

Friday, February 18, 2022
MWUA-Brunswick & Zoom

MINUTES

Attendance: Tim Wade, Jeff McBurnie, Bruce Berger, Rob Pontau, Paula Drouin, Brody Campbell, Ben Stiles, and Cindy Wade.

Zoom Attendance: Bryanna Denis, Phil Tucker, Stacy Thompson, Gregg Wood, Emily Prescott, Leeann Hanson, Spring Connolly, Charlene Poulin, Terry Tucker

Absent: Dave Beauchamp, Travis Jones, Jim Cohen, Alex Buechner, Sarah King, Kristie Rabasca, Gretchen Anderson, Mike Guethle, Amanda Smith, Andy Wendell,

Call to Order: 1st Vice President Tim Wade called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Correspondence Folder: The correspondence folder was reviewed by the board.

Quorum: It was determined there was a Quorum.

Minutes: Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Phil Tucker, all approved the January 21, 2022, minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff McBurnie reviewed the Treasurers report indicating everything is in order. Review of financial report as of December 31, 2021. Motion made by Brody Campbell, seconded by Rob Pontau, all approved the Treasurers report.

Administrative Report

Bruce Berger reported the following:

- Experiencing some issues on Member clicks - Membership – working on getting it cleaned up
- Signing into accounts – some people are having issues
- Checks are coming in and being deposited
- Joan Kiszely has been working on contracts
- Joan & Cindy communicate daily

Old Business: The following was reported:

- Contract from Sunday River to be signed
- Phil Tucker indicated he doesn't like some things in the SR contract – Attrition clause were concerning.

- Phil Tucker does not like some things in the contract – Attrition clause – Some issues that are concerning. Golf issues: Stacy Thompson reported they did not receive any contracts for golf in 2022. The 2020 Contract was supposed to be pushed forward,
- August Board Meeting: Phil doesn't like the attrition clauses in overnight rooms and golf.
- January 17th: Tim indicated SR is looking for deposits.
- Tim requested we figure out the issues sooner than later and get the deposit in.
- Conference is a separate entity from the golf. Stacy has the dates confirmed for 2022.
- Samoset is looking pretty good for their 2023 convention. Rooms are a bit expensive, however food is reasonable.

Committee Reports:

Awards Committee:

Mike Guethle – no report.

Collections System

Ben Stiles submitted a report!

Communications Report

Bryana Davis submitted a report!

Bruce Berg reported on the following:
Newsletter is being edited

Convention Report

Phil & Stacy submitted a report!

Additional Comments:

- Stacy reported this report has already been discussed
- Would like Ski Day reminder to go out every Monday & Thursday
- Spring Conference is completed, and brochure looks really nice
- August Retreat – Phil Tucker reported he doesn't like what is in the contract. Never in the past has there been a fee to golf at the Retreat
- 2023 Fall Convention: Phil Tucker reported that the Samoset is looking pretty good for hosting the convention. Overnight rooms are a bit more. The price is comparable to Sunday River.

DEP Representative Report:

Greg Wood reported on the following:

Rulemaking

- Matt Hight who was a Compliance Inspector in the Southern Regional Office, now Coordinating Rule Making for the Water Bureau at the Commissioner's office.

- DEP has been working on getting rules passed on the Nutrients & Phosphorus for fresh water & Nitrogen for the Marine Waters
Phosphorus is further ahead, and will probably go right to rule making
Nitrogen – Has a meeting this afternoon. The question is do they adopt a statewide limit or go site specific for different regions. Waters in Down east are different from Casco Bay
PANG – (Portland Area Nitrogen Group) They have been holding meetings and trying to come up with data and come up with thresholds
Casco Bay has done a lot of work and been collecting data (20 years)
Brian wants to have something Statewide and then develop site specific
Stakeholders meeting then Public Hearing meeting. Goal is September/October 22
- Operators Certification: Trying to get this updated. This rule is outdated. Plan a Stakeholder/group/Public Hearing
- O & M & Asset Management Rule - Stakeholder's meeting is March 3
- PFAUS -The Dept is aware that the legislature will be looking at effluent limits. Trying to propose a statement ahead of legislative requirements
LD 911 – Contains language that could allow the Water Bureau to require effluent testing for PFAS as part of NPDES.
6 Water Bureau staff working on ambient WQ, fish tissue and effluent sampling.
Trying to fund cost with ARPA monies
In the beginning stages now but hoping to have a plan together for sampling by the end of March/first of April and be collecting samples this summer.
Coordinating with other Department groups to get sampling sites. Goal is to stay in front of the Legislative mandate for sampling in order to be able to steer the sampling program (opposite of land application sampling)

