

**Approved**

**MEWEA Executive Board & Budget Meeting  
Friday, December 18, 2020  
Zoom Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Michael Guethle, Phil Tucker, Scott Firmin, Rob Pontau, Gretchen Anderson, Dave Beauchamp, Bryanna Denis, Leeann Hanson, Jeff McBurnie, Kevin Eaton, Theresa Tucker, Andy Wendell, Kristie Rabasca, Bruce Berger and Melissa White - MMA.

**Absent:** Stacy Thompson, Mo Dube, Brody Campbell, Paula Drouin, Gregg Wood, Zach Henderson, Alex Buechner, Dustin Price, Travis Jones, Ryan Wadsworth.

**Guests:** Jim Cohen

**Call to Order:** President Michael Guethle called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**Correspondence Folder:** There were no documents listed.

**Quorum:** It was determined there were 8 Officers present in order to conduct business.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Phil Tucker, all approved the November 20, 2020 minutes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jeff McBurnie reviewed the Treasurers report indicating everything is in order. There are no new financials to report.

**Budget:** The budget was tabled, pending further financial reports for October, November and December 2020.

**DEP Representative:** Gregg Wood was absent.

**Legislative Representative:** Jim Cohen reported on the following:

- Committee assignments were completed last week and the updates lists/pages are available on the Legislative website. He did note the chairs of the Utility commission remains the same and there is a 50% change on the ENR committee.
- Today is cloture - All new bill titles need to be submitted, after this all bills need approval of Legislative council or the Governor.
- Eggs & issues is a monthly Business/breakfast meeting of the chamber meeting/discussion for those in the chamber. Noted there have been about half the amount submitted expect to see the list next week.

- Vaccination priority schedule – Letter was put together from MeWEA, MRWA, MWUA and sent to the commissioner.
- Expects the sessions to be virtual, the public will be able to testify with video and audio; will not need to sign up in advance.

Mike Guethle reminded committee chairs each should have some participation with Government Affairs, when relevant items come up. Encouraged outreach to local representatives.

Scott Firmin brought up the workforce initiatives, noting it may be something they can collaborate on. Asked about a DEP licensing updates, reporting in 2017 MeWEA sent a letter requesting the licensing structure to be adjusted to mirror the Drinking water side in terms of flexibility license. Mike reinforced the need to continue the workforce efforts and on the job training opportunities.

### **MWUA Representative – Bruce Berger**

Rob Pontau elaborated on the idea of a joint website and online membership sign up. Reported on the sessions at the upcoming Trade Show. Registration is now available.

Virtual Legislative Event, February 4<sup>th</sup>. Discussed possible topics and went through the proposed agenda. MWUA is supporting this event in 2021, MeWEA will hold the Spring Conference in place of that that event this year.

### **Committee Reports:**

**NEWEA Committee Representative: Jeff McBurnie submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:**



**STATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**

Local Government Center  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 12/18/2020 (Zoom Meeting)

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: State Director (liaison to NEWEA)

NAME: Jeff McBurnie

RECENT ACTIVITIES: NEWEA Nominating Committee follow up (12/4)

DECISIONS MADE: N/A

MEETINGS HELD/ATTENDED: See Activities above

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS:

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: Next NEWEA ECM will be during the Annual Conference which will be held virtually in 2021.

RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: None at this time.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Jeff McBurnie

DATE SUBMITTED: 12/14/2020

DISTRIBUTION:

X MMA Affiliate Liaison  
X Executive Committee Meeting  
Newsletter  
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if item should be expanded for external release.

**Old Business:**

- 2021 MeWEA Meeting & Training schedule update – review of calendar
- Finalize Board list, expiring committee chair terms – review of board list and confirmation of chairs.
- Newsletter update  
-Proposed collaboration on moving to a joint newsletter with MWUA. Plan to launch in February. There was lengthy discussion and an overview of the sponsorship program that involves the newsletter. There are four tiered levels of sponsorships.

Motion made by Scott Firmin, seconded by Rob Pontau for MeWEA to collaborate with MWUA and produce a joint newsletter with discretion for the final details and pricing of the fourth tier to be made by the communications committee and MWUA representative, all approved.

