

Approved

MEWEA Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, February 26, 2015
The Senator Inn
Augusta, Maine

MINUTES

Attendance: Jeff McBurnie, Scott Firmin, Tom Connolly, Mary Waring, Aubrey Strause, Al Jellison, Brian Kavanah, Darold Wooley, Dan Bicknell, Matt Bodwell, Matt Timberlake, Dustin Price, Tim Haskell, Paula Drouin, June Mooney, Stacy Thompson, Peter Goodwin, Dan Welch, Andy Rudzinski, Stacy Thompson, and Joan Kiszely.

Absent: Mac Richardson, Travis Peaslee, Alex Buechner, Dan Welch, Mike Stein

Guest: David Anderson, Nick Konstantoulakis, Leeann Hanson,

Call to Order: President Tom Connolly called the meeting to order at 9:21 a.m.

Correspondence Folder: No correspondence folder.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Al Jellison, all approved the minutes of January 16, 2015.

Treasurer's Report: Al Jellison reported on the December financial reports, indicating that everything was in order. There was a brief question and answer period. Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Mary Waring, all approved the December 2014 financial report.

DEP Representative: Brian Kavanah reported the following:

- Indicated the Legislative Breakfast was great.
- EPA decision on Water Quality Standards & Tribal's Territories. Brian indicated there would be a statement coming from DEP in the next two days regarding the resolution of this issue. Water quality standards developed by EPA since 2006 have included a statement that they didn't apply to Tribal lands. The Attorney General's office sued to make EPA decide those issues, and the upcoming statement will describe how they intend to do that.
- Question on sustenance fishing rights of the Tribes and how the water quality criteria are developed? Human health vs. aquatic toxicities. Only a few parameters have human toxicity as limiting factor. EPA is recommending methodology for determining standards, including how to define sustenance fishing.
- Development of ambient background concentrations for Phosphorus is still in progress.
- CSO by-passes - Using Rockland's permit as a template.
- Customer Service Survey was sent out and he thanked everyone for completing the survey.

NEWEA State Director Representative: Peter Goodwin submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

NEWEA -Maine State Director Report-Peter Goodwin-February 2015

The following is a summary of activities since our last meeting.

- I attended the NEWEA Annual Conference on January 25-28, 2014 during Snowmageddon2015 at the Copley Place Marriott in Boston Massachusetts and attended the following meetings:
 - o Executive Committee Meeting where reports from all Senior Management Team Members, State Directors, Council Directors, and individual Committee Chairs were presented.
 - The Annual Planning Session will be in Providence on Monday 3/10 and Tuesday 3/11 at the Westin and focus on Recruitment and Certification initiatives
 - The conference registration was the highest in recent years, but as we all know, the snow and City of Boston shutdown kept many away on Monday and Tuesday
 - NEWEA did kick off the Ambassador Program and held a Committee Fair to attract membership to join NEWEA Committees. Many Committees have virtual meetings to allow for remote collaboration. Consider joining a NEWEA Committee
 - The Water Reuse and Industrial Wastewater Committees will be hosting a joint conference on Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at the University of Hartford, CT. The conference will explore the opportunities for treatment and reuse of domestic and industrial wastewater while providing economic benefits, added water resiliency and regulatory solutions. The conference will include exhibits and a tour of an industrial wastewater treatment and reuse facility.
 - 2015 Spring Meeting will be at Mount Washington June 7-10, 2015.
 - 2016 Spring Meeting being considered again for a joint meeting with NYWEA in CT
 - o Awards Committee Meeting
 - o Affiliated State Association Meeting
 - o NEWEA Government Affairs Committee Meeting
 - o Awards Luncheon where many of our well deserving members were present to receive their Awards
- I am working on final plans for the NEWEA/NACWA/WEF Congressional Breakfast in Washington. I provided flight and hotel information for those attending and others that may attend. Meetings with individual Congressional Delegation are shaping up. We also plan to attend other NACWA, WEF, meetings while there.
- I have been assisting with coordination for the MWWCA/MWUA/NHWPCA Ski Day
- A reminder that Award Nominations for WEF, WEF MA, and NEWEA Awards are pending. WEF awards should be forwarded to Chuck Applebee ASAP and are due for NEWEA ECM 4/1. NEWEA Awards are due by 6/1 but that requires us to have candidates by the May meeting. Please feel free to reach out to me with respect to any candidates. I am available to help prepare nominations that should be completed by April's meeting.

