

**Maine Wastewater Control Association
Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, November 18, 2005
9:00 am
Maine Municipal Association, Augusta, ME**

Present: Vivian Matkivich, Brian Kavanah, Janet Abrahamson, Andy Rudzinski, Ron Letarte, Tom Wiley, Howard Carter, Tony Gordon, Chuck Applebee, Mary Waring, Jeff Pinnette, Mike Grove, Joan Kiszely, Margaret Langhill

1. Call to Order: President Vivian Matkivich called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
2. Approval of Minutes-October 21, 2005: Howard Carter made a motion to approve the Executive Committee meeting minutes of October 21, 2005, as amended, seconded by Ron Letarte. All approved.
3. Treasurer's Report-Financial Reports September 2005: Dan Bisson was absent, but submitted a written report. He found that the September 2005 Financial Reports are in order and recommended that they be accepted. Ron Letarte made a motion to accept the September 2005 Financial Reports as presented, seconded by Andy Rudzinski. All approved.
4. DEP Representative Report: Brian Kavanah reported that a general letter to permittees on the new Toxics Rule has gone out, and a more specific letter will come out by the end of the year. He added that, as recommended by MWWCA and approved by the Commissioner, all DEP permit writers and inspectors took a Grade 3 Operators Exam and all passed. The exam was created and administered by Dick Darling. Brian added that Andy Fiske has conducted interviews for Bill Brown's position, and will be making a decision in the next few weeks. Lastly, the DEP is continuing to work with JETCC to have them administer the operator certification process and is looking for it to be up and running by March 2006.
5. NEWEA State Director's Report: Howard Carter led discussion on a request from NEWEA to administer the NEWEA 75th Anniversary scholarship in Maine. If MWWCA is interested, we must create an application form and appoint a selection committee. Janet Abrahamson and the Personnel Advancement Committee will review the current MWWCA scholarship application and will see if committee can administer the NEWEA 75th Anniversary Scholarship in Maine. Howard noted that WEF and NEWEA are concerned about the decline in membership. WEF is proposing to change the levels of membership, including having separate memberships available for WEF or membership associations like NEWEA. The next NEWEA Spring Conference will be in Mystic, CT and will be a joint conference with New York Water Environment Association (NYWEA). Howard added that NY targets guidance counselors for attracting new people to the wastewater treatment profession, and that more emphasis is on attracting technical college students. NEWEA State Directors are going to ask the affiliated Operator Associations, including MWWCA, to fund the Operators Luncheon on Tuesday at the annual conference. The NEWEA Government Affairs Committees is planning an invitational lunch for representatives from federal, state and municipal governments to talk about various issues, like funding options. State Directors will be sending the invitations, and they will be looking for suggestions.
6. President's Report-Correspondence File: Vivian Matkivich passed around the correspondence file and gave a brief overview of contents.

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- a. WEFTEC Senator Snowe, Ops Challenge: Vivian Matkivich reported on the Washington trip and that she met with, and had a nice discussion, with Senator Snowe. Vivian also attended the award ceremony for Senator Snowe and her aide accepted the award on her behalf. She has written an article for the newsletter.
- b. SRF Funds Discussion: Vivian has sent out emails to all legislative delegates about the SRF funding rule –Senator Michaud has already responded that he would not be supporting.

7. Budget 2006-Andy Rudzinski & Dan Bisson: Andy Rudzinski reported that Dan has all of the budget submissions to date, and there is nothing yet to report. There is a budget workshop scheduled for next month. Andy wants everyone to start thinking about the 40th Anniversary of MWWCA and while doing budgets, consider anything to be added. Andy proposed that he would like to do something for the Ops Challenge team; they did a great job, possibly some jackets. Mary Waring made a motion to purchase jackets for the 2005 Ops Challenge Team for up to \$500, Tom Wiley seconded. All approved. Suggestions for embroidery included: MWWCA logo, team members' names with the WEF Ops Challenge logo, "New England Champions". Brad Moore will order them. Funds will be allocated from the Ops Challenge expense account.

