

**Maine Wastewater Control Association  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Friday, January 20, 2006  
9:00 am  
Maine Municipal Association, Augusta, ME**

Present: David Anderson, Brian Kavanah, Andy Fiske, Ron Letarte, Andre Brousseau, Steve Lane, Ryan Wadsworth, Howard Carter, Vivian Matkivich, Tom Wiley, Chuck Applebee, Al Jellison, Mike Grove, Mac Richardson, Andy Rudzinski, Jeff Pinnette, Brad Moore, Mary Waring, Joan Kiszely, Margaret Langhill.

1. Call to Order: President Andy Rudzinski called the meeting to order at 9:14am.
2. Approval of Minutes-November 18, 2005: Mike Grove made a motion to approve the Executive Committee meeting minutes of November 18, 2005, as amended, seconded by Dave Anderson. All approved.
3. Treasurer's Report-Financial Reports September 2005: Dan Bisson was absent and did not submit a written report, but it was the understanding of the Executive Committee that all books are in order. Mac Richardson made a motion to accept the October and November 2005 Financial Reports as presented, seconded by Tom Wiley. There was a general discussion about budgeted amounts vs. actual expenditures and all appears to be in order. All approved.
4. DEP Representative Report: Brian Kavanah gave a brief report about the personnel changes with regard to the resignation of the Commissioner of the DEP and gave a synopsis of these changes and their impact on the Department. He commented that the DEP is in transition and he is hoping that this will improve moving forward. Brian also reported on the recent DEP violation with regard to the Freedom of Information Act, and noted that while it was unintentional, it was still a violation and the DEP will be correcting this and training staff so that this would not happen again. Mike Grove gave brief comments about the changes in personnel and noted that he still has great faith in the DEP. Andy Rudzinski added that he is looking forward to moving past these issues and continuing to work with the DEP. The Gulf Island Pond issue was discussed and Mac Richardson added that he feels that the DEP did a great job in dealing with the Gulf Island Pond issue and concurred with Andy and Mike. There was a general discussion of the Executive Committee and there was general consensus that the MWWCA still has a working partnership with DEP and look forward to the future working together. Andy Fiske joined the meeting and added that that there was a fair amount of press with the Attorney General's investigation, the FOIA violation was taken very seriously, Andy takes full responsibility for the violation and he understands the vast implications moving forward. Brad Moore asked Andy Fisk to give a brief review of the staffing changes and talked about the merger, which Andy did. Brian Kavanah has been promoted to head up this new merged division, and there was a detailed discussion about merging the Enforcement and Compliance Divisions and the need to maintain some separation between the two units. Mike Grove opened the discussion with regard to the issue of possible rolling blackouts and the ramifications with regard to violations occurring due to these, in particular, instances of SSOs. Andy Rudzinski reported on the authorization to reduce test frequencies for the new toxics rule. From the lobbyist (Bill Taylor), Andy Rudzinski read the letter that the lobbyist sent and passed out a copy to each member of the Executive Committee. Andy asked Brian Kavanah and Andy Fisk to comment. Brian added that the Department has discussed this issue with Bill Taylor, and noted that the letter to modify testing frequencies will be signed by an authorized designee of the Commissioner and the DEP will be discussing proper procedures with counsel to make sure that this is done correctly.
5. NEWEA State Director's Report: Howard Carter reported that the NEWEA conference starts on Sunday, January 22, 2006 and reviewed some of the events and agenda items for the Conference. He also reminded the Executive Committee about the NEWEA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Scholarship as well as the upcoming position papers.
  - a. NEWEA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Scholarship: Janet Abrahamson was absent and did not submit a written report.

