

**MEWEA Executive Board Meeting
Friday, May 16, 2014
Maine Municipal Association
Augusta, Maine**

MINUTES

Attendance: Travis Peaslee, Peter Goodwin, Dan Welch, Jeff McBurnie, Mac Richardson, June Mooney, Scott Firmin, Tom Connolly, André Brousseau, Mike Stein, Mike Hanson, Mary Waring and Joan Kiszely.

Absent: Matt Bodwell, Aubrey Strause, Al Jellison, Matt Timberlake, Steve Lane, Alex Buechner, Brian Kavanah, Paula Drouin, Dan Bicknell.

Guest: Brian Ahlquist, Mechanic Falls Sanitary District.

Call to Order: Vice President Tom Connolly called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Mac Richardson, all approved the minutes of March 21, 2014 with minor changes.

Treasurer's Report: Al Jellison was absent. Joan Kiszely reported in Al Jellison's absence on the February 2014 financial reports, indicating that everything was in order. There was a brief question and answer period. Motion made Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Travis Peaslee, all approved the February 2014 financial report.

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

I have no big issues to report other than we will wrap up our conversations on phosphorus and CSO related bypass issues once we have MEWEA comments. In regards to ambient sampling for background phosphorus, we have a much simplified document that I will provide to MEWEA as a draft for review, after you submit your initial comments. We recently had a conversation with EPA on the bypass issue that moved the issue in a positive direction.

There was a brief discussion on the CSO related bypass and phosphorus issues.

It was noted that Aubrey Strause was taking the lead collecting and developing comments that will be submitted to the DEP. Travis Peaslee offered to assist or take the lead on this.

MEWEA State Director Representative Peter Goodwin reported on the following:

- Group went to Washington D. C. Fly In – Gave a brief update on the topics/issues they addressed with the Senators/Representatives.
- Spring Meeting Coming Up: André Brousseau & Scott Firmin have put together a session on Interstate Operators Exchange. Also Aubrey Strause put together a Panel Discussion on Ocean Acidification. This meeting is being held at the Samoset Resort June 1-4, 2014.
- Nominations for Operator of the Year & Peloquin Award are due by June 1st, 2014. Peter Goodwin read the award descriptions and the list past recipients. He indicated that Steve Sloan and Travis Peaslee were nominated for the Peloquin Award. He indicated that Jane Carroll (pending) & Tim Haskell were nominated for the Operator Award.

APPROVED

Old Business:

MEWEA Comments to USEPA: Aubrey Strause is collating this. We should have word on this soon.

2014 Strategic Plan Follow-Up:

- **Review “Interested in Serving on Committees List/Committee Staffing: Review/Assessment:** Tom Connolly indicated that the board needs to look at who wants to serve on committees, and determine whether or not we have enough committee members. He reported that Al Jellison is assisting with coordinating sessions for the upcoming Fall Convention. Tom Connolly indicated that there is a lot of talent on the board and requesting them to assist with the sessions.
- **New Operator Engagement Training:** Tom Connolly indicated he and Scott Firmin have an appointment on June 5 at SMCC in Portland to discuss future training. He also noted he has been in contact with EMCC. He will also be going to Falls River – Bristol Community College.

New Business:

Government Affairs Committee Representative: John Melrose submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