<b>Government Affairs Committee Representative:</b>

Laboratory Committee Representative: Andy Wendell submitted the following written **COMMITTEE REPORT:**



**COMMITTEE / OFFICER REPORT**

**MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**  
Local Government Center  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: December 18, 2020 \_\_\_\_\_

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: Laboratory Committee \_\_\_\_\_

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: Andy Wendell \_\_\_\_\_

RECENT ACTIVITIES: Submitted annual Lab Committee budget request. Participated in the DEP Chapter 583 proposed nutrient criteria meeting on Friday Dec 11, 2020. Acquired and distributed some MeWEA 2021 calendars.

DECISIONS MADE: None. \_\_\_\_\_

MEETINGS HELD/ATTENDED: None. \_\_\_\_\_

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: None. \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: \_\_\_\_\_

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Andy Wendell \_\_\_\_\_

DATE SUBMITTED: December 14, 2020. \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRIBUTION:

MMA Affiliate Liaison

X Executive Committee Meeting

Newsletter

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if item should be expanded for external release

**Membership Committee Representative: Rob Pontau submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:**



**REPORT**

**COMMITTEE / OFFICER**

**MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**

Local Government Center  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: December 18, 2020

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: Membership - MWUA – OPS Challenge

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: Me

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

Ops Challenge - Nothing

MWUA - Collaboration is going well. Planning is nearly complete for the February trade show. Bruce has worked up a draft annual sponsorship program.

Membership - I think it's time for sweeping changes to our membership database and set up. Our website has a great "members only" section, but it is not connected to our membership account. I'd like to move to an online setup for signing up and renewing memberships. Melissa and Jennifer do great work. This has nothing to do with them, it's about bringing us into 2020. Nearly all of the other organizations we collaborate with have this option. MRWA, MWUA, and APWA to name a few. Maybe this can be done through collaboration with WEF on a national level, or MMA can incorporate this into their database. At a minimum, I could set up a Google form for collecting the vital information. This discussion goes beyond the membership committee, so I'm looking for guidance from the Board on how to proceed.

DECISIONS MADE: None. Looking for guidance from the Board

MEETINGS HELD/ATTENDED: Awesome Sauce, Rob, The Man, and myself met on Monday December 15th. We collaborated nicely to generate this report

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS: Continue to explore options for membership sign up and renewal.

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: Nothing with membership really involves an "important" deadline. It pretty much just happens thanks to Melissa and Jennifer.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: Not a one.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Pontau

DATE SUBMITTED: November 10, 2020

DISTRIBUTION: MMA Affiliate Liaison

**Pretreatment Committee Representative: Terry Tucker reported on the following:**

Updated the group on the recent meeting noting all POTW's will have to sample their permitted industrial users on PFOS. Rob Pontau will present a session on Pre-treatment at the MWUA Conference in February. Will be presenting Pre-treatment session with JETCC, scheduled in March. Working with Paula and Brody for outreach purposes. Brody created a posters and Paula is working towards trying to have it posted to Faceboom, working on pricing. Also working on a 30 sec. commercial with Dave Beauchamp taking the lead and working on pricing.

**Personnel Advancement Committee Representative: Scott Firmin reported on the following:**

Provided updates regarding the 7 sessions they have planned.

Will reach out to Ryan to begin to work on the Spring Conference sessions. Leeann is in contact with NMCC and trying to reach SMCC regarding potential topics for sessions.

**Convention Committee Representative: Dustin Price was absent.**

**Public Relations Committee Representative: Paula Drouin reported on the following:**



## **COMMITTEE / OFFICER REPORT**

### **MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**

**Local Government Center  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 12/18/2020

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: Public Relations

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: Paula Drouin

- Clean Water Week poster contest calendars – Alex still has a fair amount, so please let him know if you would like some mailed to you for distribution. I took an additional stack from him and will be mailing them to my local representatives. I think this is a really great opportunity to reach out and offer to be a resource for water-related issues. I plan to highlight ASCE's newest infrastructure report card and the fact that water operators are essential workers.
- Attended a Zoom call last week led by Terry Tucker to discuss public outreach regarding non-dispersible products and their increased use during the pandemic. We want to make a public outreach effort(s) and are pulling together some info. Ideas include Facebook advertising and reaching out to news channels. Will reconvene on 12/22 to discuss our findings and next steps.

