

Approved

**MEWEA Executive Board Meeting
Friday, December 18, 2015
MMA
Augusta, Maine**

MINUTES

Attendance: Tom Connolly, Travis Peaslee, Al Jellison, Jeff McBurnie, Mac Richardson, Scott Firmin, June Mooney, Stacy Thompson, Dan Welch, Mike Guethle, Mary Waring, Matt Timberlake, Aubrey Strause, Darold Wooley, Jeff McNelly, Peter Goodwin, Fred Dillon, Brian Kavanah, and Joan Kiszely.

Absent: Paula Drouin, Tim Haskell, Alex Buechner, Dick Bicknell, and Matt Bodwell.

Guest: Jeff McNelly.

Call to Order: President Tom Connolly called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

Introductions:

Correspondence Folder: Tom Connolly listed the multiple documents included in the Correspondence folder.

Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Mac Richardson, seconded by Stacy Thompson, all approved the minutes of November 20, 2015.

Treasurer's Report: Al Jellison reported on the October financial reports, indicating that everything was in order. There was a brief question and answer period. Motion made by Mac Richardson, seconded by Travis Peaslee, all approved the October financial reports.

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

DEP Update for MeWEA Meeting 12/18/15

Submitted by:

Brian Kavanah, Director-Division of Water Quality Management (DWQM)

brian.w.kavanah@maine.gov 287-7700

NPDES Electronic Reporting Rule (eRule) and Retirement of the Electronic Discharge Monitoring Reporting (eDMR) System and Transition to NetDMR

Within the next week, all MEPDES/WDL permittees will receive a letter from the Department regarding the new EPA Electronic Reporting Rule (eRule). Phase I of the eRule will require all NPDES permittees to submit their DMRs electronically by December 21, 2016. Phase II requirements of the eRule, which become effective five years after the effective date of the rule, will require electronic submission of additional data such as pretreatment reports. The Department's letter also discusses the Department's decision to retire the current eDMR system and instead use the EPA Network Discharge Monitoring Report (NetDMR) tool for electronic reporting of DMRs. The new NetDMR tool will: provide better service for the user, be more cost effective for DEP to implement, and provide the easiest mechanism for all permittees to comply with the new eRule.

DEP will begin to transition from eDMR to NetDMR in mid to late 2016. NetDMR trainings will be offered to train all permittees on the use of the NetDMR tool. The upcoming letter from the Department provides additional details on these important issues. The DEP O&M News will be updated monthly with the latest on the switch to the NetDMR tool and implementation of the new eRule. Please check the O&M News for upcoming trainings, and other important information concerning these issues. We will also communicate additional information by direct mail and email as needed.

DEP Approval of Training Contact Hours for Operator License Renewal

Licensed wastewater operators are required to obtain 18 training contact hours (TCH) of Department approved training every two years in order to renew their license. The Department is working to clarify the types of training courses that are approvable to meet this requirement. The Department plans to meet with the major training providers within the state (such as JETCC, MeWEA, MRWA, MWUA, etc.) in the near future to discuss this issue.

Staff Updates

- We have a "new" permit writer in the Augusta office. Cindy Dionne (who formerly worked as a DEP permit writer) took the position vacated by Yvette Meunier in September. Cindy started with us again in November.

Charlene Moore, who manages our eDMR system and internal data base of MEPDES/WDL data, has taken a promotion within the DEP. She will continue to work on data issues for the Bureau of Water Quality but will no longer be the contact person for eDMR issues. We hope to fill this position by the end of February. Until then, if you have any questions continue to call Charlene's former number at 287-9034 and another staff person will address your issue.

NEWEA State Director Representative: Peter Goodwin reported on the following:

- Mac Richardson and Peter Goodwin were on a conference call with Government Affairs Committee.
- The Congressional Briefing is the same week as the MEWEA Spring Conference.
- They would like to bring a Municipal Official with them to the Congressional Briefing.
- NEWEA Annual Conference is January 24 -27, 2016.

Old Business:

2016 Budget: Motion made by Mac Richardson, seconded by Travis Peaslee, all approved the 2016 Budget as presented.

New Business:

Government Affairs Committee Representative: Tim Haskell submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT: See Correspondence Folder for Report

Laboratory Committee Representative: June Mooney has nothing to report at this time.