138	An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Issuance of Bonds That Have Been Ratified by the Citizens of the State	Keschl	AFA	1/8/14 @ 1:00	1/23/14 @ 3:00	ONTP	DEAD	
904	An Act To Clarify When Bonds May Be Issued	Carey	AFA	1/8/14 @ 1:00	1/24/14 @ 1:00	Maj: OTPA Min: ONTP	DEAD	
965	An Act To Improve Maine's Underground Facility Damage Prevention Program	Beaulieu	EUT	1/29/14 @ 10:00	3/28/14 @ 1:30	ONTP	DEAD	
1010	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Ensure Clean Water	Chipman	AFA	Held in 2013	4/11/14 @ 2:00	ONTP	DEAD	
1455	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Ensure Clean Water and Safe Communities	Goodall	AFA	Held in 2013	4/11/14 @ 2:00	OTPA	Passed to be Enacted	PL 589
1483	An Act To Implement the Solid Waste Management Hierarchy	Cain	ENR	1/9/14 @ 1:00	1/29/14 @ 1:00	Maj: OTPA Min: ONTP	Passed to be Enacted	PL 458
1492	An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Strengthen Maine's Economy and Communities	Katz	AFA	Held in 2013	4/11/14 @ 2:00	ONTP	DEAD	
1532	An Act To Provide Model Language for Standard Sewer District Charters	Cleveland	EUT	1/13/14 @ 10:00	1/21/14 @ 1:00	OTPA	Passed to be Enacted	PL 555
1602	Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Study the Effects of Ocean Acidification and Its Potential Effects on Commercial Shellfish Harvested and Grown along the Maine Coast	Devin	MAR	1/13/14 @ 10:00	3/3/14 @ 10:00	OTPA	Finally Passed	Resolve, Ch 110
1647	An Act To Make Changes to the So-called Dig Safe Law	Cleveland	EUT	2/18/14 @ 1:00	3/7/14 @ 10:00	OTPA	Passed to be Enacted	PL 557

APPROVED

Government Affairs Committee Representative: John Melrose submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

1807	An Act To Restore Funding in the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund through Alternative Sources	Fredette	AFA	3/12/14 @ 2:00	3/14/14 @ 2:00	OTPA	Passed to be Enacted	PL 487
1809	An Act Concerning Meetings of Public Bodies Using Communications Technology	Priest	JUD	3/20/14 @ 1:00	3/25/14 @ 2:30	Maj: OTPA Min: ONTP	Passed to be Enacted	Vetoed by Gov
1858	An Act To Achieve the Savings Required under Part F of the Biennial Budget and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law for Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2014 and June 30, 2015"			N/A	N/A	OTP	Passed to be Enacted	PL 595

Laboratory Committee Representative: June Mooney submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

**MeWEA Laboratory Committee Report
May 16, 2014**

I have contacted the Laboratory Committee about presentations at the Fall Conference. The responses were encouraging. One member is going to try to put together a presentation on lab statistics & test acceptability/reporting and would like to have a person from DEP present their side of the issue. Other suggestions are related to wastewater math, both for beginners and advanced students, testing and using ORP, testing with and using ORP data, and the DEP's TSS/BOD compliance directive.

Thank-you,
June Mooney
Water Quality Specialist
Greater Augusta Utility District
jmooney@augustawater.org
Laboratory Committee Chairperson

Membership Committee Representative: Daniel Bicknell was absent.

Tom Connolly reported that Steve Broadbent from Weston & Sampson, also a long time MeWEA participant, has agreed to assist with recruiting new members and to provide interviews/articles/updates on long term members of the WW workforce for the newsletter.

Pretreatment Committee Representative: Dan Welch submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:



May 16, 2014

- The Q2 committee meeting is scheduled for June 5th in Bangor. This will include a presentation by the Bangor International Airport highlighting their de-icing operations. If you are interested in attending please notify Dan Welch by June 2nd.
- Vivian shared the results from the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG) drug take back program. The report is included in the May correspondence file. Should we consider a more formal participation in these events in the future? Will require outreach to the DEA.
- A request for Fall Convention training topics was emailed to the committee. Two potential topics were discussed.
 - o Developing & Sustaining a Successful Drug Take Back Program.
 - Vivian has sent a request (5/9/14) to AVCOG for a presenter. Scott Gagnon of Central Maine Community Health Corporation responded saying he could present on this topic based on L/A's success.
 - o Industrial Waste Surveys
 - Noted by Jim Crowley as a State-wide topic that could use some attention from municipalities.
 - Jim and I discussed it and we both feel that it is probably not training that is needed. It is a straight forward requirement that the majority of POTW's have a good handle on.
- I spoke to a couple environmental professionals at a training event this Spring and one of them asked about our group (MeWEA). I mentioned the Industrial Discharger Award and the Pretreatment Award and it seemed like I was explaining the same award. We will discuss this at the upcoming pretreatment meeting the possibility of combining the two awards.