I continue to enjoy working with all of the hard working volunteers in our industry.

Respectfully,
Peter Goodwin

Old Business: None

New Business:

Government Affairs Committee Representative: Tim Haskell submitted the following written
COMMITTEE REPORT:

YORK SEWER DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 1039
YORK BEACH, MAINE 03910

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:
ROBERT HOYT, CHAIRMAN
WALTER KYLLONEN, VICE CHAIRMAN
WAYNE McINTIRE, TREASURER
FREDERICK BOARDMAN, CLERK
CRAIG FREEMAN, TRUSTEE

FAX 207-363-6701
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
21 BAY HAVEN ROAD
207-363-4232
TREATMENT PLANT OPERATIONS
106 MAIN STREET
207-363-5896

FEBRUARY REPORT
Government Affairs Committee Update

Committee Orientations

Aubrey, myself and Rick were present at the ENR orientation and we presented for MeWEA. Seemed to go well. Due to weather issues the EUT orientation was rescheduled several times. Rick and myself were able to make the meeting and presentation went well. They even used a 3 minute clock and were serious about keeping folks on track. The poster calendar was highlighted, by Chair Woodsom, as a great addition especially to get their attention. Covered the PUC presentation to EUT and gas line safety came up during presentation. Committee seems very serious about making changes and so did PUC Commissioner Vannoy. Seemed to be underlying tone that more had to be done on a local level indicating cities and towns needed to step up.

Ocean Acidification

Commission report came out and new legislation is being proposed. This will be major watch item for us even more so now that EPA has indicated to the DEP that they want the water quality standards revised as they pertain to "tribal" waters. Major issue. I have included some articles associated with this in the attachment.

MWUA Legislative Committee Meeting

We reviewed a number of proposed bills and I have included the list with some indications next to them whether we need to act, watch, comment, etc. A good portion of these bills have hearings and work sessions scheduled in the next two weeks.

Legislative Hearings

I have attached a list of legislative hearings coming up in the next two weeks. Many are the same ones listed in the MWUA list of bills we reviewed this month and which is attached. The list of bills is only printed up to 599 right now. Just under 1,000 more to print. We'll need to discuss coverage of hearings at the Board meeting and more importantly what our position will be on some key bills.

Legislative Breakfast

It will be over by the time we have our meeting so we can do a critique then.

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

**Laboratory Committee Report
February 19, 2015**

I am trying to put together a meeting soon for the committee to work on updating the QA/QC Manual that was originally published in 2004.

At the meeting we will also be discussing the Clean Water Act Method Update Rule that EPA is in the process of publishing.

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

Mary Waring gave an update on laboratory certification for salmonella testing. She indicated that DEP recently notified her that there are currently no labs in the State of Maine certified for salmonella testing using Standard Methods. Some facilities were using an EPA method that did not previously require certification, but will in the future.

Membership Committee Representative: Daniel Bicknell indicated he has been making phone calls and emailing treatment plants to introduce himself and promote membership. Steve Broadbent has been getting stories from retirees for articles for the newsletter.

Pretreatment Committee Representative: Dan Welch was absent and did not submit a report.

Personnel Advancement Committee Representative: Aubrey Strause reported the following:

- Travis Peaslee & Aubrey Strause have stepped in to get speakers/sessions ready for the spring conference.
- Keynote Speaker is needed for the luncheon – It was suggested that we get Judy Bruenjes from DEP to talk about Operator Certification
- The committee is still looking for session moderators
- Operator Scholarship applications should be forwarded to Aubrey Strause

Convention Committee Representative: Travis Peaslee submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT & Stacy Thompson reported on the following:

MEWEA Convention Committee - February 2015

MWUA Joint Show - This event was well attended for all 5 sessions and would like to thank all the folks that helped coordinate speakers, moderators, and other logistics with MWUA. I anticipate MWUA wanting to continue with our involvement at this event so welcome any thoughts on how we may improve it.

