

FINAL

**MWWCA Executive Board Meeting
Friday, January 20, 2012
Maine Municipal Association
Augusta, ME**

MINUTES

Attendance: André Brousseau, June Mooney, Mac Richardson, Jeff McBurnie, Travis Peaslee, Darold Wooley, Mary Waring, Dan Welch, Al Jellison, Chuck Applebee, and Joan Kiszely.

Conference Call Attendees: Tom Wiley, Paul Rodriguez, Chris Higgins, Brian Kavanah, Aubrey Strause, David Anderson, Ryan Wadsworth.

Absent: Dan Bisson, Doug Howard, Alex Buechner, John Leslie, Steve Lane

Brief Introductions

Call to Order: President Jeff McBurnie called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Correspondence Folder: President Jeff McBurnie distributed the correspondence folder.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by André Brousseau, seconded by Travis Peaslee, all approved the minutes of December 16, 2011.

Treasurer's Report: Al Jellison reported on the November financial report indicating that everything was in order. There was a brief question & answer period. Motion made by Mary Waring, seconded by André Brousseau, all approved the November financial report with noted changes made by Al Jellison.

Budget for 2012: Jeff McBurnie indicated that the group will vote on the budget at the February meeting.

DEP Representative: Brian Kavanah distributed the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

DEP Update for MWWCA Meeting 1/20/12

Submitted by:
Brian Kavanah, Director-Division of Water Quality Management (DWQM)
brian.w.kavanah@maine.gov 287-7700

New Deputy Commissioner

Ken Winters joined the Department as Deputy Commissioner in early January. Ken, who earned both a BA in psychology and an MBA from the University of Maine, is an internationally experienced leader in human resources management, having consulted for public, private and not-for-profit clients around the world including McCain Foods, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, Bowater, Louisiana-Pacific Corporation and many, many others. He also has served as the Personnel Director of the University of Maine System, VP of Administration at

DEP Representative: Brian Kavanah distributed the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

Webber Energy, a two term management member of the Maine Labor Relations Board and an adjunct faculty member at the University of Maine, Husson University and the University of Port Elizabeth in South Africa.

Actively committed to education on environment and natural resources stewardship, Ken has served four terms as a trustee of Unity College and is also an active sportsman and longtime Registered Maine Guide who was past president of the Maine Professional Guides Association and on the board of Operation Game Thief.

MEPDES/WDL Fee Bill

The Department's bill to modify the MEPDES/WDL fee system has been released as LD 1768, *An Act to Improve the Department of Environmental Protection's Annual Waste Discharge License Fee System*. The bill will simplify the fee system, eliminate the regulated community's concern regarding fees for any new toxics limits in MEPDES/WDL permits, and provide for greater predictability for annual fees. Discharger fees will remain essentially unchanged. This is not a fee increase.

Toxics Rulemaking Update

The public comment period for rulemaking on Chapters 530 and 584 closed December 1, 2011. The rulemaking is being done in response to LD 515 that made revisions to the inorganic arsenic criteria, and other issues related to the toxics program. The Department received comments in favor of the proposed rule and also received comments in opposition to the rule. Most notably, EPA commented that the rule is not approvable as drafted because it believes that sensitive subpopulations would be exposed to an inorganic arsenic cancer risk greater than on in 10,000. The Department is currently reviewing all of the comments received and will be having discussions with EPA on any revisions to the proposed rule that may be necessary to ensure the rule is ultimately approvable by EPA. It is expected that these changes may require a second comment period. A revised rulemaking schedule has not yet been established.

Annual Customer Service Survey

Thanks to all who have returned the annual MEPDES/WDL customer service survey. Results are being tabulated and any comments/suggestions for improvements or concerns are being addressed where possible. Results will be posted on the Department's web page once complete.

Department's Web Page

The Department's web page was recently completely redesigned. As a result some links were broken. This is currently being addressed. Please contact Brian Kavanah if there is any content you would like to see on the web page.

NEWEA State Director: Chuck Applebee distributed the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

**Maine WasteWater Control Association
NEWEA Report by Chuck Applebee
1/19/2012**

NEWEA's Annual Conference and exhibitions scheduled for, January 22-25, 2012. This year's conference will feature a record 34 technical sessions covering a wide range of topics, practical applications, project experience and lessons learned in all areas of the wastewater industry. Rooms and registration are now available.

I will be attending the NEWEA Executive Committee Meeting the ASA Presidents meeting, the Business meeting, the Awards Banquet as well as attending technical sessions.

Maine has several award winners this year including Ralph Oulton, PE Principal Engineer for AMEC Environment and Infrastructure, Inc. will be receiving the WEF Life Membership Award, Mike Hanson, Sanford Sewer District will receive the Alfred Peloquin Award, Mike Harris from Ellsworth will receive the Operator of the Year and Howard Carter of City of Saco will receive the William Hatfield Award.