Dan Welch – Pretreatment Committee Chair

2014 Meeting Dates and Locations

3/6/14 - Poland Spring—6/5/14 - Bangor WPCF—9/11/14 Portland Industrial Site—12/4/14 GAUD

Personnel Advancement Committee Representative: Mike Stein submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

**Personnel Advancement Committee Report
Submitted by Mike Stein
May 16, 2014**

Fall Convention

The Personnel Advancement Committee membership will be scheduling a meeting to begin planning the technical sessions for the Fall Convention.

Attached is the list of Conference Session Topics as of May 14, 2014. This will provide a good starting point for each committee to begin planning their session(s).

The PAC is to have the session topics finalized with speakers to MMA by June 20, 2014.

**Maine Water Environment Association (MEWEA)
Conference Session Topics - May 14, 2014**

Presenter	Company / Affiliation	Topic
Jeff Murray	Control Point	On the Job Apps for iPhones, iPads, etc
John Emerson	City of Portland	Work / Life Balance
		Writing Workshop
Nate Nichols	EJ Prescott	CCTV w/Remote Operated Vehicle
Amy Pollock	Hach	Stormwater Monitoring Equipment
Art Astaria	RCAP Solutions	CMOM & Asset Management; Importance of Maintaining Your Infrastructure; Maine WARN Disaster Planning
		Public Speaking
Nicole Clegg	City of Portland	How to Deal w/Media in Emergencies, Public Relations, and Notices
Dick Darling & Sterling Pierce	Maine DEP	Laboratory Method Update Rule (This topic is beyond the Maine DEP Update)
	ADS	Collection System Flow Monitoring Program
		Air Permitting Diesel Generator Emissions
	Department of Labor	MSDS Name Change
Al Godfrey	TMSI	Easement Acquisitions
Nutrient Panel Discussion		Great Bay Initiative and How it effects Maine Communities

Personnel Advancement Committee Representative: Mike Stein submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

**Maine Water Environment Association (MEWEA)
Conference Session Topics - May 14, 2014**

Presenter	Company / Affiliation	Topic
Matt Bodwell	Hydro International	Value of GIS and Data Collection
		Integrated Planning
Brad Roland	City of Portland	Engineers Without Borders
NHWPCA		Hot Topics within New Hampshire Wastewater
Bryanna Denis	Wright-Pierce	Examination of Force Main Failure and Severe Sewer Settlement, Plymouth, NH
Fred Dillon and Zach Henderson	City of South Portland and Woodard & Curran	Overlap Between WW and SW Operations. Shared interests.
Bob Bowker	Bowker Associates	Odor Control
Owens McCullough	Sebago Technics	Impaired waters/ stream separation
Bob Severance	Woodard & Curran	At Risk Construction Management
Bruce Grantham	LOTIC	Toxicity in water/wastewater
Bill Luksha	Woodard & Curran	Maximizing the assets you own
Bruce Hubbard	ETTI	Horizontal directional drill
Jim Lord	Dirigo Engineering	XXXX
		Environmental ethics
		Pollution Prevention
		Tier IV/ Diesel Engine Emissions
		Public works interest session
		Fats, oil, and grease
		Design/build projects
		Upgrading pump stations
		Interlocal Agreements- does your Interlocal Agreement protect you?
		Value of construction inspection services
		New Technology: blowers, pumps, dewatering equipment
		Biosolids management
		How to lead a discussion on infrastructure
		Vibration analysis
		Automated dewatering for power savings and balance loading/ choosing the right dewatering equipment
		How to become "management"

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Personnel Advancement Committee Representative: Mike Stein submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