Ski Day - The flyer for ski day has been sent out and we are currently soliciting sponsors. Our hope is to find 10 sponsors this year to subsidize the cost of the day's activities and we have asked the NHWPCA to assist in these efforts. This is our first event allowing registration and payment for not only the event, but also for sponsorship.

Spring Conference - Planning is in full effect. We are working with the PAC to finalize sessions and hope to have the brochure out by the end of February. This will be our first conference accepting online registration and payment so will need to advertise the opportunity. The business meeting agenda will need to be finalized soon with Tom and all award/re-award recipients should be contacted soon to confirm attendance. The strategic planning event will be held on the day prior to the conference starting at noon in the Hilton Garden Inn. I will unfortunately not be able to attend either event this year but am leaving things in the capable hands of Joan and Stacy. If you have any special request or questions for me regarding this event please let me know soon.

Travis Peaslee

Public Relation Representative: Matt Timberlake submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:



Public Relations Committee Report

February 2015 Prepared by: Matt Timberlake

1. 2015 Clean Water Week Poster Contest. Theme is “**Why clean waters worth it to ME**”, advertisement is sent to Maine schools and I will work from now through spring on promotion. This is my main goal over next 120 days.
 - a. I will send in an early request to the Governor’s office for a date during Clean Water Week.
 - b. Judging will be planned for Thursday April 16th during strategic planning session
2. I have fulfilled a request by GAUD (Phyllis Rand) to supply materials for an open house / tour they had planned February 9th, 2015 at their Augusta WWTP.
3. I have committed to taking the lead on a Mr. and Mrs. Fish program to go in conjunction with the MEWEA Spring Conference as the one that was originally scheduled for NEWEA Annual Conference was canceled due to weather. Peter Goodwin is assisting me and we have had discussions with Mr. Fish and have found a sponsor school.
 - a. Plan (2) one hour shows, Both shows would share with the students how we clean and recycle our water and how that water is emptied into the Androscoggin River which flows down to the sea enabling clean water to enter the ocean.
 - i. K-3 “Mystery of the clam”
 - ii. 4-6 “Plankton and the food chain”
 - b. Presentations tentatively scheduled for Friday April 17th, 2015
 - c. Presentations tentatively scheduled for Fairview Elementary School Auburn
4. I am working well with the President Tom Connolly and Vice President Scott Firmin and am comfortable with duties of both Second Vice and PR Chair, getting good support from Aubrey, Peter, Paula, Travis, Tim, and others which is helpful.

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

Safety Committee Report: Andy Rudzinsky reported that Tier 2 Chemical Reporting should be done in June. Also OSHA 300 logs should be posted during February, March & April.

Communication Committee Representative: Mac Richardson was absent. The newsletter will be coming out in the next couple of days.

Collections Systems Committee Representative: Matt Bodwell had nothing to report.

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

- LD 394 - regarding odor regulations. This bill proposes to cut the standards on the 5-point butanol scale in half. Our position is that the 5 point side is already restrictive compared to the 9- point scale in common use, and that cutting the standards in half would amount to a zero tolerance standard for odor.
- EPA Biosolids Reporting has been consolidated in Region 8 in Kansas.
- Mining Regulations – Public hearings were held this week. DEP heard testimony on ground water quality & reclamation techniques.

Operator Challenge Committee Representative: Alex Buechner was absent. Stacy Thompson reported she went to NEWEA for the Awards section of the program. She reported she is not going to be on the Ops Challenge team this year.

Industrial Committee Representative: Dan Welch was absent and did not submit a report.