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6. President's Report-Correspondence File: Andy Rudzinski passed around the correspondence file and gave a brief overview of contents. Mac Richardson passed out a document on LD 635, and Vivian Matkivich sent around items that she had received during her term as President that had not yet been submitted for review. Andy asked everyone to introduce himself/herself and thanked everyone for his/her service on the Executive Committee. Andy also asked everyone to review the calendar for 2006 and let him know if there are any conflicts.
7. Stockholm Jr. Water Prize/Maine Water Conference: Brad Moore reported that they have been in contact with the Mitchell Center and have combined the Stockholm Jr. Water Prize with their award. He added that they are willing to help, and are asking MWWCA to supply one judge. Invitations have been sent and are just now waiting for an update. They will supply two judges-from different areas.
8. Committee Reports:
  - A. Past President: Vivian Matkivich thanked everyone for his/her hard work. She added that she had a good year, and the Executive Committee accomplished just about every goal. She noted that there are some items in the correspondence file, including a thank-you letter from Senator Snowe and she added that Ryan Whitney will be at the NEWEA luncheon and will be accepting award on her behalf. Vivian noted that the results from labor market survey were being passed around. She thanked everyone again, and Andy thanked her for her dedicated service as President of MWWCA.
  - B. Conference Committee: Tom Wiley reported that the Annual Spring Conference is April 7, 2006 and the brochure will be out in approximately a month. The menu needs to be finalized. Tom also reported that after the November 2005 meeting, he met with Andy Rudzinski, and after reviewing all of the evaluations and weighing the pros and cons, it was decided that MWWCA will return to the Spruce Point Inn for the 2006 Fall Conference. Tom discussed a few of the changes, including a shuttle and a pig roast for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and Tom acknowledged that there are a few logistical items that would be changed. The meals would be served on the waterfront pavilion, and there would only be two concurrent sessions, as the dining room did not work as a location for a third session. Joan Kiszely reported that she is working with Spruce Point to have the May Executive Committee Meeting at Spruce Point, and she also noted that Steve Johnson from the Maine Chapter of American Public Works Association has been in contact with her about possibly putting together a joint tech session. Joan also reported that she has booked all of the Flagship Inn for accommodations overflow.
  - Laboratory Committee: David Anderson submitted a written report.
  - C. Personnel Advancement Committee: Janet Abrahamson was absent and did not submit a written report.
  - D. Collection Systems: Lenny Blanchette was absent and did not submit a written report.
  - E. Ops Challenge Coordinator Report: Andre Brousseau reported that he is unsure where Tony Gordon left off, and reviewed the standing of the Force Maine Team. The team will be receiving their awards at the upcoming NEWEA conference. Andre added that, on the first Saturday in May, the teams would get together and practice on the five events before the NEWEA challenge. He added that the NEWEA spring conference would be somewhat different this year because the New York teams will be having a joint conference with NEWEA. Andre reported that one of the Force Maine team members, and MWWCA member, Skip Clough, recently experienced a fire at his house and hoped that the MWWCA Executive Committee could send him a card and possibly a gift. There are no official fundraisers for this, but he is currently displaced from his home. There was discussion about what might be appropriate and it was decided that the MWWCA would send Skip \$100 and a card from the President's Fund. Andy Rudzinski to submit the check request and Margaret Langhill to send the check directly to him to send with the card. It was also discussed that maybe Skip would benefit from some MWWCA articles of clothing. Brad Moore showed the Executive Committee the 2005 Operations Challenge Commemorative Jacket. Jackets were purchased for all members of the Force Maine team and will be presented at the NEWEA awards banquet.