**Maine Water Environment Association (MEWEA)
Conference Session Topics - May 14, 2014**

Presenter	Company / Affiliation	Topic
		Permitting your horizontal construction
		Leveraging USDA Rural Development and SRF money for your project
		Drivers for regionalizing wastewater treatment in Maine
		Customer service
		Public relations (ewer user rates and public interaction)
		Capital planning and reinvestment
		Chemical dosage for sludge optimization
		Non-Stirring BOD technology
		Private funding sources
Ned Beecher	North East Biosolids and Residuals Association	Biosolids Topic
		Organic and Putrescible Wastes
Phyllis Rand	Greater Augusta Utility District	Basic Wastewater Lab Math
		Math Review for Operator Exam
		Why use PACP and MACP Condition and O&M Ratings for your Sewers and Manholes? (Pipeline and Manhole Assessment & Certification Program)
Phyllis Rand	Greater Augusta Utility District	Case Study: Troubleshooting Carbonaceous BOD5 High Dissolved Oxygen Readings at the Greater Augusta Utility District
Erik Osborn	Woodard & Curran	Case Study: Pilot Testing for Chemical Phosphorus Removal; A Small Community meeting strict P limits
Erik Osborn	Woodard & Curran	Flow Data Analysis for Proper Sizing of Pumps
		Effluent Water as the Source for Geothermal Climate Control

Convention Committee Representative: André Brousseau reported on the following:

- Spring Conference: André Brousseau reported that there were 80 in attendance. The anticipated Revenue for the conference is \$2,000.
- Ski Day: André Brousseau reported he will be meeting with Melissa Carver to get the logos from the Sponsors from Ski Day posted to the MEWEA Website.
- André Brousseau has confirmed with Mr. & Mrs. Fish to do their presentation on Friday, September 19th. Some teachers have already confirmed and will be bringing their students/classes.

APPROVED

Public Relation Committee: Matt Timberlake submitted the following written **COMMITTEE REPORT:**

All,

In discussions with Governor LePage's Office I am detailing the tentative changes to the schedule for the Maine Clean Water Week Poster Contest Presentation. This year the Maine Wastewater Control Association (MWWCA) has changed its name to the Maine Water Environment Association (MEWEA) to avoid any confusion as our original advertisement in early 2014 was from MWWCA.

The winners were chosen recently at the Maine Water Environment Association Spring Conference, and out of over 550 entries from throughout Maine, the winners are as follows (we have not yet released the winners to the public and plan to do so in a press release dated June 5th, to coincide with the presentation and Clean Water Week.)

- ✓ Grades 9-12 - Ashley Carver from Messalonskee High School, Oakland
- ✓ Grades 7-8 - Malina Voter from Mollyockett Middle School, Fryeburg
- ✓ Grades 4-6 - Luke Knowles Massabesic Middle School, East Waterboro
- ✓ Grades 1-3 - Caris Welsh St. Brigid School, Portland

Maine Clean Water Week Poster Contest presentation with Governor Paul LePage.

When: Thursday June 5th, 2014

Time: 8:30am to approximately 10:30am

Where: State House Augusta – Hall of Flags / Governors Cabinet Room

Who: Winning students (4 total) ranging from grade 1 to 12 and their families, Governor Paul LePage, ME DEP Commissioner Patricia Aho, MEWEA President and Executive Committee, Invited delegates and press.

Background - In 1983 the Maine Legislature made provisions to designate the first full week of June as Maine Clean Water Week. Maine Clean Water Week was created to increase the public's awareness of the improvements made in the quality of Maine's waterways. One of the primary reasons our waterways have so greatly improved is due to the hard work of Maine's collection system and wastewater treatment plant personnel.

The Maine Water Environment Association (MEWEA) is a nonprofit organization whose goals include: promoting education and communication within the wastewater treatment industry and to the general public; supporting a balanced view of environmental policies; and enhancing the image of wastewater personnel.

In recognition of Maine Clean Water Week, June 1st-7th, 2014, the Maine Water Environment Association (MEWEA) again sponsored a poster competition for Maine students. The theme of the competition was "WHY WATER'S WORTH IT TO ME!"