Young Professionals Committee: Dustin Price reported on the following:

- Having their first meeting next month. They will attend next months Executive Board meeting.
- Five K team – up to 6 runners.
- Finalizing their Scholarship criteria & application at their next meeting.
- Job brochures

Awards Committee: Mary Waring reported the following:

- Creative Awards has gone out of business, so Mary will be visiting a new vendor to see if they can work with us.
- She will be asking for volunteer inspectors to help her with the Goodenow Award for Outstanding Plant Operations.

JETCC Committee Representative: Leeann Hanson submitted the following written **COMMITTEE REPORT & Darold Wooley reported on it.**



Maine Water Environment Association JETCC Report for February 26, 2015

Many date changes in early 2015 classes

- **February was tough on everyone and affected JETCC's Training schedule!**
- The **New 6 Week Basic WW for Exam Prep** in Brunswick was delayed by 2 weeks. This redesigned class begins on Tuesday, March 10 and concludes on April 21. This introduction to Intermediate level class will be ideal for operators preparing for a 2015 WW Exam. Registration fees include the SAC book and also enrollment in Pump Maintenance & Troubleshooting led by Gorman Rupp.
- **Mobile & Remote Communication: Options & equipment** in Saco was rescheduled to March 18.
- We are partnering with MeWEA's WWCS Committee and MWUA for "**Gas Line Siting, Installation and Safe Installation**" on May 13 in Augusta.
- The agenda for the **North Country Convention, April 1 & 2** is shaping up. Check JETCC's website for agenda updates

Visit www.jetcc.org for details and registration forms for all classes.

JETCC Board positions One of MeWEA's JETCC board positions is up for renewal in May. John Emerson who represents a MeWEA WWCS will be termed out. Meanwhile the person in MeWEA's Municipal position has been unable to attend meetings since last Spring. Darold may contact MeWEA on this as to how MeWEA would like to proceed?

MCS Students participated in the MWUA Conference in February. With 92 graduates from this program Leeann encountered many past MCS students and hopes to try another MCS reunion or seating plan during lunch at the Fall MeWEA convention. The current class of 17 will graduate at the Fall MeWEA Convention.

More on Management School During the NEWEA Conference in Boston Leeann participated in a presentation on Maine's MCS program. As part of a presentation from Tom Groves of NEIWPC detailing the varied arrangements of all

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

of the New England's Management programs, it was clear that Maine is the only state able to offer the program more than 3 years in a row! This is the 6th consecutive Management class in Maine! Thank you to MeWEA, MWUA, DHHS and DEP for the past and ongoing support. Each MCS program is organized on a year to year basis. In late Spring-early summer we will begin planning for the Fall 2015. We will likely need to re-evaluate the pricing of the program as indications are that DEP may not be contributing financially to this program. Note: We learned in December that DEP was unable to contribute the usual \$2500 for the current program so the MCS budget will be tight.

NEIWPCC/JETCC

People in Maine will start noticing NEIWPCC on more correspondence from the JETCC office. JETCC is, and has always been a project of NEIWPCC, and the JETCC program is run out of NEIWPCC's South Portland office in Maine. The same people, Leeann and Spring are NEIWPCC employees and always have been - they are still the ones doing the work. To avoid confusion with JETCC Board responsibilities and jurisdiction, projects that are outside of the Board's authority (i.e., wastewater certification, exams, renewals, NPS training center, etc.) will be more clearly identified with NEIWPCC.

Computer Based Testing

Applications are being accepted for computer based testing and operators can begin taking CBT on or after March 16.

The last statewide paper exam

Will take place on **May 13, 2014** in Portland, Bangor and Presque Isle. Applications are due to JETCC office no later than March 27. After May paper exams are available only in Presque Isle.

License Renewals

Renewal Payments are due on March 1 for Operators with odd numbered licenses. By now everyone should have received either Mid-Term or Renewal notices. If you have no, please contact Spring Connolly 207-253-8020.

