MWWCA Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, June 19, 2009
(To be fully adopted without exclusions in December 2009)
MMA, Augusta

MINUTES (With exclusions)

Attendance: Tom Wiley, André Brousseau, David Anderson, Ryan Wadsworth, Brian Kavanah, Brad Moore, Chris Higgins, Paul Rodriguez (via teleconference), Chuck Applebee, Al Jellison, Mary Waring, Doug Howard, Mac Richardson, Travis Peaslee, Karen Tangeman, June Mooney, Leeann Hansen; Leonard Blanchette, Darold Wooley, Nancy Sargent

Absent: Jeff McBurnie, Michael Micucci, Greg Kidd, Alex Buechner, Dan Bisson, and Steve Lane.

Call to Order: President Tom Wiley called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Al Jellison to accept the minutes of May 15, 2009, seconded by Chris Higgins. All approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Dan Bisson was absent. Approval of April and May financials will be tabled until the July 31st meeting.

DEP Representative:
Brian Kavanah reported that although they requested a 3.7 million bond for the clean water SRF match, only a 3 million dollar bond was obtained. One million was voted out for small community grant program, .6 million for waste water construction grants, $500,000 for the OBD program. Brian noted that given the current fiscal climate, it was a good result.

Brian further noted that on June 18th, the public hearing was held on the phosphorus rule, with the comment period being open until July 31st.

There will be a working group formed regarding LD650 to talk about how the money will be distributed. Brian noted that he will come back to a subsequent Executive Committee meeting to ask for representatives for the working group.

Brian advised the Committee that the Federal Register that the listing for Atlantic Salmon, species and critical habitat was reported as an endangered rather than a threatened species. What this means for licensing he’s not sure, but will have to wait and see and are debating what to do next.

NEWEA State Director: Brad Moore reported on the following:

NEWEA held its spring meeting June 7th through the 10th in Providence, Rhode Island. Brad noted that the MWWCA’s reputation in New England is excellent and it comes from the leadership of the organization and that there are many times that Maine is set as an example during NEWEA meetings.
Brad further reported that the Ops Challenge competition results were as follows: Rhode Island took first, New Hampshire second, and Maine third. All teams will represent NEWEA at the WEFTEC conference in Orlando in October.

The Vermont association is handing out water kits for World Monitoring Day. Brad noted that he may have Ryan Wadsworth purchase these kits as part of the Public Relations Committee and hand them out, possibly during Clean Water Week.

Brad went on to discuss the NEWEA awards and spoke about potential nominees for the Operator of the Year award and the Alfred Peloquin award. At the request of the Board, the names of the award recipients and motions regarding same have been removed from this set of minutes.

Brad noted that it’s his last year as NEWEA State Director. The State Director acts as a liaison between MWWCA and NEWEA. The new director should be someone very familiar with how MWWCA is run and what direction the association is heading. Brad relayed three names of individuals who were interested in filling the NEWEA State Director position. Discussion took place on the three proposed candidates.

At the request of the Executive Committee, the names of the individuals and the vote taken to nominate said individual to be brought before the NEWEA Executive Board for approval was withheld from this set of minutes. A complete set of minutes, including motions regarding award recipients are on file at Maine Wastewater Control Associations office and will be adopted in December 2009.

BREAK

Old Business: None.

Committee Reports:

Government Affairs: Paul Rodriguez, David Anderson & Chuck Applebee reported with regard to LD650, Section 4 discussion on flushing out the funding.

The nutrient public hearing took place on June 18th. Mac Richardson noted that there should definitely be comments on this matter by the Association. Discussion took place about how to take the lead on drafting comments. June Mooney and Karen Tangeman noted that the Lab Committee would take the lead on this effort and would check in with the Government Affairs committee on any comments. They will set up a meeting in the next couple weeks and get a rough draft of any comments to the entire Executive Committee. Paul Rodriguez will follow up with Bill Taylor on this matter.