8:30am – 10:30am

1. Arrival and meet and greet with students, families, and MEWEA delegates
2. Announcement of winning students and presentation of posters – Matt Timberlake
 - a. Grade 1-3 winner
 - b. Grade 4-6 winner
 - c. Grade 7-8 winner
 - d. Grade 9-12 winner
3. Remarks from Governor Paul LePage (approximately 9:00am)
4. Remarks from ME DEP Commissioner Patricia Aho
5. Photos with students as able with Governor and delegates / Availability for press

APPROVED

Public Relation Committee: Matt Timberlake submitted the following written **COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Internal

- A. Setup and confirm with State House Clerk House of flags reservation and setup
- B. One week before – final review of schedule and confirm attendees
- C. One week before – initial press release to media outlets
- D. 8:00 a.m. - MWWCA and students arrive and prepare
- E. Sign photo use waiver
- F. 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. - Meet and greet with students and Maine Water Environment Association members
- G. 9:00 a.m. - Prepare for Governors address
- H. 9:00 - 9:45 a.m. - Remarks from Matt Timberlake, Patricia Aho, and Governor Paul LePage
- I. Photos at Governors discretion
- J. 10:00-10:30 a.m. - Photos outside statehouse with students
- K. Press release with photos and description of event

Contacts

Lance Libby
Legislative Policy Coordinator
Office of Governor Paul R. LePage
207-287-3533, Direct
207-287-1034, Fax
Lance.Libby@Maine.Gov

Jessamine D. Logan
Director of Communications
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
W: (207) 287-5842
C: (207) 592-2518

Aubrey L. Strause, P.E.
Maine Water Environment Association 2014 President
Verdant Water, PLLC (www.verdantwater.com)

Matt Timberlake
Maine Water Environment Association 2014 Public Relations Chair
521 Federal Road
Livermore, Maine USA 04253
Office (207) 897-3348
Cell (207) 754-4282
www.tedberrycompany.com

Jessica Woodcock
Lost in Reverie Photography (MEWEA photographer)

Matt Timberlake

Vice President

Ted Berry Company Inc
521 Federal Road
Livermore, Maine USA 04253
Office (207) 897-3348
Cell (207) 754-4282
www.tedberrycompany.com

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Communications Committee Representative: Mac Richardson reported the newsletter is at the printer and will be going out. He also reported that he will forward Joan Kiszely & Melissa Carver a distribution list to send to interested parties that are associated with our group but not members such as NEWEA President, JETCC, New Hampshire Water Pollution Control Association, NEBRA, etc. He indicated he talked with Steve Broadbent and that he has agreed to collect information on the retired members to include in the newsletter.

Collection Committee Representative: Matt Bodwell was absent.

Residuals Management Committee Representative: Jeff McBurnie reported that he will give a few topics to Mike Stein for suggested Fall Convention session.

Operator Challenge Committee Representative: Alex Buechner was absent.

Industrial Committee Representative: Dan Welch had no report.

Young Professionals Representative: Paula Drouin was absent. Mac Richardson indicated that MEWEA had a team and table at the Urban 5K run off in Portland.

Awards Committee: Mary Waring reported that the new medallions are in and she will pick them up.

JETCC Committee Representative: Leeann Hanson submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:



**JETCC Report
Maine Water Environment Association
May 16, 2014**

- **JETCC's Spring training schedule concluded last week with:**
 - 18 Classes for water and WW Operators reached 444 participants.
 - 9 Additional classes designed for contactors seeking certification in Erosion Control through DEP's Non-Point Source Training Center had 307 participants.
- **Other notables**
 - The Wastewater Exam took place on May 14. We expect results by end of June
 - We are already working on the Fall calendar
 - JETCC's Planning meeting is on Wednesday, June 4 in Fairfield. If you did not receive notice and wish to participate, please contact Leeann or Spring at JETCC.
 - Tell us anytime what you want for training through our on-line survey www.jetcc.org
 - We will share the information garnered with MeWEA
 - Leeann will work with MeWEA about arranging, either reserved lunch tables or something during breakfast, for current & past MCS students at Fall Convention. Who should be primary contact?
- **We want to schedule a new Management Candidate School beginning in October!**

**CALL JETCC if YOU
have anyone interested in
Management Candidate School!**

Annual continuance of this program is based on operator interest it is not a guarantee so let us know if you think it's for you!