***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

Media Coordinator Committee Representative: Paula Drouin submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:

MEWEA EC Meeting – February 26, 2015
Website and Social Media Coordinator
Submitted by: Paula Drouin

- 1) Website short-term:
 - a) Reviewing the website and making necessary updates to any pages. I have compiled a list of pages to be added/deleted, broken links to fix, and any other general organizational changes.
 - b) I am making a page for each committee. I would like all chairpersons to add me to their committee mailing list (pdrouin@lawpca.org) so that I can post information as it is distributed to the committee members (e.g. meeting dates, current topics). **I would also like a picture and contact information from each chairperson**, so that it can be posted to the appropriate committee page. Additional photos or documents/articles/relevant information for each committee are welcomed.
 - c) Ski Day is March 27, at Sunday River, and for the first time, online registration is available!
- 2) Website long-term:
 - a) Create a members only section.
 - b) Create online awards submissions.
- 3) Social Media - I've been consistent with posting articles, but always welcome items from any MEWEA member.
 - a) Twitter: currently 372 followers (up 30 from last month).
 - b) Facebook: currently 160 followers (up 12 from last month).
- 4) Other items:
 - a) The Legislative Breakfast registration form listed only mail-in or fax-in options. Can we modify this (and all registrations) to include an email or online registration option?

Stormwater Committee: Aubrey Strause reported the following:

- Aubrey presented an outline of the function & duties for committee.
- We will be voting at Spring Conference on a by-law change to add a stormwater committee.

MMA Representative: Joan Kiszely had no report.

President Tom Connolly submitted the following written **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

**President's Report
MEWEA Executive Committee Meeting
February 26, 2015**

Tom Connolly, Supt. Yarmouth Wastewater Dept.

As is the case for most people, much of my time has been relegated to removing snow during the past month.....

NEWEA Convention:

I attended the NEWEA Convention in Boston from January 25th through the 28th where I gave an update on MEWEA events at the ASA President's Meeting.

"A note of congratulations to MEWEA members who received awards at the Annual Awards Luncheon on Wednesday. Maine was well represented!"

MRWA Operator Training:

Due to a schedule conflict, I was unable to attend the second meeting at Sen. Angus King's office in Augusta on February 5th regarding the implementation of a water operator training facility, with an opportunity for wastewater training perhaps. I will share minutes of that meeting when they become available.

MWUA Convention:

I attended both days of the MWUA Convention in Portland on February 2nd and 3rd.
I gave a brief intro about MeWEA and collaborative efforts between MWUA & MeWEA at the luncheon.

Upcoming:

I will continue to participate in the Gas Line Separation legislation discussions.

I have talked briefly with Judy Bruenjes at DEP regarding Operator training. She would like to give a brief overview at the Spring Convention during the DEP Update.

Preparations are underway for the Legislative Breakfast in February (which will have concluded prior to this meeting)

Scott Firmin and I will be attending the MMA session and luncheon in March.

I will be attending the North Country Convention in Presque Isle on April 1st and 2nd

The DC Fly-In is on the near horizon.....

1st Vice President Scott Firmin submitted the following written VICE-PRESIDENT's REPORT:

**First Vice President's Report
Scott Firmin**

Attended Annual NEWEA Conference in January.

Attended ASA/Govt. Relations Meeting along with Tom Connolly.

Participated in the planning session for the Spring Conference. The Personal Advancement Committee has some great sessions planned!

Scott Firmin reported on the Casco Bay Estuary Partnership. He will represent MEWEA in a work group that will be discussing nutrient discharges and Ocean Acidification.

Scott Firmin indicated there will be a Career Fair at SMCC at April 16th – MWUA will staff a booth and is willing to distribute our handouts.

2nd Vice President: Matt Timberlake reported the following:

- Matt will help at the Strategic Planning Session, and is willing to fill in if the President and 1st Vice-president are not able to make it back from the Washington fly-in in time to preside.
- Matt is working on Proposed By-laws changes to be sent to the membership with the Spring Conference notice, thereby providing the required 30-day notice.

Past President: Aubrey Strause reported the following:

- Aubrey has been asked to speak at Maine Water Sustainability Conference on Ocean Acidification on March 31
- She asked all present to spread the word about the upcoming Spring Conference in Auburn.

Adjournment: Motion made by Mary Waring, seconded by Al Jellison, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 11:43 a.m.