8. Committee Reports:

- A. Past President: Darold Wooley was absent and did not submit a written report.
- B. Conference Committee: Tom Wiley reported that he and Joan Kiszely attended Maine Destination Day and have received 7 proposals for the 2006 Fall Convention so far. Tom and Joan will be meeting with Andy to discuss the proposals. Tom reviewed the projections for 2005 Fall Convention cost/income overlay. Margaret gave a brief report of the conference finances and projections.
- C. Laboratory Committee: David Anderson reported that he is trying to organize a committee meeting in December. He added that the Maine DEP has not sent out a letter to permittees about BOD holding times yet, but that the Toxics rule is out. There was a general discussion about the EPA's approval of the new E-Coli methods, and the need for extensive QC and a new type of media for plates.
- D. Personnel Advancement Committee: Janet Abrahamson confirmed that the MWWCA Spring Conference would be at Jeff's Catering in Brewer on Friday, April 7, 2006. There was a general discussion about the MWUA/MWWCA meeting in October 2005. There was discussion about getting certificates of attendance to the MWUA participants at the MWWCA Fall Convention. Joan Kiszely will have her staff do this next week. Janet reported that both of the operators who participated in the NEWEA Operator Exchange Program had positive feedback and both thought it was a valuable program.
- E. Collection Systems: Lenny Blanchette was absent and did not submit a written report.
- F. Ops Challenge Coordinator Report: Tony Gordon reported that the Operations Challenge Team came in 1st place for New England in June and 5th place at the National Competition in November. He showed everyone the Final Results from the WEFTEC Challenge. Tony inquired about getting plaques for the team for their first place finish at NEWEA. Vivian will follow up. Tony reported that Al Peloquin just passed away. He also thanked everyone for their support of the Operations Challenge Team this year.
- G. Membership Committee: Chuck Applebee reported that membership is currently at 614, same as in 2004. He mentioned the MWUA/MWWCA meeting discussion about a joint membership category. He would like to compare the two membership lists to see how many members are currently members of both organizations.
- H. Safety Committee: Al Jellison was absent and did not submit a written report.
- I. Public Relations Committee: Brad Moore was absent and did not submit a written report.

- J. Vice President: Andy Rudzinski had nothing to report as Vice President, but noted that he is starting to gear up for 2006 and would like all of the committee members to think about the 40th anniversary as part of their budgets. There was discussion about doing something for the founding members.
 - K. Government Affairs Committee: Mike Grove thanked the committee for approving the contract with Pierce Atwood and had nothing additional to report.
 - L. Pretreatment Committee: Ron LeTarte reported that there will be a meeting of his committee on December 1st and gave a brief overview of the agenda.
 - M. Awards Committee: Mary Waring inquired about the location of the Operations Challenge plaques displayed at MMA. Joan gave them to her to review. Margaret Langhill will re-hang these at MMA. Mary inquired if there were any NEWEA or WEF awards that could be sought for MWWCA's upcoming 40th Anniversary. Howard Carter will look in his files and will report back to Mary. Tom Wiley mentioned that it would be a good idea to publish all of the old and current MWWCA logos, possibly on the MWWCA website.
 - N. Communications Committee: Mac Richardson was absent but submitted a written report.
 - O. Residuals Management Committee: Jeff Pinnette reported that the Residuals Management Committee met on Wednesday at the NEWEA/NEBRA conference. The hot topic was the revisions to DEP Chapter 418. Mary Waring reported that she went to the hearing on the 418's yesterday and gave an overview. The overall result was that the current Appendix A is not going to be changed. Jeff gave an update on the Brunswick land spreading ordinance issue. He reported on Carolyn Snyder's published paper. Jeff mentioned that the Toxics Action Coalition does not view themselves as either an advocacy or educational group, and therefore is not able to work with MWWCA on issues. He added that, as a committee, the Residuals Management Committee is going to focus more on public education about the water quality profession and goals, and less on promoting biosolids distribution in a unilateral way. There will be a joint meeting with the Public Relations Committee in 2006 to finalize the MWWCA application to exhibit at the Common Ground Fair. He added that the goal is to drop back from the residuals issues and focus on education and protecting Maine's waters as the primary mission of MWWCA.
9. Old Business:
- a. Stockholm Jr. Water Prize (mailing): Vivian reported that Brad Moore and Andy Rudzinski have been working with Ruth Hallsworth and the George Mitchell Center in order to do a joint mailing for the Stockholm Jr. Water Prize and the Maine Water Conference student poster competition. WEF would like every state to support a candidate for the prize in 2006.
 - b. Charles Perry Award: Vivian reported that Charles Perry received notification that the funds will be transferred to the Bartol Library in Freeport.
10. New Business:
- a. NEWWN Contract: A motion was made by Mary Waring, seconded by Howard Carter to approve the 2006 NEWWN contract. All approved.
 - b. Plaque for Ops Challenge: There was a brief discussion on re-design of the plaques.
11. Adjourn: Mike Grove made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Tony Gordon. All approved to adjourn the meeting at 11:36 a.m.