Remember the date for the Washington 2012 Fly-in has been scheduled for Mar. 6th -8th with the NEWEA Breakfast on the morning of March 6th and WEF Events Mar. 7th and 8th.

Preparations are under way for arranging MWWCA Representatives attending the Fly-in.

NEWEA will again participate in the cost of the Legislative Breakfast at \$1000 match with State and anticipates a three way split again with Maine. NEWEA continues to tout Maine as a model when organizing the Legislative Breakfasts. JETCC is looking to participate in the breakfast similar at the same level as last year.

As time progresses over the next year I will keep MWWCA Executive Committee up to speed on NEWEA issues and opportunities including the increased efforts on Storm Water, changing State Directors roles, assistance for Government Affairs events and new arising efforts.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve as the Maine Director for NEWEA and MWWCA.

Charles M Applebee

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Government Affairs Committee Representative: David Anderson distributed the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

MWWCA Government Affairs Committee

Report for January 20, 2011 Exec Meeting

MDF Legislators' Tour – On January 12 about 50 legislators visited the Sanford WWTF on a Maine Development Foundation Economic Bus Tour of southern Maine. Chuck Applebee provided an overview of MWWCA's legislative issues on the bus ride from Hussey Seating to the treatment facility. Mike Hanson and André Brousseau met the bus at the gate and provided a description of the facility as the bus drove around it. Then the legislators came in the main building. Jeff, Paul, Aubrey, and Alex joined us for informal chats over coffee and donuts. The legislators said they appreciated the opportunity to see a wastewater treatment facility. We offer a big thank you to Mike and André.

LD 781 Flushability Standards – This is Tom Connolly's summary of the Work Session held January 10.

This afternoon the ENR Committee voted LD 781 "Ought Not To Pass" with a 7-3 vote. Chairman Saviello has requested and will draft a letter outlining 6 points the committee will require of INDA in order to "hold their feet to the fire" among which will be the requirement for further study of the items clogging pumps, a timetable for moving forward with labeling and education/advertising campaigns and to continue working with MWWCA to resolve the issues. He will require them to report back to the committee prior to the end of this year's session. His reasoning, which was not difficult to understand, was that "this kettle hasn't simmered long enough "i.e., go work on it some more and get a grip on solutions other than labeling.

While this is not a victory per se, neither is it a defeat. The door is open and the clock is running for INDA to resolve the issues. If anyone has the energy (or stomach) for it, I'd suggest in addition to continued cooperation on our part with INDA that we advance the issue through WEF and other national groups as well as an exchange of information and progress with European nations who have been dealing with this for some time also. (I've initiated contact with members of the EC who are quite interested in partnering with US WW groups on this issue.)

LD 1768 Improvement of DEP's Waste Discharge License Fee System – The Public hearing is next Tuesday January 24 at 9:00 AM before the ENR Committee. Information has been distributed to the membership. My understanding is that the Association supports the bill and I will present testimony in favor. Please let me know if there are concerns.

Legislative Breakfast – It will be held February 16 at the Senator Inn (followed by the February Executive Committee meeting). Invitations have been emailed to the membership. In the past Executive Committee members have been free. Others pay \$15. Legislators, of course, are free.

Dig Safe – Does the Association have any interests in the latest Dig Safe rules revisions involving the PUC and EUT Committee?

Submitted by David Anderson

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Flushables Update: Aubrey Strause reported the ENR Committee voted 7 to 3 Ought Not to Pass” on LD 781. She noted that INDA will continue to work with MWWCA on this issue. Aubrey indicated that the “Flushables” Working Group was having a meeting later in the afternoon at Portland Water District to brainstorm about the group’s next steps, which may involve reaching out more to WEF. The Europeans have also been having issues with non-dispersible materials, especially the Netherlands, and the group may look into what actions have worked well for that group. She will report back on the group’s objectives after the meeting..

Laboratory: June Mooney had no report.

Membership: Chris Higgins had no report.

Pretreatment: Tom Wiley indicated that they will be meeting in February.

Personnel Advancement Committee: Aubrey Strause noted the award that MWWCA would be receiving at the NEWEA conference and thanked Brian Kavanah and Maine DEP who nominated MWWCA for this award. The award is called the 2011 Regional State Wastewater Association Award. Additional members of the group also thanked Brian and asked him to take the message of appreciation back to his colleagues. Aubrey reported on the upcoming Spring Conference and noted they have very good sessions lined up for it, with a theme “Being Prepared in a Changing World”. She reported that many sessions and speakers have been confirmed to date, including Keynote Speaker Marion Long of Gradient Planning.

Convention Committee Chair: André Brousseau distributed the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

Maine Wastewater Control Association
January 20, 2012.
Convention Chair report

February 7th Joint water conference is all set. All presenters have been contacted, bio forms along with Av request.

March 14th Ski Day brochure went out to all members last week. A sponsorship letter was also sent to the vendors to help offset some of the cost.