Andre Brousseau reported that he spoke with Jeff McNelly regarding a letter of thanks to Patrick Flood for support of the bond. David Anderson will draft a public letter of thanks.

Laboratory: Karen Tangeman reported on the public meeting that was held on June 18th. From the feeling she got at end of meeting, it is her feeling that the matter will be sent back for a couple stakeholder meetings. Discussion took place on what took place at the meeting. Most of those present at the hearing wanted more input and at this time, will see where it goes.
Karen noted that she has not heard any information regarding the guidance document for the BOD/TSS testing. Discussion took place regarding same. The Lab Committee will also include this matter in their meeting regarding the nutrient matter, and that it may be a good idea to include Phyllis Rand in these discussions.

**Membership:** Chris Higgins reported he’ll wait until he reports on the status of the goals of the Association.

**Personnel Advancement:** Gregory Kidd was absent. Travis Peaslee reported that nearly all sessions for the fall convention have been confirmed.

**Convention:** Travis Peaslee reported that he met with MMA and the vendor packet is ready to be sent out. The sessions are good to go, but just waiting on confirmation from a few speakers. Once the sessions are finalized, he’ll put a call out for moderators. Travis further reported that for the 2010 fall convention, he is awaiting proposals from Spruce Point, Point Lookout in Northport, and the Samoset.

**Public Relations:** Ryan Wadsworth reported that the Clean Water Week poster presentation with the Governor took place on June 4th. Brad Moore presented Maryann Mazier (sp) the winner of the Stockholm Jr. Water prize poster presentation, with her award at the high school awards night.

**Safety:** Al Jellison reported that he received a phone call from Brent Dickey, who had a representative from the Bureau of Labor Standards come to his plant and was cited on plunger pumps. They were also cited on shafts on vertical pumps.

**Communications:** Mac Richardson reported that he will be looking for new articles shortly. The last newsletter went out a couple weeks back, and noted that Jaime Clerk from MMA did a wonderful job.

**Collection Systems:** Doug Howard reported that the May meeting was postponed, but a meeting will be held next Thursday, June 25th. He has a few people interested in moderating at the fall convention and he’ll get those names to Travis. Charles Perry award will not be given at the fall convention, so that will be pushed to the spring. Mac Richardson will put something regarding nominations for Charles Perry Award in the next newsletter.

**Residuals Management:** Jeff McBurnie absent.

**Operations Challenge:** Alex Buechner absent. Tom Wiley read a report he sent stating that Maine took three second place and two third place finishes in events at the NEWEA Spring Conference and will be competing at the national event at WEFTEC in Orlando to take place in October.

**Pretreatment:** Mike Micucci – absent.

**Awards:** Mary Waring reported that she’ll be sending out requests for the Gagne award next month and has a meeting set for July. Mary noted that DEP certificates of achievement will be
awarded at the Thursday luncheon at the fall convention and Brian Kavanah will get the names of the recipients to Mary.

Tom Wiley noted that if there were burning issues in August, he’ll set up a conference call meeting, but the July meeting is pushed to the 31st, so it’ll be on a case by case basis.

**JETCC Representative:** Darold Wooley thanked Lenny for his many years of service to JETCC. Darold reported that JETCC is offering a new management trainee program that will run twelve months, one day per month. DEP said they’ll provide training credits, two cycles toward certification. Darold discussed cost of the program, and how JETCC wants to make it manageable. Because of this, JETCC asked MWWCA for a donation to this program in the amount of $2,500. He noted that MWWCA could be the primary sponsor, possibly provide a press release that MWWCA supported the program. Darold distributed an outline of the program.

Lengthy discussion took place on the proposed program, and the Executive Committee’s concerns about the money not being budgeted in this current fiscal year.

Brad Moore made a motion to comply with JETCC request to support program to the level of $2500 this year to support the newly-formed JETCC Operator Candidate School and to discuss further contributions annually. Chuck Applebee seconded the motion. 10 in favor, 4 not in favor. Motion carries.

Further discussion took place on the way in which the donation will be distributed. Darold Wooley and Leeann Hansen thanked the Executive Committee for their support.

