

FINAL

**Maine Wastewater Control Association
Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, June 17, 2005
9:00 am
MMA, Augusta, ME**

Present: Vivian Matkivich, Howard Carter, Mike Grove, Brian Kavanah, Andy Rudzinski, Al Jellison, Jeff Pinnette, Mac Richardson, Janet Abrahamson, Chuck Applebee, Joan Kiszely, Margaret Langhill

Guests: Ryan Wadsworth

- I. Call to Order: President Vivian Matkivich called the meeting to order at 9:16am.
- II. Approval of the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes: Mike Grove made a motion to approve the Executive Committee meeting minutes of May 20, 2005. Howard Carter seconded the motion. All approved.
- III. Treasurer's Report: Dan Bisson was absent. Vivian Matkivich reported that the April 2005 financial reports have been revised, and Al Jellison concurred. Mac Richardson made a motion to accept the revised April 2005 financial reports, seconded by Al Jellison All approved.
- IV. DEP Representative Report: Brian Kavanah reported that Sterling Pierce of MeDEP informed him that Maine's dentists are 98% in compliance with the requirement to certify that they have a mercury amalgam separator. All state agencies were asked to make additional cuts in the State budget. The DEP proposes to cut \$125,000 per year for the next two years from the Surface Water Toxics Program. Brian added that the public hearing for the Toxics Rule was held this month. A handful of people testified, and nothing unexpected came from the hearings. The rule should be final by October 2, 2005; so Brian feels that the Board review will be on the agenda in August 2005. Brian passed around information about a training course for NPDES permittees. He also passed around a copy of the DEP's annual report to the Legislature on the Status of Licensed Dischargers. Brian also reported that Vivian met with Don Albert to follow up discussion from the last meeting about BOD holding times. Vivian reported that it looks like DEP will stay with their proposal for a 24-hour sample holding time, with allowance for variances on a case-by-case basis.
- V. NEWEA State Director's Report: Howard Carter reported that he attended the NEWEA Spring Meeting at the Cliff House in Ogunquit. It was a success and was well attended. Tom Allen (D-Maine) spoke on Tuesday. The highlight of the show was Maine's Operations Challenge Team-Force Maine-and their overall first place finish. Howard mentioned that Maine hasn't taken first place since 1988. Force Maine will be going to Washington D.C. to compete at the national level. NEWWN is having a

golf tournament on the same day that MWWCA will hold theirs. There was brief discussion on how this will affect MWWCA attendance and the hole sponsorships that support Maine's Operations Challenge Team. Consensus of the Executive Committee is to not change the date of MWWCA's tournament. Al Jellison made a motion to keep the golf tournament as it is currently scheduled, seconded by Mac Richardson. All approved. Howard added that he sent out an email asking for nominations for the Pelouin and Operator of the Year awards. In addition, he received nomination for the Safety Award from Mike Grove. Howard reviewed the list of nominations so far and their qualifications. Howard added that he is looking for a candidate for nomination for the WEF Laboratory Award. Howard would like to have the nominations wrapped up by the July meeting.

- VI. President's Report: Vivian Matkivich passed around her correspondence file for review. She is still working with the Maine Fire Chiefs' Association (MFCA) on the Fall Convention. Vivian noted that Chief Darrel Fournier, the point person for the conference from the MFCA, was in a motorcycle accident. Vivian added that she went to the NEWEA Spring Meeting to represent MWWCA. Brad Moore had the MWWCA booth there. It went very well, and was well attended.
- VII. Nominations for Second VP: Brief discussion on possible candidates for 2nd Vice President of MWWCA. Jeff Pinnette agreed to ask his employer to see if he can be nominated. It was agreed that the call for nominations should be put on the MWWCA website.

VIII. Committee Reports:

Convention: Tom Wiley was absent, and submitted a written report.

Past President: Darold Wooley was absent, and did not submit a report.

Laboratory Committee: David Anderson was absent, and did not submit a written report. Vivian reported on his behalf that he has spoken with Matt Sica with regard to proposed lab certification rule changes. DHHS will not be proposing any changes with the statutes-just clarifying some rules.

Personnel Advancement Committee (PAC): Janet Abrahamson reported that she is wrapping up the sessions for this year's Fall Convention, and that Mr. & Mrs. Fish are coming back. Janet asked Chris Higgins to contact area elementary schools and invite them to come to the program. Janet added that she is lining up tours for area WWTPs. Janet reviewed her nearly final program for technical sessions. There was brief discussion on possible future speakers. Janet added that she has not gotten any response of interest in participating in the NEWEA Operations Exchange Program. It was noted that an invitation to participate should be put on the website.