Management Candidate School is sponsored by:
Maine Wastewater Control Association
Maine Water Utilities Association
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Call Leeann for details!
(207) 253-8020 www.jetcc.org

Detailed descriptions of all courses on JETCC's website www.jetcc.org

- **The next available Wastewater Operator Exam is Wednesday, November 19, 2014. Applications are due to JETCC by Friday, September 26.**

WEB Developer: Steve Lane absent. No activity on the website at this time.

MMA Rep: Joan Kiszely had no report.

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Vice President Tom Connolly Reported on the following:

- Washington Fly In
- Trip to Fall River
- Strategic Planning Session
- The Governors & DEP Awards for Environmental Excellence – Given to MEWEA for the “Save Your Pipes: Don’t Flush Baby Wipes” Pilot Public Education campaign.

2nd Vice President Scott Firmin submitted the following written 2nd VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Attended SMCC Career Fair on behalf of MEWEA.

Arranged for a meeting with SMCC, to discuss the workforce challenge faced by Maine in the coming years, due to pending retirements. We hope to discuss opportunities at SMCC for training. Tom Connolly will attend this meeting.

Scott Firman thanked MEWEA Executive Board for the donation of \$1,000 towards his trip to Washington D. C. for the Wipes Issue.

Past President Travis Peaslee submitted the following written PAST PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

Past President Report May 2014

Website: No new activity to report. MMA will begin working on this project in early June so I will have more to report once things are underway.

Admin Guide: Mary, Al, Joan and I met to review and make changes to the admin guide in early April. Additional changes were made based on discussions at our strategic planning session. All proposed changes have been made by MMA and the guide will be sent this week to the EC as a PDF and hopefully voted on at this meeting. The majority of changes were minor such as adding the new association name, table of content modification, 2014 strategic planning documents inclusion, award section update, and deleting obsolete information. Some of the more substantive changes were: Changing the website developer to a new social media coordinator position; social media policy changes; and speaker registration policy changes. I am happy to elaborate on any of these changes during the meeting that the board would like to discuss. I would like to thank Al, Mary and Joan for taking the time to meet and address these changes as their knowledge and wisdom made the process seamless. They are truly tremendous assets to this association and would encourage anybody wanting to understand our procedures, or the history of this association, to spend some time with these individuals.

Name Change: The name change became official at the Spring Conference, so want to thank everybody for their efforts in making this happen. Aubrey has sent out new documents for us to start using, the website now reflects the change, and word has been spreading about the new name. There has been one aspect that I would like to discuss further at this month’s meeting and that is the association acronym. Currently the spelling is MeWEA with the little “E”. Association members along with MMA, have noted the inconvenience associated with the different font size of the letter “E”. Because of this most people simply spell it MEWEA...no little E. In addition, some folks are spelling it MeWEA, as was done on our recently purchased booth banner. The questions for the board are: should we select a more convenient spelling of our association acronym (MEWEA or MeWEA)? Leave it alone and let people spell it however they want? Purchase a new banner or leave it as is?

Submitted by: Travis Peaslee

APPROVED

Name Change: It was the consensus of the board that however anyone wants to proceed on how they type the acronym MEWEA is fine as long as the logo maintains the spelling MEWEA. If someone wants to capitalize it all that is fine, or if someone wants to use the lower case “e”that is fine as well.

Other New Business:

Vote on new Website and Social Media Coordinator Position: Travis Peaslee indicated the Website and Social Media Coordinator position will fall under the Communications Committee.

Adjournment: Motion made by Mac Richardson, seconded by Jeff McBurnie, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m.