**WEB Developer:** Steve Lane absent.

**MMA Representative:** Nancy Sargent – no report.

**1st Vice President Report:** André Brousseau no report.

**2nd Vice President Report:** Paul Rodriguez reported that the Government Affairs Committee will conduct a conference call in a couple weeks to discuss action items or strategies as a follow-up on the Washington, DC trip. He noted that it is important to be sure energies are focused in the correct direction, and that Brad Moore and Mike Grove should also be included in the conference call. The general topic of discussion will be reauthorization of the Clean Water Act. Tom Wiley asked if they would also include Howard Carter, incoming NEWEA president, in these discussions.

**Immediate Past President Report:** Chuck Applebee had no report.

**New Business:**

**Upcoming Board Meeting Dates/Times:** Tom Wiley proposed the following dates for meetings as the board room cannot be used starting in July. Move forward and accept the dates, but noted that July, October and November are at 9:30 to allow for travel time. It was the overall consensus of the Board that the dates, places, and times are acceptable.
Lenny Blanchette reported MEWARN steering committee obtained some grant funding to set up a steering committee. The Steering Committee has three positions open for representation and would like to have a WasteWater representative on that committee. Lenny explained what the steering committee has accomplished thus far and left a book of material for the Executive Committee to review. MEWARN is looking to have a part-time paid circuit rider position, said circuit rider although working for MEWARN, would report to Maine Rural Water Association.

Discussion took place regarding concerns with this position and contributing for same.

Al Jellison made a motion to donate $500 to the ME WARN Program, as requested. Brad Moore seconded the motion. 2 in favor, 10 not in favor. Motion failed.

Status reports on Goals:

Mac Richard commented on the Annual State of Maine Water Environment Letter. Mac will get out something using some info from the DEP report, and then he’ll add to it.

Membership Survey: Chris Higgins reported that he is compiling a survey that has about 15 questions and will take about 15 minutes. He’ll bring it to the July meeting for the Executive Committee’s review.

Tom Wiley noted that rooms will be available the night before the July meeting at Spruce Point for those who are interested.

Effectively Utilize Committees – Develop Plan: Tom Wiley reported that work is being done on the admin guide and hope to get it out in 2009.

Suggest Local Utilities Host Open House: Andre noted that he’s drafting something basic suggesting that each treatment plan have an open house, either one or two per year, and it would be a kind of a how-to session, perhaps one day out of the year, everybody does it, but not sure it’s feasible. Clean Water Week would be a good time. Mac noted NEBRA has been interested in doing facility open houses and tours. Mac thinks it’s important to say to people that if you have an open house, just because turnout may be low, the word is still getting out there that the facility is there and here is what they do.

Identify One Organization (environmental group): David Anderson reported that they have the clammers, so to build on some of those groups who have written letters of support on specific LDs, and try to work with them again, as it gets closer to a bond issue. Mac noted that possibly reach out to one of these groups and issue thanks, send conference information, and possibly offer a discount on conference registration.

Joint Conference: Travis Peaslee reported that he met with Water Utilities again and discussed a joint conference in the spring. They traditionally hold their conference in February and MWWCA in April, so his thought was maybe somewhere in the middle. However, after that meeting, Water Utilities signed a contract for their show in February. If went along with their February date, sessions in a.m., then joint lunch (no awards), sessions in afternoon, trade show. Travis felt it would be okay to go along for a day of training in February, and then move mid to late April in Bangor with one day of training.
If the decision is to move forward, MWWCA would like to see it more centrally located and get a few more concessions from MWUA. Travis can find out when they’re going to meet again and will move forward on a possible one-day training at the February conference.

Leeann Hansen reported that she wanted to thank the board for all its support and for the North Country convention. Having the conference in the spring was very successful. Leeann distributed a list of JETCC trainings that will happen over the next year.

**Adjournment:** Al Jellison made a motion to adjourn. Andre Brousseau seconded the motion. All approved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.