

FINAL

**MWWCA Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, July 31, 2009
Spruce Point Inn, Boothbay Harbor**

MINUTES

Attendance: Tom Wiley, André Brousseau, Chuck Applebee, Jeff McBurnie, Dave Anderson, Paul Rodriguez, Andy Fiske (DEP), Chris Higgins, Mary Waring, Ryan Wadsworth, June Mooney, Dan Bisson, Al Jellison, Darold Wooley, Jeff McBurnie, Mac Richardson, Joan Kiszely, Nancy Sargent

Absent: Greg Kidd, Karen Tangeman, Steve Lane, Brad Moore, Mike Micucci

Guest: Howard Carter, Joe Witts

Call to Order: President Tom Wiley called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Al Jellison to accept the minutes of June 19, 2009, seconded by Dan Bisson. All approved.

Treasurer's Report: Dan Bisson reported that April, May and June financial report. Al Jellison made a motion to approve the April, May, and June 2009 financial reports. Jeff McBurnie seconded the motion. All approved.

Discussion took place on the fund balance and committee budget breakdowns.

Dan Bisson made a recommendation that \$450 be approved for the NEWEA Affiliated State Association Reception to be held in Boston in January. Al Jellison made a motion to approve the amount of \$450 be allotted for the NEWEA Affiliated State Association Receipt at the NEWEA Annual Conference in January 2010 in Boston. Mac Richardson seconded the motion. All approved.

Dan noted that the amount will be debited to the NEWEA Representative line item, which will show a deficit at the end of the year. Dan mentioned that the board could move to adjust the budget at this time, or just keep it is and be sure to allot the money for this annual event in next year's budget. It was the consensus of the Board to leave the budget as is.

DEP Representative: Andy Fiske reported on the following:

- Consideration for MWWCA. EPA Region 1 approached DEP on energy efficiency and conducting energy audits at facilities. Efficiency Maine has agreed to pay for the audits. Andy noted that if there is an interest in this, he will let them know. Discussion took place on this issue. Andy noted that he will continue to explore this option and will report back. It was the consensus of the board that there is interest and need for this.
- LD650 – DEP sending invite to meeting on September 24th . He thinks two to three meetings would be sufficient. He noted that money that comes in be filtered to DEP.

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- LD1399 - Shellfish Bill: Follow-up on bill and the full range of impacts to shellfish qualities. Will also review DMR sanitary surveys and will use this to formulate a draft report this fall. Want to provide the Legislature with a broader point on the shellfish areas. Andy noted that the enactment of legislation has been positive in the Freeport area, as Freeport area shellfish members report the enactment was very important and appreciate the process. Coastal farms are being reviewed in order to meet BMP for cattle handling and runoff issues.
- Suggestion for Spring Conference – Andy thought it may be a good idea to have Chad Coffin, President of the Maine Clammers Association, or some other member of the shellfish community to give a session on this issue.
- Mercury limits – Andy noted that they have had a pending task to go back and look at all recorded mercury from effluent testing. He confident that all data reviewed will allow reduced testing frequency. Will evaluate the limits and recalculate based on most recent data and will happen with license renewals. Discussion took place on thoughts and feedback regarding this issue.
- TMDL for Lake Champlain for Phosphorous - CLF is heading this issue. May be on the horizon for the future.
- Salmon listing – Andy noted that they are meeting with Pat Kelleher to try and secure additional funds that would allow them to have some expertise in this area. Discussion took place on how they will go about making this happen.
- Upcoming Legislation - Andy noted that Bill titles are due the following week. They do not expect any major issues other than bonding. Presently, the state does not have the match money to allocate the federal dollars.
- Beaches – Andy reported that the status of the Maine Beach report with Environment Maine, which listed improvement with the handling of CSOs. The report did list some swimming health concerns, and the Department did not agree with the way this was presented to the media. DEP will follow up with Friends of Casco Bay and see what they can do about not pushing the sick issue.
- Discussion took place on the bond issue and amounts or lack of funding.
- New York Times has been working on a piece on Clean Water Week Compliance.

BREAK

NEWEA State Director: Brad Moore was not present. Howard Carter reported on the following:

- Congressional Briefing – NEWEA got back into it this year. Working at trying to get all states to do what Maine does.
- Appropriated \$1000 for Maine for the legislative breakfast.

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- The website was overhauled. Visitor to the site are able to click on direct links to all committee, and there is also the ability to pay for conferences online. All award descriptions can also be found on the site.
- Created a new communications director position to help deal with the media relations issue.
- Scholarships – Awarding the scholarships is an issue, so the association is reaching out to more colleges. A new scholarship has been created for operators.
- Conferences – The Spring Conference was held in Providence in June. Next spring, the conference will be at the Cliff House in Ogunquit, June 4, 5, & 6, 2010.

Committee Reports:

Government Affairs: David Anderson reported: David reported on LD 821. This bill was carried over to the second session. David noted he will attend a meeting on August 18th to discuss language of the bill. The program will be funded with the pharmaceutical company. He will follow up on this, and will clean up the language. Paul Rodriguez reported on the Clean Water Act. They are discussing strategies and are tracking the progress. The conclusion was they are not going to spend a lot of time on this, due to other efforts they are trying to get through on issues that directly affect MWWCA. It was noted that MWWCA needs to explain why it is able to participate in a coalition on the Clean Water Act, because the Association's efforts need to be elsewhere.