Collection Systems: Lenny Blanchette was absent, and did not submit a report.

Ops Challenge Coordinator Report: Tony Gordon was absent, and submitted a written report.

Membership Committee: Chuck Applebee reported that he is working to contact those members that have not renewed. Al Jellison reported that he has contacted some as well and has gotten at least 9 of them back. There are currently 584 members.

Safety Committee: Al Jellison had nothing to report.

Public Relations Committee: Brad Moore was absent, and did not submit a written report.

Vice President: Andy Rudzinski had nothing to report.

Government Affairs Committee: Mike Grove reported that the Legislature would be out of session by Friday. There will be no Bond Package voted out this term. He reported that the DEP got served with Freedom of Information Act requests from seven parties with regard to the Androscoggin River.

Pretreatment Committee: Ron LeTarte was absent, and did not submit a written report.

Awards Committee: Mary Waring was absent, and did not submit a written report.

Communications Committee: Mac Richardson reported that the deadline for the next newsletter is July 11, 2005. He added that the June issue should be out, and that he will get a copy to Steve Lane for the website. There was discussion about sending complimentary copies of the newsletter to the Maine Senators and Representatives. Mike Grove can get the information to send the newsletter if necessary.

Residuals Management Committee: Jeff Pinnette reported that there was a very animated public debate over the Aquifer Protection Zone Ordinance in Brunswick. He listed the national figures that weighed in on the issue. He added that MWWCA and other proponents were successful in preserving the right to use Class compost on the Bowdoin College athletic fields. NEBRA's newsletter had an article about prions in wastewater treatment. Jeff added that this is a minor issue for wastewater treatment in general-it is only an issue for the plants that are treating slaughterhouse and landfill waste. There was a detailed discussion on prions, which can cause spongiform disease (such as "Mad Cow Disease") in animals and humans. It is unclear how prions might end up in wastewater treatment plants. This is not a significant issue for New England, since there are not reports of Mad Cow Disease in this area. An article in "Inside EPA," which examined the issue, concluded that wastewater treatment plants are a potential source of prions. Mac Richardson added that this is an emerging issue. There is no current treatment for disease caused by prions. NEBRA responded to the "EPA Insider" in its newsletter. Jeff reported that the WERF Report on Biosolids Recycling is finally published. He added that the Residuals Management Committee met last month and that Scott Firman is moving ahead with the sludge disposal survey. Scott wants the MWWCA mailing list. Jeff and Mac were asked to sign up for the Common Ground Fair again. He noted that they would be focusing on MWWCA's mission to clean up the State's waters and improving public perception of the waste water treatment industry. Jeff added that he would need to organize volunteers to staff the booth. The Common Ground fair is September 23-25.

IX. Old Business:

- Charles Perry Trust Fund: Vivian reported that she is disappointed that Lenny has not sent her a copy of the trust agreement yet. The Executive Committee cannot review the trust documents to see what the MWWCA responsibilities are until she receives these documents. It was consensus of the Executive Committee that this is an action item to follow up on.
- 2004 Audit: Vivian reported that she hasn't heard back from MMA on whether they can provide an audit of MWWCA's books. e. Joan and Margaret will follow up with Sarah Ledoux at MMA to see if this can be done by MMA.
- Invitation to MCCS for Operator Training Meeting: Vivian reported that she sent a letter to President Fitzsimmons of the Maine Community College System and the Maine Department of Labor in support of a Maine-based Operator Training Program. She received a reply from the Maine Department of Labor, but nothing yet from the Maine Community College System. The goal of the letter is to have a meeting with all interested parties to support the development of the program.

X. New Business:

- Vivian reported that Les Dore, one of the founding members of MWWCA, passed away.
- Vivian asked for agenda items for the July 22, 2005 meeting. Items to be discussed are: 2nd Vice President nominations, finalize NEWEA awards nominations, Charles Perry Fund, and formation of a 40-Year Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee. NEWEA officers have been invited to July meeting. , Mike Grove reported that he is not using the lobbyist's services, so if the funds are needed to start the sub-committee, it would be fine to transfer the \$2700.00 in the lobbyist account to the 40-Year Anniversary fund.

- XI. Adjourn: Mac Richardson made a motion to adjourn. Al Jellison seconded. All approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 am.