April 27th Spring Convention plans are coming together. 99% of the presenters are confirmed for 11 technical sessions. As soon as all speakers are booked, I will be sending out request for moderators.

We will be planning the fall conference soon!

Public Relations Committee: Jeff McBurnie indicated that Matt Timberlake has volunteered to fill the position of Chair of the Public Relations Committee. The Executive Committee and current Chair Ryan Wadsworth will help him in the transition. Ryan Wadsworth noted he would prepare the Clean Water Week Poster mailing and get it to Joan Kiszely. Ryan Wadsworth reported that the MWWCA booth will be taken to the NEWEA Conference by Howard Carter.

Safety Committee: Al Jellison had no report.

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Communications Committee: Mac Richardson reported the MWWCA Newsletter went out. The next newsletter will go out in February. Additional people are still needed to assist with this publication.

Collection Systems: Doug Howard was absent.

Residuals: John Leslie was absent.

Operations Challenge: Alex Buechner was absent.

Industrial Representative: Dan Welch had no report.

Awards Committee: Mary Waring indicated that she will be polling the committees to see if anyone has an award to present at the Spring Conference.

JETCC Committee Representative: Darold Wooley distributed the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:



**Maine Wastewater Control Association Convention
JETCC Report for January 20, 2012**

Spring 2012 Training Schedule should be landing in Mailboxes Now!

The new JETCC Training schedule should arrive soon in your mailbox! We have a great variety of classes on the schedule including a Specialty class in May presented by Internationally renowned Microbiologist Michael Gerardi of Penn State University!

Exam Prep – We are offering 2 classes in early April to help prepare operators for the next state exam. Math Review on April 4 and Strategies & Tips for Test Success on April 5. Both in Fairfield.

Visit www.jetcc.org for details on all classes.

The February Management Candidate School will be held in conjunction with the Maine Water Utilities Association Conference in Portland on February 7. A number of classes (which are open to any conference participant) were scheduled with the MCS students in mind. All students are required to participate in the Budgeting session on the morning of February 7. They will be assigned to write a summary of their interaction with some of the vendors during vendor meet greet. After lunch they have been given a choice of 2 training tracks.

10 MCS students chose Technical Writing for Water & WW Professionals & Legislative Update arranged through MWWCA. 9 MCS students chose A Trustee's White Board. It would be great in the future to integrate the MCS students in some of the classes at the MWW Fall convention.

Sponsor Opportunities - There are many opportunities available for companies to associate with a JETCC training by sponsoring lunches or components of JETCC training. Contact Leann if you would like more information!

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JETCC Committee Representative: Darold Wooley distributed the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

Exam Dates

May 16, 2012 is the date for the Spring Exam.

Applications for May exam are due by **March 30.**

Maine Chapter American Public Works Association - Leeann and Lenny Blanchette attended the MCAPWA meeting in early January to highlight classes that might also pertain to public works personnel. The Assoc. seemed to have a genuine interest in some of the WW classes and felt that there was room for WW and PW personnel to share resources. Specifically they mentioned the Highway Congress scheduled for June 7 in Skowhegan. There is potential for partnership between JETCC, MWWCA with MCAPWA. At a minimum we could have a presence at their conference (booth). They are already planning Vendor demonstrations that would pertain to WW personnel and are open to suggestions and/or if we would like to offer a training program at their event. Is there anything MWW feels should be conveyed to the Public Works Assoc.? Does MWW have any interest here? Contact Leeann.

Please contact Leeann directly if you have any ideas, training needs or would like to assist with hosting or teaching a class.

**JETCC
PO Box 487
Scarborough, ME 04070
253-8020
www.jetcc.org**

WEB Developer: Steve Lane was absent.

MMA Rep: Joan Kiszely had no report.

1st Vice President Report: Travis Peaslee had no report.

2nd Vice President Report: Aubrey Strause had no report.

Immediate Past President Report: Paul Rodriguez had no report.

Other New Business:

WEF Fly In: Jeff McBurnie asked if anyone could suggest an appropriate municipal official to participate in the Fly-In. Let Jeff know if you have ideas.

Jeff McBurnie noted that he received an email from Margaret Noel, Education Manager of MMA. She wanted to see if MWWCA was interested in some training opportunities with MMA.

Jeff McBurnie indicated that a letter will be drafted by Paul Rodriguez to Portland Water District to thank them for their efforts to coordinate and host numerous studies and data gathering opportunities on the flushables issue. Motion made by Mac Richardson, seconded by Al Jellison, all approved to present the outstanding services award to the Portland Water District for their efforts in the Flushable Study and to offer free attendance for two people at the Spring Conference.

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NEWEA State Affiliations: Jeff McBurnie indicated he will be giving a report at the NEWEA State Affiliations meeting. If anyone has anything they want to make sure he has in the report, please let him know.

Adjournment: Motion made by Al Jellison, seconded by Andre' Brousseau, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m.