Laboratory: June Mooney reported that the Lab Committee met. Karen Tangeman took the lead on the BOD/TSS document. It is a very good guidance document, and a copy was distributed to the Board for review.

Personnel Advancement: Gregory Kidd absent. Travis Peaslee reported on the sessions at the Fall Convention and noted that everything is ready to go. He was short a couple moderators and distributed the moderator schedule for anyone to sign on.

Public Relations: Ryan Wadsworth reported that the Jr. Stockholm Prize was held last month. A girl from Vermont won and went to finals in Alaska. Ryan noted that MWWCA needs to send the money for this to NEWEA.

Safety: Al Jellison reported that the Maine Safety Health conference is being held on Sept. 23 & 24 at the Augusta Civic Center.

Communications: Mac Richardson reported he is working with Jaime at MMA on the next newsletter. He gave an update of articles, and it is his goal to have the next issue out by the middle of August. He noted that he would welcome articles if anyone had anything to contribute.

Collection Systems: Doug Howard was absent.

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Residuals Management: Jeff McBurnie noted he had nothing to report at this time. They are talking about revisiting the criteria of how many times they should meet in any given year when there are no outstanding issues. They may restructure the committee. Jeff feels it is a valuable committee, but just need to review how they function.

Operations Challenge: Alex Buechner was absent.

Pretreatment: Mike Micucci was absent.

Awards: Mary Waring reported about the Roger Gagne Award, which is for long-term service to MWWCA. She distributed ballots to the Board for voting. The nominees on the ballot were: The nominees are David Anderson, Joan Kiszely, and Andy Rudzinski, and Al Jellison nominated Mary Waring, whose name was added to the ballot. Mary noted that the following awards will be given at the Fall convention: President's Service Award and the Roger Gagne Award. She noted that they will have to revisit the Goodenow Award

JETCC Representative: Darold Wooley noted there will be 5 awards they would like to give out at the MWWCA Fall Convention. Most of the award recipients are members of MWWCA. Tom Wiley will coordinate when the awards will be given with Leeann. He reported on the following:

- Letters just went out regarding the upcoming Management class.
- Latest Course offerings .
- Basic Wastewater Treatment Class.
- Interviewing & Hiring a new Administrative Assistant.
- Website under revision.
- Traditionally have a booth space at MWWCA Fall Convention.
- Next board meeting is Sept. 6th in Portland.
- Tour of JETCC office.
- Basic Wastewater class starting October 6 going through November 10th . There will be six sessions, and they will be held at the Bangor Wastewater facility.

WEB Developer: Steve Lane was absent.

MMA Representative: Joan Kiszely reported that they have hired two new staff - Denise Kolreg & Claire Garrett. She reported the building project is on schedule and hopefully by end of December or the first of January it will be completed. Joan reported on the upcoming MMA Convention and on the Emergency Preparedness session they have been working on for the Wednesday sessions at the MMA convention. Their goal is to encourage members from MWWCA, Maine Water Utilities, MEMA, MFCA, and all emergency responders to attend.

1st Vice President Report: André Brousseau noted that the other day he invited John Storer, Jefferson Longfellow, and Jeffrey McNelly to attend one day at the Fall Convention.

2nd Vice President Report: Paul Rodriguez reported about Bill Taylor. He noted he wants us to continue being engaged in the salmon listing.

Immediate Past President Report: Chuck Applebee had no report.

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New Business:

Status Reports for Strategic Goals

Short Term Initiatives

Annual State of Maine Water Environment Letter: Mac Richardson reported that he will take notes off DEP reports and put together a letter. He will be sending this out to the Legislators, newspapers, and key officials.

Membership Survey: Chris Higgins distributed a first draft of a membership survey. He would like comments back within a couple weeks so he can put it out on the membership list serve.

Effectively utilize committee – Develop Plan: Tom Wiley noted he has been working with Nancy Sargent on updating the Administrative Guide. The Administrative Guide will be revised and completed by the end of the year. He distributed what has been completed thus far.

Suggest local utilities host open house: Andre' Brousseau reported he has come up with a draft regarding hosting an open house. As soon as he gets it completed, he will forward it to Jaime at MMA to put it in a brochure to send it out to utilities. It will be completed by the first of the year. He wants to discuss when it will be an appropriate time to host an open house.

ID one organization (environmental group): David Anderson noted they talked about inviting groups to the Fall Convention, but decided against this. Someone mentioned that we do this at the Spring Conference.

Long Term Initiatives

Establish Degree Program for WW Operators: Jeff McBurnie noted he will get some course catalogs to recommend college classes, which may be appropriate.

Joint conference: Travis Peaslee reported that on February 8th we are going to have 5 technical sessions at the Maine Water Utilities Association conference.

Investigate professional PR: Tom Wiley reported that this is still a work in progress.

Increase availability of grant funding for projects: Work is still needed on this project.

Adjournment: Al Jellison made a motion to adjourn. Dan Bisson seconded the motion. All approved.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.