWS thinks there is some concern or conflict among sectors that have an impact on NWS activities – *Ongoing.***
 - **For example: NCEP Reviews (NCEP-EMC)**
- Information on how does NWS “sunset” products and services with regard to its stakeholder. – *Complete. On website (NWSI 1-1002).*
- **Information on how is NOAA addressing the culture changes and human factors that will result from programs such as NEXTGEN – *Ongoing.***
- **Information on how does NWS transition from products to services/decision assistance. - *Ongoing.***
- Information on environmental information service (EIS) notification and policy change process - *Ongoing.*
 - **Info on Experimental Products, etc.**
- **List of major new EISs planned in the next 2-3 years, particularly those on atmospheric sides. – *NEED (NWS Service Roadmap will be main source)***
- **Information on Science & Technology Infusion**
 - **OST Roadmap – *Not Public at this time.***
 - **Services Roadmap – *Not Public at this time.***
 - **OSIP Process – *Complete. On website (NWSPD 10-103).***
 - **CRADAs – *NEED (Sprague/Tallia)***
 - **CSTAR Program & OSIP (NWS-OST, Programs and Plans Division, Science Plans Branch) – *NEED Summary info (Sprague to get from OCWWS)***
 - **Tech Transfer (outreach) program for academic/private sector – *Complete. On website (Defined in NWSPD 100-4).***
 - **Innovation Advisory Board (IAB) & Research and Innovation Transition Team (RITT) (NWS-OST, Meteorological Development Lab) – *NEED Provide structure of these various groups. (Sprague to get from OST).***
 - **Technology Infusion Process – *Will be contained in S&T Roadmap.***
- **The Wider Environmental Information Enterprise Community**
 - 2 NAS Reports on Mesoscale and Decadal Survey (Dabberdt) - *Complete. On website.*
 - **Information from AWCIA, NCIM, and AMS Commission on the Weather and Climate Enterprise (CWCE) on state of the enterprise partnership – *Ongoing.***
 - **Information on depth and breadth of EIS “issues” of concern, and what is going well. – *Ongoing.***
 - **Input and thought on the future of environmental information services – e.g., 4D cube; seamless prediction systems (weather, climate, water); warn-on-forecasts, etc.**
 - **Information on the Weather Enterprise Community’s best practices – *Ongoing.***

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- **Information from renewable energy networks products and services needed from the Enterprise. – Two DOE reports: 1) America's Energy Future: Technology and Transformation -- Summary Edition & 2) Electricity from Renewable Resources: Status, Prospects, and Impediments and NRC reports. (*Sprague/Johnson*)**