

**MEWEA Executive Board Meeting
Friday, December 16, 2022
In-Person – MWUA – Brunswick Sewer District
10 Pine Tree Road, Brunswick
Zoom**

MINUTES

Attendance: Dave Beauchamp, Tim Wade, Jeff McBurnie, Stacy Thomson, Emily Prescott, Charlene Poulin, Sierra Kuun, Andre Brousseau, Bryanna Denis, Rob Pontau, Joan Kiszely, Evan Pereira, Paula Drouin.

Zoom Attendance: Phil Tucker, Terry Tucker, Travis Jones, Andy Wendell, Travis Peaslee, Jim Cohen, Gregg Wood, Amanda Smith, Alex Buechner

Absent: Bruce Berger, Peter Zaykoski, Mike Guethle, Brody Campbell, Kristie Rabasca, Sarah King

Call to Order: Vice President Tim Wade called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Quorum: It was determined there was a Quorum.

Minutes: Motion made by Rob Pontau, seconded by Charlene Poulin, all approved the November 18, 2022 minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff submitted a report to Google Drive. Jeff McBurnie reviewed the Treasurers report indicating everything is in order on the November financial report.

Motion made by Rob Pontau, seconded by Andre Brousseau, all approved the Treasurers report.

Budget Review: Jeff McBurnie & Tim Wade reviewed the 2023 draft budget. Tim Wade reported that MWUA communicated, informally through a text message, that they would want \$45,000 for the 2023 Administrative Services Agreement. He indicated that Bruce noted it is a starting point. His take is that the spirit of collaboration is something he would like to continue with. There was a lengthy discussion on the contract between MWUA & MeWEA, particularly that no formal proposal/contract has been submitted. The MEWEA Board would like to propose a \$29,000 counter offer to MWUA, which would include reducing Joan Kiszely's work to 15 hours a week instead of 20 hours a week. If MWUA agrees

to a maximum cost of \$29,000, the MEWEA Board requires a contract/proposal that spells out what they are going to provide. This contract would then need to be reviewed and voted on by the MEWEA Board. Phil Tucker approached NEWEA for an administrative services proposal and they should be able to provide one before the end of the year. Several New England States are utilizing NEWEA for this purpose so it is a viable option worthy of pursuing.

Motion made by Jeff McBurnie to propose MWUA a maximum of \$29,000 for the 2023 Administrative Agreement, Dave Beauchamp seconded and all approved, with the exception of Rob Pontau who abstained. The motion passed. .

Motion made to table the 2023 budget until the January 2023 board meeting by Charlene Poulin, seconded by Paula Drouin, all approved. The motion passed.

Convention Report: Phil Tucker & Stacy Thompson submitted a report.

They added the following:

- Signed the Contract for 2023 Conference
- Ski Day – They are looking at sponsoring the 2023 Ski Day at Cannon Mountain. They are waiting on pricing.
- She reached out to Charlene on sessions for the MeWEA Conference

Old Business

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

DEP Report: Gregg Wood reported the following:

- Public Hearing on the Asset ruling
- Operators Certification Ruling will be Jan. 5th
- LID Ordinances proposals will be in draft
- Chapter 500 will be revised
- Land Bureau will be handling the revisions
- Trying to hire staff to get his division fully staffed
- Update on EPA
- 533 Topic
- Brian K is retiring

JETCC-NEIWPC: Peter Zaykoski submitted a report. He was absent, Travis Jones added the following:

- Trying to get training sessions for the JETCC North Country

- Reaching out to folks to do Training
- Thanked MeWEA for all their help
- Looking to have a Business Meeting at the North Country Conference

NEWEA: Paula Drouin submitted a report.

She add the following:

- Unfortunately, did not do Operator Exchange
- Next year will be Massachusetts
- NEWEA is coming up in January

MWUA: Bruce was absent

Membership & MWUA: Rob Pontau reported the following:

- Planning the Spring Conference for February 1 & 2
- Jen Nichols will be taking over on the Membership Committee

Joint Meeting with MWUA

- Going forward will have meetings in February & September
- Possible have Charlene reach out to Justin & Benny to come up with a couple of classes to offer Drinking Water Credits
- Brian McGuire will be the President
- Did receive a proposal for the Contract between MWUA & MeWEA

MeWEA: Joan Kiszely reported on the following:

- Working on Legislative Breakfast with Cindy
- Going to be working on Ski Day with Stacy & Cindy
- Washington, DC Fly in
- Clean Water Week Poster Contest notification went out and Cindy will be sending a reminder the first of February

Legislation Advocate: Jim Cohen reported on the following:

- All new Legislators got sworn in
- 45% new Legislators this year, but some have been Legislators in the past so are not truly “new”.
- Within a week he should know who the committee members are
- Process will be back in person with Hybrid meetings
- Big Issues next year will be how to allocate the Surplus

- Discussion on Heating aid
- PFAS continued
- Bi-Partisans Budget
- Speaker of the House – Rachel
- Andy Wendell - Hoping they will approve of the Lab Certification Rules. Andy will reach out to Emily and Amanda so this is on their radar.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards Committee: Mike Guethle was absent.