- F. Website: Steve Lane reported that he is working on overhauling the member section of the website due to an increase in request for nuts and bolts issues. If anyone has anything to send him with this, please do. He will also be adding a section where members can post items of importance directly.
  - G. Membership Committee: Chuck Applebee reported membership has started off well with 271 members renewing to-date, and \$12,500 in revenue so far.
  - H. Safety Committee: Al Jellison reminded the members of the Executive Committee that if anyone has any vendors pass through their offices, to try to recruit them as members and give them a membership application. Al added that the hazardous and extremely hazardous chemicals list is due to the State by March and that you must use the new log that can be retrieved off of the Internet. Al noted that with regard to Steve Lane's request for safety programs information, he recommends checking with the Bureau of Labor Standards and he gave some general options to Steve for trying to improve this information on the MWWCA website.
  - I. Public Relations Committee: Ryan Wadsworth and Brad Moore submitted a written report.
  - J. Vice President: David Anderson had nothing new to report.
  - K. Government Affairs Committee: Mike Grove reported that he is continuing to work closely with EnvironmentMaine. He added that there have been reports about the Governor proposing another environmental bond and Mike is trying to set up a joint meeting with the Governor and EnvironmentMaine. He added that everything is working out well so far with Bill Taylor. Andy Fiske added that we should not underestimate the amount of work that is needed to put into the bond. Mike added that he has extended an invitation to Matthew Davis from EnvironmentMaine to come to an upcoming meeting.
  - L. Pretreatment Committee: Ron LeTarte submitted a written report. The next meeting of the Pretreatment Committee will be February 9, 2006 at MMA from 9:30am-12:00pm.
  - M. Awards Committee: Mary Waring reported that she is looking ahead to the Spring Conference, and there are no awards to be presented at this time. She inquired if there would be any special awards for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary? There were none that anyone is currently aware of. Mary also added that the Operations Challenge Awards should be added to the Spring Conference Agenda as an announcement. She is currently updating the awards list and as soon as it is complete she will have available for the Admin Guides. She added that the Awards Committee would be meeting to discuss the Goodenow Award for this year and that she would like to get this into the paper by March and it will be awarded at the Fall Conference. She noted that the Operations Challenge plaque at MMA would be updated. Tom Wiley commented that two of the founders were recognized last year at the Fall Conference. Mary asked that the list of Founders be added to the admin guide and Margaret will work on this. It was agreed that Brad Moore and John Hart would work on trying to locate the founding members and to work on creating an award to present them. They will present this to the Executive Committee for approval.
  - N. Communications Committee: Mac Richardson reported that the deadline for submissions was last Friday, but if you have anything, please get it to Mac right away. Mac added that he hasn't had the opportunity to contact Heidi, but that he would.
  - O. Residuals Management Committee: Jeff Pinnette reported that the Residuals Management Committee hasn't met since November. He commented that the Independent group that evaluated the Brunswick zoning issue gave a favorable report, and that the only item that is not resolved is that the anti group put together a second petition, but they have not formally put this before the council. It is reported that they have enough signatures. Jeff also reported that John Mitchell has moved on, and that he needs to follow up with Paula about his replacement in the Sludge group. Currently there is no one in charge.
9. Old Business: None
10. New Business:
- a. David Anderson distributed a letter from Verrill Dana asking the MWWCA, MWUA and MSBA to be a friend of the court with regard to the appeal case of the Portland Water District v. Inhabitants of the Town of Standish and gave a summary of this case and where it stands. There was a detailed discussion about this case and whether MWWCA should take a position. In the past, the Association has not weighed in, but Mike Grove, Jeff Pinnette and Mac Richardson all commented that this is a

different situation, and Mike feels that this is an important issue. Jeff noted that if this case is in the interest of the Association and its members, it should be addressed. Vivian Matkivich added that she is not convinced that this is an issue for MWWCA to get involved in. Mike feels that it crosses both industries. A motion was made by Mac Richardson that MWWCA move forward in participating in the court brief as a friend of the court in this appeal, seconded by David Anderson, after a brief discussion, Mac Richardson amended the motion to note that the doctrine applies to quasi-municipal corporations or special purpose districts, seconded by David Anderson.

i. Vote: In Favor: 6 Opposed: 2 Abstained: 6 Motion carries.

- b. 2006 Administrative Services Agreement: Andy Rudzinski reported on the 2006 MMA Administrative Services Agreement. The total Agreement fee for 2006 is \$9141.00, which reflects a 3.5% increase, or an increase of \$309.00. Mac Richardson made a motion to approve the 2006 MMA Administrative Services Agreement, seconded by Al Jellison. All approved.
  - c. Lenny Blanchette: Andy Rudzinski asked if anyone has heard from him, as he has tried to make contact, but has not had a response. It was mentioned that Lenny is still attending the JETCC meetings, but the information is not getting back to the MWWCA Executive Committee meetings. Andy noted that if Lenny does not respond, he is going to replace him as chair of the Collections Systems Committee.
  - d. MWWCA Credit Cards: Andy Rudzinski noted that he would like credit cards to be issued to those Executive Committee members who travel and who have been required to purchase items with their own funds and be reimbursed. Andy feels that the MWWCA should add this technology to make these things easier for those individuals. There was a detailed discussion on the pros and cons of this. It was the consensus of the Executive Committee that Andy should look into the details of this further and report back to the Executive Committee with more information.
  - e. Steve Lane reported that the JETCC training schedule has been released and he passed it out to everyone.
11. Adjourn: Howard Carter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Al Jellison. All approved to adjourn the meeting at 12:13pm.