Maine Wastewater Control Association
Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, July 28, 2006
9:00 am
Sunday River Ski Resort, Newry, ME


1. Call to Order: President Andy Rudzinski called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes-June 16, 2006: Mary Waring made a motion to approve the Executive Committee meeting minutes of June 16, 2006, seconded by Andre Brousseau. All approved as amended.

3. Treasurer's Report-Financial Reports January 2006: Dan Bisson reported on the May and June financial reports. He noted everything was in order, but copies of the June report were not available for review by the Executive Committee. Mike Grove made a motion to accept the May and June, 2006 Financial Reports, seconded by Tom Wiley. Brief discussion on the detailed ledger by Andy Rudzinski and some questions on the liability insurance. Dan also reported on the CD's. He is renewing one of the CD’s at a higher interest rate. Discussion on approving minutes without reviewing them. Motion made by Mac Richardson, seconded by Mary Waring to amend the motion to approve the May financials, but table the June financials. All Approved.

4. DEP Representative Report: Brian Kavanah absent. No report. Mac Richardson noted that he spoke with Brian Kavanah. Brian reported that there has been a DEP audit report. There will be a bill introduced requiring that all CSO remediation to be done in three and ½ years. It is unclear whether this will apply to all CSO’s or just the ones on the Androscoggin River. Janet Abrahamson asked if anyone had been hired for Jim Rogers' Pretreatment position.

5. NEWEA State Director's Report: Howard Carter reported it has been quiet. Janet Abrahamson reported that the Personnel Advancement Committee has picked a NEWEA scholarship recipient. Howard thanked Janet and announced that the winner is Kevin Merrill from Westbrook who attends the University of Maine in Orono. Janet reported Kevin submitted a very well written essay. Mac Richardson noted he would list the scholarship recipient in an article in the newspaper. The President requested Howard Carter or Janet Abrahamson get the background history of the scholarship to Mac so he can publish in the next MWWCA newspaper.

6. President's Report: Andy Rudzinski passed around the correspondence file and gave a brief overview of its contents.

   a. Dana Peck, Operator Training Program Curriculum (Kirk Laflin, MDOL Apprenticeship): Andy Rudzinski reported that he was contacted by Pat (?) who is working with Kirk Laflin to set up operator training in Southern Maine. Dana Peck wanted some input on curriculum. There are multiple efforts being undertaken to provide training for new operators in different parts of the state. Andy requested that Howard Carter, David Anderson & Chuck Applebee meet with Dana Peck on August 11th. Central Maine Community College has a program starting up in the fall. Paul Collins – Chief Operator from Augusta has put a lot into this. Dana Peck's program is really focusing on apprenticeship. Mike Grove noted they are not trying to compete with JETCC or Maine Rural Water. This is a different level of training aimed at helping new operators get certified. David Anderson didn’t have a feel for how far along they are in developing the Southern Maine apprenticeship training. Mac Richardson feels the program is at least 6 months away.

   b. Meeting at MMA: Andy Rudzinski reported he met with Geoff Herman, MMA State & Federal Relations in regards to the Maine Fire Chiefs’ letter to get some backing from the Legislative Policy Committee on MWWCA’s lobbying efforts. He mentioned he met Jeff Austin who also
works in the SFR department. He noted that Geoff Herman made it clear that he works for the LPC and not the affiliate groups. Andy Rudzinski noted he did not know the process until yesterday when it was explained to him. They will be changing over the LPC members and Joan Kiszely will mail out the LPC member and sub-committee lists. This is the tool the Affiliate Groups will need to lobby the LPC. Joan Kiszely noted she would set up a list serve for all Affiliate Group Presidents to link to the SFR notes. The Presidents will then let Joan’s department know what to post to the Executive Board and/or members. At this point the LPC is not going to give voting rights to the affiliate groups. In October they will have a meeting on the process of the LPC with all Affiliate Groups.

Mike Grove stated that he thinks the best use this group is for support on financial issues. SRF will be back on the table this year. He noted that Geoff Herman said that we might be more successful in getting the SRF funding passed if DOT, Wastewater & Water combine their efforts. Mike Grove & Howard Carter thinks a stand-alone bond may be better. This will be discussed in more detail later on.