Collections System: Travis Jones reported the following:

- Postponed their meeting.
- Will meet after the holidays
- Putting together a training for MWUA Conference
- In talks with JETCC for some training
- 533 – stay in touch with Amanda on this

Communications Report: Bryanna Denis submitted a report.

She added the following:

- November newsletter was distributed
- Planning to reach out to people who want to advertise and try to get sponsors
- Question on the by-law change – will take out the number of newsletters that MeWEA does.
- Intention is to have comments at the board meeting in January. Hoping to have a vote at the North Country conference April 5th for changes in the by-laws.

Government Affairs Report: Amanda Smith & Emily Cole-Prescott -They reported on the following:

- Amanda worked on some Testimony on 533 Rule
- Want to close on the Biosolid Study
- Next meeting is December 21
- Legislative Breakfast – Flyer going out
- Job change – Emily has been recruited to a new job with the City of Saco to do Planning
- PFAS sub-group have met with DEP on the study. Travis did a lot of work prior to Thanksgiving. Waiting on the price for this study

Laboratory: Andy Wendell reported on the following:

- Conversation with JETCC to participate at the North Country to do a training
- Work on reviewing the Lab Committee page for the website.

Personnel Advancement Report: Charlene Poulin submitted a report. She added the following:

- Having more collaboration with other groups
- Finalizing more for MWUA Conference

Pretreatment Report: Terry Tucker reported on the following:

- Next meeting will move her meeting to January 19th
- That meeting will focus on permits

Public Relations Report: Phil Tucker reported on the following:

- Gone to a committee of one to a five person committee
- MeWEA Stakeholder Communication Plan developed with Black Fly media – showed a slide show
- They will email out the slide show
- WEF is doing a strategic plan also
- Will partner with others to get ideas
- Dianna from Black Fly is pushing MeWEA to the forefront
- Engaging the public
- Rate Payers – ideas on how to get the information out
- Stakeholder Audience: Legislators
- Will need help to define the key messages
- Will send to the PR committee then will send it out to the entire group
- Toolkit Creation
- One-on/one community Meetings-Messaging
- Media Outreach
- Garnering & Measuring Support
- Timeline
- Need to talk to Dianna about how to invoice

Residual Management Report: Andre Brousseau & Travis Peaslee submitted a report.

Andre Brousseau added to his report.

- Nothing has changed since the report was submitted

- Have a NEBRA Representative – He will give an update in January
- Hartland Water Technology – Proposing a Technology to destroy Bio-Solids
- Putting up a test facility in Tennessee
- Air Quality Permitting: That issue was brought up to them
- Expecting the Quote from Brown & Caldwell

Storm Water Report: Kristie Rabasca submitted a report.

Treatment Plant Operator Report: Alex Buechner submitted a report.
He added the following:

- Sent an email out to recruit someone to be on his committee
- Going to the NEWEA Conference in January

Young Professionals Report: Sierra Kuun indicated the following:

- Scheduling a meeting early January
- Going to try and get a skating rink.
- Possibly have in Brunswick at their rink

OFFICERS REPORTS

Presidents Report: Dave Beauchamp

- Not a lot to report
- Reviewing the contract for MWUA contract
- This is his last meeting
- Thanked everyone who has been part of this
- He is working out of New Jersey and held him back on what the position was
- He has had great support and thanked them all
- He wants to support Tim next year

1st Vice Presidents Report: Tim Wade reported on the following:

- Sent out a credit card policy
- Wants everyone to review the policy & get back to him with any comments
- Has some budget money for swag
- Priced out 500 page with MeWEA logo - QR Code on the top
- Would have to pay for a QR code
- His goal is to have the available for the February MWUA show
- 2023 Meeting Dates – is in favor of monthly meetings

- Supportive to keep the meeting on Friday except for January it will be after the Legislative Breakfast
- Get the meeting on the Calendars

2nd Vice President: Emily Prescott had no report

Past President Report: Phil Tucker had no report

Adjourn: Motion made by Stacy Thompson, seconded by Dave Beauchamp all approved to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m.