Government Affairs Report

Additional Comments:

- Legislative meeting- virtually only 12 Legislators attended – 60 people were on virtually
- Wants to send it out with a message
- LD 1911 is the primary topic
- Met with Government Affairs February 8 to discuss opposition
- Had a meeting with DEP Commissioner
- DEP only assure on 5+ years on landfill capacity
- Amanda Smith asked good questions – One question was (Is Dep hearing from the operators of these landfills)
- Followed up with the Commissioner over financial details/impact
- Stakeholders' engagement – bringing comments forward
- Will be a 3rd amendment to this bill
- Should have a Position Paper on MeWEA Website on PFAS

JETCC Report

Leeann Hanson submitted a report!

Additional Comments

- Stacy Thompson & the MeWEA Board thanked Leeann for all her service for the last 13 years
Wished her luck in retirement
- They had 21 new graduates
- They are administered through NEIWPC
- Proposed date for the North Country Convention is April 5 & 6 – JETCC Lead
- Operator Renew is due by March 1st

Laboratory Report

Andy Wendell submitted a report!

Legislative Advocate Report

No report

Membership Report

Rob Pontau submitted a report

Additional Comments

- Membership deadline will be extended

MWUA Representative Report

Rob Pontau reported the following:

- MWUA convention turned out better than he anticipated
- Augusts Civic Center did a good job
- Attendance virtually was about 103
- Attendance in person was about 300
- The team did a great job – Cindy, Janet, Tom
- Working on Post Conferenc
- Operators Challenge-they have a complete team

NEIWPC South Portland Office Announcement:

Submitted a report!

NEWEA STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Paula Drouin submitted a report!

Additional Comments

- NEWEA is planning on having a meeting in April
- NEWEA is having their Spring meeting in New Hampshire at the end of May

Operators Challenge

- It was reported that they have a full team

Personal Advancement Report

Charlene Poulin submitted a report!

Additional Comments

- Brochure looked great
- Judy has everything to let us know what Credits the sessions will be.
- Getting the Bios are always a challenge-Bruce offered to assist her with getting the bio's
- She will submit for Drinking Water Credits if she can get help – Spring offered to assist with this
- After the Spring Conference she will move forward with the Fall Convention

Pretreatment Report

Terry Tucker reported on the following

- Didn't have anything to report.

Public Relations Report

Paula Drouin reported the following:

- Legislative Breakfast was great
- Helping Alex with the Clean Water Week Posters
- Anyone that has ideas on how the Children can vote
- Some want to submit Digital Artwork
- Paula will continue with the Website
- Any articles send to Paula

Residual Management Report

Jeff McBurnie submitted a report!

Additional Comments

- Will be resigning from this committee
- He will continue to work on Land Application
- He will be on the JETCC Board
- Paula will include in her report next month having the board vote on monies for PFAS Documents – Posters. If we give monies to NEWEA we could have all the documents that they have. Members would benefit from this.

Storm Water Report

No additional comments.

Treatment Plant Operator Report

Alex Buechner submitted a report!

Young Professionals Report

Brody Campbell submitted a report!

Presidents Report

Dave Beauchamp was not in attendance!

1st Vice Presidents Report

Tim Wade reported the following:

- Legislative Breakfast was good & the content was good
- Hoping the Legislative Breakfast can be done at a Conference so Legislators can go to a session
- Strategic Session – he will be working on this with Phil & Joan. Will have documents prior to the session
- 50th Anniversary-Clean Water Act Celebration has a committee. This will be held September 29th in Lewiston. Zach is working on this. Activities will be held prior to.

2nd Vice President

Gretchen Anderson was not present

Past President Report

Phil Tucker reported the following:

- In the MeWEA Admin Guide the positions are explained
- Any Committee that needs help please let him know
- Paula offered to assist with the Admin Guide
- Committee Reports – Cindy indicated they were labor intense
- Suggestion to open a Share Document – we need to recommend a better process
- Someone needs to work with Cindy to come up with a process

New Business

None

Adjourn: Motion made by Rob Pontau, seconded by Jeff McBurnie, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 a.m.