Happy Holidays! Keeping good vibes and positive energy for 2021. ☺ Be safe and be well!

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Paula Drouin

DATE SUBMITTED: 12/15/2020

**Safety Committee Representative: VACANT**



**Communications Committee Report: Bryanna Denis submitted the following written  
COMMITTEE REPORT:**



**COMMITTEE / OFFICER REPORT**

**MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**

Local Government Center  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 12/15/2020 \_\_\_\_\_

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: Communications Committee \_\_\_\_\_

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: Bryanna Denis \_\_\_\_\_

RECENT ACTIVITIES: November Newsletter Published, attended part of MWUA meeting to meet Janette T whom I'll be working with on the joint newsletter. First newsletter of 2021 will be compiled in January, I'll send along article due dates and whatnot once those are determined. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DECISIONS MADE: Joint newsletter with MWUA – first edition January 2021 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

MEETINGS HELD/ATTENDED: 12/9/2020 attended part of a MWUA meeting \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: TBD \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Bryanna Denis, Communications Committee Chair \_\_\_\_\_

DATE SUBMITTED: 12/9/2020 \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRIBUTION:

MMA Affiliate Liaison

Executive Committee Meeting

Newsletter

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if item should be expanded for external release.

**Collections Systems Committee Report: Kevin Eaton submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:**



**COMMITTEE / OFFICER REPORT**

**MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**

Local Government Center  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: December 18, 2020 \_\_\_\_\_

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: Collections System \_\_\_\_\_

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: Kevin Eaton \_\_\_\_\_

RECENT ACTIVITIES: None \_\_\_\_\_

DECISIONS MADE: Ben Stiles of Wright-Pierce will be helping Tim Wade with Government affairs. \_\_\_\_\_

MEETINGS HELD/ATTENDED: \_\_\_\_\_

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: Next meeting will be in January 2021 \_\_\_\_\_

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: \_\_\_\_\_

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Kevin Eaton \_\_\_\_\_

DATE SUBMITTED: December 14, 2020 \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRIBUTION:

MMA Affiliate Liaison

Executive Committee Meeting

Newsletter

Other

**Residuals Management Committee Report: Jeff McBurnie submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:**



**COMMITTEE REPORT**

**MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**  
Local Government Center  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 12/18/2020 (Zoom Meeting)

COMMITTEE NAME: Residuals Management

CHAIR NAME: Jeff McBurnie

RECENT ACTIVITIES: NEBRA Regulatory & Legislative Committee Calls (11/24, 12/3)

DECISIONS MADE: No new decisions made.

MEETINGS HELD/ATTENDED: See above

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: Gearing up for the 130<sup>th</sup> ME Legislature session in coordination with the Government Affairs Committee. Continue working with NEBRA to track and respond to legislative and regulatory activities related to PFAS and other biosolids management issues.

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: MEWEA EC Meeting – 1/15/21.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: None.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Jeff McBurnie

DATE SUBMITTED: 12/14/2020

DISTRIBUTION:

X MMA Affiliate Liaison

X Executive Committee Meeting

Newsletter

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if item should be expanded for external release.

**Treatment Plant Operators Committee Report: Alex Buechner was absent.**

**Young Professional Committee Report: Brody Campbell submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:**



**COMMITTEE / OFFICER REPORT**

**MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**

Local Government Center  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: Friday December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: Young Professionals

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: Brody Campbell

RECENT ACTIVITIES: NA

DECISIONS MADE: NA

MEETINGS HELD/ATTENDED: NA

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS: NA

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES:

- January Meeting - Date TBD.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS:

If you have anyone interested in getting involved in the YP Committee have them email Brody at [brody.campbell@wright-pierce.com](mailto:brody.campbell@wright-pierce.com) !