Membership Committee Representative: Dan Bicknell was absent.

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



MeWEA Pretreatment Committee Report

12/18/2015

Attendance			Location(s)
1 Dan Welch	9	Sterling Pierce	MMA, Augusta
2 Abram Patenaude	10	Phyllis Rand	
3 Isaiah Lary	11	Jon Alspaugh	
4 Rebekah Sirois	12		
5 Vivian Matkivich	13		
6 Ben Pearson	14		
7 Rachel Smith	15		
8 Judy Bruenjes	16		

Report

We spoke about NETDMR with Sterling Pierce. The DEP will be releasing information very soon and the process will be communicated as soon as possible. You can find more information on NETDMR at <https://netdmr.zendesk.com/home>

There was discussion regarding a proposed Industrial WW training class that Judy plans to administer in South Portland. This class will include physical/chemical treatment, plate and frame presses, chemical dosing, and other topics. She plans to hold it in South Portland but is looking for a meeting space.

Discussed the Kennebec Valley Community College request for speakers to a plumbing class on FOG issues. I have reached out to the instructor and am working on getting the right person with the right content lined up.

The committee has set its 2016 meeting dates:

03/04/2016 LAWPCA

06/10/2016 Portland

08/31/2016 Bangor

12/02/2016 MMA Augusta

Submitted By:

Dan Welch

Convention Committee Representative: Stacy Thompson reported on the following:

- She will get together with the Personnel Advancement Committee to work on the upcoming Spring Conference Agenda.

Personnel Advancement: Vacant.

Public Relations Committee Representative: Matt Timberlake submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:



Public Relations Committee Report

December 2015 Prepared by: Matt Timberlake

1. I have ordered one more batch of 2016 Calendars as we have given them all away and I need to hall of Flags, legislative Breakfast, and to send to schools.
2. 2016 Committee Chair – position is currently unfilled and vacant
 - a. Working with Tom Connolly to find a possible Chair
 - b. I would suggest listing position as vacant if a chair does not step forward as opposed to having my name listed just to fill the position on paper
3. 2016 Budget – Carry forward 2015 budget, hope a Chair steps forward
4. 2016 Clean Water Week Poster Contest.
 - a. I will draft 2016 poster publication
 - b. I will plan, manage, and execute the 2016 poster contest until a replacement is found

Matt Timberlake matt@tedberrycompany.com 207-897-3348 office 207-754-4282 cell

Safety Committee Representative: Position – vacant.

Communications Committee Representative: Mac Richardson submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

Report of the Communications Committee for December 2015

Newsletter: The Fall 2015 issue should be out and in everyone's hands by now. The next issue, Winter 2016 deadline for content submittal will be Friday, February 5.

Advertising/Underwriting with Maine Public Radio: I expect to go ahead with underwriting as proposed to us as option B – Expanded PM drive time (3 pm to 8 pm): The spots would air during programs *The World, All things Considered, Maine Things Considered, Marketplace and Fresh Air with Terry Gross*. The spots would begin around January 4, 2016 and finish up around June 17, 2016. The total cost is \$5,040.

I have had a few conversations with facilities and I think that I can get at least half of the cost sponsored. Tentatively I have \$500 contributions from Brunswick WWTF, Saco WRRF, Yarmouth WWTF, and LAWPCA. Thus my proposal is to ask for \$2,500.40 to be taken from existing MEWEA funds – preferably the reserve.

Respectfully submitted,
Mac Richardson

Collections System Committee Representative: Matt Bodwell was absent.

Residuals Management Committee Representative: Jeff McBurnie reported on the following:

- On January 6th, Jeff will attend a work session on two Bills - the Comprehensive Solid Waste Bill and the Odor Bill.

Operator Challenge Committee: Alex Buechner was absent.

Industrial Committee Representative: Dan Welch had no report.

Young Professionals Committee Representative: Mike Guethle submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

YP committee brief report:

- 4 members participated in the salvation army bell ringing last week
- 6 members at our last meeting, discussing future events for 2016
- Next event is January 9, 2016 10 to 12 family & potential member ice skating at Thompson's Point. Bring new members and your families, and please RSVP to me at guethlema@gmail.com.
- next meeting 3/16 1200 LAWPCA
- Mentoring for YPS at spring conference
- April 23 Urban runoff: start hitting the treadmill!