Information on Lobbyist: Andy Rudzinski reported that he talked with Joan Kiszely about an opportunity to retain Dana Lee (former Mechanic Falls Town Manager) as a lobbyist for MWWCA. The Maine Fire Chief’s Association is meeting next week to talk to Dana Lee about Lobbyist Duties and to negotiate a fee to retain him. Andy Rudzinski went over the Lobbyist Duties and Strategic plan that the MFCA put together for Mr. Lee. Mike Grove agrees that it is beneficial to have a lobbyist. The climate has changed in Augusta so it is much more party-driven. Mike feels it is not realistic to expect a volunteer Government Affairs chair to maintain the level of activity that he did this year. He spoke briefly about the costs for good representation. Discussion ensued about what we need from a lobbyist and about Dana Lee’s proposed services vs. the services of our current lobbyist. There may need to be a distinction between legal services and the scope that Mr. Lee is offering. Joan gave an overview of how the MFCA had managed their legislative affairs this year with weekly teleconferences and a focused agenda. Andy wanted to bring this item to the table for future consideration. It was suggested that we have Mr. Lee come to a meeting to talk to the Executive Committee or to establish a subcommittee to explore Mr. Lee’s proposal. Motion by Dan Bisson to select a subcommittee of the President, 1st VP, 2nd VP and Gov’ Affairs chair to meet with Dana Lee and other persons offering legal and legislative services ASAP and report back to the Executive comm. on their findings. Seconded by Mac Richardson. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Committee Reports:

A. Past President: Vivian Matkivich had no report.

B. Conference Committee: Tom Wiley reported we have 14 vendors signed up, four hole sponsors, 26 golfers, and two meet and greet sponsors and zero for the pig roast. We have the door prizes already. We have an appointment with Spruce Point on August 16th. Thursday will be the Awards luncheon.

C. Collections Systems: Steve Sloan reported he would contact a list of members who said on their membership forms that they might be interested in his committee. He would like an Administrative Guide from MMA. He is open to ideas and contacts. He will help with the Golf tournament and volunteered to be a moderator. The CSO issue may be an opportunity for him to get additional help on his committee.

D. Laboratory Committee: David Anderson reported he needs to be proactive on getting a replacement for this committee chair. He talked about some of the activities of the committee. Discussion about hold times on fecal coli form test kits.

E. Personnel Advancement Committee: Janet Abrahamson reported on the fall conference program. We will need several moderators, as there are many concurrent sessions. We need a moderator for Friday afternoon who can make sure all evaluations get turned in and the borrowed equipment is returned properly. Janet will not be available to do this. Mac volunteered to be responsible. We still need an Operator Exchange candidate. This year’s exchange is with CT. Discussion about moderator forms and responsibilities.
F. **JETCC:** No one able to attend. No report.

G. **Ops Challenge Coordinator Report:** Andre Brousseau reported that the team has not gotten together yet. He expects to hear from them soon to gear up for the trip to Dallas for the national competition.

H. **Website:** Steve Lane absent. No report.

I. **Membership Committee:** Chuck Applebee reported that currently we have 617 members. We will probably pick up a few more members at the Fall Conference.

J. **Safety Committee:** Al Jellison absent.

K. **Public Relations Committee:** Ryan Wadsworth absent.

L. **Vice President:** No report.

M. **Government Affairs Committee:** Mike Grove reported that the SRF group did not meet last week because of the storm. He has not been able to find a replacement committee chair yet. Andy Rudzinski noted that we are going to be looking for a Lab Committee Chair as well as Government Affairs. He suggested that we should put an article in the next issue of the paper to see if anyone is interested in becoming a chair of a committee.

N. **Pretreatment Committee:** Ron Letarte absent. No report.

O. **Awards Committee:** Mary Waring handed out ballots for the Gagne Award and will Email ballots to those not in attendance. There were no nominations for the Goodenow Award, so we will wait and try again next year. Desk clocks have been ordered to be engraved for the surviving founding members. The clocks will be presented at the Fall Convention. There have been no nominations for the Industrial Pretreatment Award. Anyone who wants to make a nomination for that award should contact Ron LeTarte.

P. **Communications Committee:** Mac Richardson reported that we have enough items for the next issue. Interview with K. Lennert Rost, the NEWEA scholarship item and the Fall Convention are included.

Q. **Residuals Management Committee:** Jeff Pinnette absent. No report.

9. **Old Business:**
   a. **2nd Vice President Nominations:** Andy Rudzinski noted that he had spoken with Jeff Pinnette and Mike Grove had contacted Brent Dickey. Neither was interested in the position.

10. **New Business:**
   a. **Peloquin Award:** Mike Grove was nominated for this NEWEA award by the Executive Committee.

   b. **NEWEA Operator Award:** Voted on MWWCA’s nominee at the last meeting.

   c. **Discuss Nominations for MWWCA Elected Officials (preparation for August meeting):** This will be finalized in August.

11. **Adjourn:** Howard Carter, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Andre Brousseau. All approved to adjourn the meeting at noon.