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Brody Campbell

DATE SUBMITTED: 12/13/2020

DISTRIBUTION:

MMA Affiliate Liaison  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Newsletter  
Other:

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Please check if item should be expanded for external release.

**Awards Committee Report: Paula Drouin was absent**

Bruce Berger noted the MWUA awards are open and encouraged all to submit.

**JETCC Committee Report: Leeann Hanson reported on the following:**

Completed the fall trainings and working on the 2021 training schedule, with a few classes scheduled in January. Discussion of opening registration, noting there is much more back end work required to set up virtual trainings. Informed the group that their presenters are typically professionals who are willing to provide their expertise at no cost. Always looking for presenters and anyone looking to assist. Unsure if JETCC will get funding from the general fund. 2021 NEWIPCC is launching a campaign to showcase operators, encouraged all to share. Facilitates have been asking if Marijuana has had any impacts.

**Stormwater Committee Report: Gretchen Anderson, Kristie Rabasca & Zach Henderson submitted the following written **COMMITTEE REPORT:****



**COMMITTEE / OFFICER REPORT**

**MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**

Local Government Center  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: December 18, 2020

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: Stormwater Committee

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: Gretchen Anderson / Zach Henderson / Kristie Rabasca

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

- Meeting with DEP, EPA, Friends of Casco Bay and the regulated communities' representative regarding appeal and next steps. Proposed language was not agreed upon. Appeal will most likely move forward.

DECISIONS MADE: None

MEETINGS HELD/ATTENDED:

- Committee Meeting (11/17/20)
- ISWC Meeting (11/19/20)
- Permit Appeal Options (12/1/20)

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS: None

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES:

- MS4 Document Submittal (3/31/21)

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: None

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Gretchen Anderson, Zach Henderson & Kristie Rabasca

DATE SUBMITTED: 12/15/20

Kristie Rabasca provided an update on the alternate language for the MS4 permit. They were not able to come to an agreement on alternate language, so the appeal is expected. Permit is final July 2022.

**MMA Representative:** Melissa White reported on the following:

MMA is working with consultant firm Berry Dunn to work with the Affiliate Groups and other Affiliated Associations and Agencies to assess training needs and identify gaps within those needs. Affiliate representatives should expect correspondence from MMA and participation is encouraged – and needed.



**President Committee Report: Michael Guethle submitted the following written COMMITTEE REPORT:**



**COMMITTEE / OFFICER REPORT**

**MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**

Local Government Center  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 2020

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: President

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: Mike Guethle

RECENT ACTIVITIES: \_\_\_\_\_

Set up and completed a call to discuss 2021 needs with 2021 officers

Government Affairs initiatives - Coordinating and getting them off to Tim Wade

DECISIONS MADE: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordination to help Government Affairs and MWUA transitions; confirming roles for 2VP and Past President respectively

Coordinate for ad-hoc committees for the rest of the e-board: including discussions about ExDirector, as well as continued COVID response.

MEETINGS HELD/ATTENDED: \_\_\_\_\_

Coordination with committees; government affairs call with NEWEA; diversity Initiatives with NEWEA; Items for MWUA and NEWEA convention

Set up and completed a call to discuss 2021 needs with 2021 officers

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

We need to have a Government Affairs representative from every committee for the fall legislative session. Touch on that topic.

Completed an ad-hoc committee to discuss fall convention status at our next meeting.

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: \_\_\_\_\_

Kick my feet up, mail Phil the gavel

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: \_\_\_\_\_

Ask Phil :)

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: MAG

DATE SUBMITTED: 12/15/2020

DISTRIBUTION:

MMA Affiliate Liaison

Executive Committee Meeting

Newsletter

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check if item should be expanded for external release.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's Report: Phil Tucker had nothing to report.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President's Report: Dave Beauchamp had to leave the meeting.**

**Past President's Report: Stacy Thompson was absent.**

**Other New Business:**

- **Pre-Treatment Residual Outreach**  
No discussion
- **2021 MMA Administrative Services Agreement**  
Review of the agreement and noted the changes for 2021, there was no increase for 2021.

**7. Adjournment:** Motion made Phil Tucker by seconded by Jeff McBurnie, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 12:14 p.m.