Awards Committee: Mary Waring had no report.

JETCC Committee Representative: Leeann Hanson submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT & Leonard Blanchette reported on it.



Maine Wastewater Control Association Convention JETCC Report for December 18, 2015

JETCC concludes its Fall training schedule on Thursday, December 17 with a Blueprint Reading class in Kennebunkport. This popular class was at capacity.

Spring 2016 Training Schedule is almost ready for publication!

A few more dates and topics are in the works but here's a preview:

- **Physical, Chemical, Industrial Treatment** - So. Portland in February
- **A lab class at IDEXX** with a facility tour will take place in early March
- **Wastewater 101** - Orono in March
- **PVC Valves Connections & Joining** - Bar Harbor & Presque Isle, early April
- **O& M of Wastewater Collection Systems with NEWEA Exam** - Portland in February and in Bangor at the end of April
- **4-Week Basic/Intermediate WW Treatment** in Brunswick, April-May
- In partnership with the MeWEA WWCS Committee we'll feature a class on **"WWCS Cleaning and Jetting"** in Fairfield in May.

Stay tuned for:

"Pump Station Maintenance"...

"Introduction to your Microscope"...

"Nutrient Removal"....

Visit www.jetcc.org for details on all classes

The newest Management Candidate School class began in November with 25 students! Class will participate in the Maine Water Utilities Association Conference in Portland on February 9. Many classes were scheduled with the MCS students in mind.

Operators can check their number of training credits on www.jetcc.org any time. This page is updated at the beginning of each month. **Operator Certification Renewal and Mid-Term Notices** be mailed in January. **The Renewal date for even numbered operators is March 1, 2016.** Please make sure to update any email address changes as they are made.

Please contact Leeann directly if you have any ideas, training needs or would like to assist with hosting or teaching a class.

JETCC
PO Box 487
Scarborough, ME 04070
253-8020
www.jetcc.org

New Media Committee Representative: Paula Drouin was absent.

Stormwater Committee: Fred Dillion reported on the following:

- The committee met a couple of weeks ago. Priorities were set at the meeting:
 - Nutrients
 - Hydrant Flushing
 - Construction Site Stormwater Management
 - Funding

MMA Representative: Joan Kiszely had no report.

President: Tom Connolly had no report.

Update from Matt Timberlake on the meeting with the Governor today:

- Heather Parent from DEP and Jeff McNelly from MWUA were present at the meeting, along with Scott Firmin, Aubrey Strause and Matt Timberlake.
- The meeting went very well and the tone was positive.
- Governor understands the delegation issue and indicated that he will not let our groups down (he “has our back”).
- This meeting presented an opportunity for a good dialogue with Heather Parent.

1st Vice President: Scott Firmin had no report.

2nd Vice President Matt Timberlake submitted the following written **REPORT:**



Second Vice President Report

December 2015 Prepared by: Matt Timberlake

1. I have been working closely with Tom/Scott planning for 2016.
2. One significant goal I would like to work towards is a “small operator” listening session held with a number of our smaller members and see how the association is serving them and what their needs are. This is stemming from feedback received from Darold Wooley and subsequent discussions Scott and I have had about 2016 strategy and planning. I think it is critically important to make sure we are serving ALL our members well.
3. Will assist with 50th Anniversary planning as needed and able, Scott is forming a committee (task force) to lead.
4. I will take on the 2016 Clean Water Poster Contest for 2016 unless someone steps forward, I will not plan to fill the role as PR Chair.
5. I have been active with Government Affairs and supporting the work Tim is leading.
 - a. Have attended joint MEWEA and MWUA GA meetings in person Augusta with Tim Haskell
 - b. Have continued involvement in the MWUA PAC and plan to attend December committee meeting
 - c. Meeting with Governor LePage December 18th
 - d. Hall of Flags Event January 12th
 - e. Legislative Breakfast March 3rd

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Past President: Aubrey Strause had no report.

Other New Business: None.

Adjournment: Motion made by Travis Peaslee, seconded by Jeff McBurnie, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 a.m.