



APPROVED

**MEWEA Executive Board Meeting
Friday, June 20, 2025
9:00 a.m.
Remote Access via Zoom**

MINUTES

Attendance via Zoom: Terry Tucker, Rob Pontau, Emily Cole-Prescott, Stacy Thompsen, Phil Tucker, Paula Drouin, Peter Zaykowski, Andy Begin, Andre Brousseau, Dan Marks, Phyllis Rand, Charlene Poulin, Travis Peaslee, Sierra Kuun, Nancy Martin (MMA)

Call to Order: President Terry Tucker called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

Determination of a Quorum: It was determined there was a quorum to conduct the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Terry Tucker reported on the minutes for May 16, 2025.

Motion made by Andre Brousseau to approve the minutes, seconded by Rob Pontau.
Motion carried.

Approval of Treasurer's Report: Jeff McBurnie submitted a report. Because Jeff was absent, Treasurer's report update was skipped and there was no vote to approve.

Old Business

None

Representative Reports

DEP Report: Gregg Wood was not in attendance and there was no report.

JETCC-NEIWPCC: Peter Zaykoski submitted a report in advance. He added that he is working on JETCC's fall calendar, and encouraged the board to share ideas or connections that may be a good fit for their planning.

MWUA: Andy Begin reported that after screening over 100 applicants, MWUA has selected a new executive director, Jessica LaLiberty, who started this past Monday. He spoke highly of her background in public-service. Andy also spoke about a recent meeting in Houlton that had an attendance of 60, and the Sea Dogs outing happening this weekend. He mentioned that their summer outing is on August 5 at Lost Valley. He spoke about a Golf event at Valhalla on August 6, and encouraged others to join. Aside from that, he said they are looking ahead to their February conference planning.

NEBRA Update: Phil Tucker & Janine Burke-Wells: Tucker did not have a report.

NEWEA State Director: Andre Brousseau submitted a report and added a few items. He spoke about making sure MEWEA's event calendar is communicated to NEWEA a year in advance so that events/vendors opportunities don't overlap. He shared that Bryan Chonko will be going to Rhode Island for the Operator Exchange program on 9/11-12, and they are awaiting the operator who will be coming to Maine. This person will be invited to the fall conference and offered a room at Sunday River and amenities, and they will work on a local wastewater treatment plant tour. Terry will confirm the amount budgeted for Operator Exchange accommodations/amenities.

MMA: Nancy Martin reported on a few check requests awaiting signature, including one for ops challenge and one for Saddleback Mountain deposit for 2026. She shared that Chelsea will be returning for the next board meeting, as her maternity leave is ending in late June.

Council Directors & Committee Reports

Personnel Advancement Council: Stacy Thompson submitted a report, and added that the vendor packet for convention should be sent out next week.

Awards: Terry Tucker spoke about award nominations that have come in. She spoke about an individual that was nominated for the Pretreatment Excellence award, Jay Pimpare, but clarified that the award is for an industry, not an individual. She recommended he be nominated for the Outstanding Service Award for his years of service since 2008 to the pretreatment committee.

Emily Prescott made a motion to nominate Jay Pimpare from EPA for the Outstanding Service Award, seconded by Stacy Thompson.

Terry also spoke about a nomination that came in for the David Anderson Laboratory Excellence Award. Phyllis Rand said that the lab committee has chosen an award recipient.

Terry shared that there was nomination that came in for the Lifetime Achievement Award, Chris Wallace of Bath. The group spoke about his application and eligibility based on the award's criteria: "This award is designed to recognize individuals who have demonstrated an extraordinary level of service and commitment to MEWEA and to the production of water quality in Maine over the course of their careers." The group determined that his application may be better suited for the DEP Certificate of Achievement, and Terry will contact the person who made the nomination to let them know.

New Professionals: Sierra Kuun reminded the board about the Sea Dogs outing taking place on Saturday, and shared that they have a nominee for the New Professionals Award.

Professional Development: Charlene Poulin reported that abstracts are being selected, and will be sending out the preliminary schedule to everyone for the convention.

Laboratory: Phyllis Arnold Rand, Co-Chair, submitted a report. The Lab Committee is proposing to offer a free, 2-hour, virtual "Lab Chat" session on Biochemical Oxygen Demand. The Lab Chat will be open to all MEWEA members to discuss BOD troubleshooting, best practices, and in general just provide a forum for questions and answers regarding this test. The Lab Committee is requesting the Executive Committee's approval to move forward with this initiative. The board approved that this would be a great opportunity and Phyllis will create a flyer to share with membership. Phyllis added that she will be attending a WEF lab committee meeting this afternoon.

Residuals: Andre Brousseau submitted a report. He gave an update on the potential dryer project in Sanford.

Treatment Plant Operators: Paula reported that they selected a recipient for the operator award and that the Clean Water Poster Contest calendars will be coming in soon.

Collection Systems: Paula shared that Chris Cline is the official chair of the Collection Systems committee now, and there are two award nominations that they're planning to discuss in July

Treatment Systems Operations Council: Paula did not have anything new to report.

Pretreatment: Paula did not have anything new to report.

Stormwater: Paula reported that they're looking to hopefully have a small meeting space at the fall convention. Stacy inquired about details so they can plan for that, and Paula will follow up.

Convention: Justin Barnett & Tim Wade – no report.

Government Affairs: Dan Marks gave an update that they have spent a lot of time working on LD297 and LD 25 so far this year. He also noted that he worked with Diana from Black Fly Media on those items as well. Dan spoke about LD1272 which allows for hyper-increased densities anywhere that there's sewer available, or if it's in a growth area. Emily spoke about LD 1498 and 1829, also regarding increased density. She added that a lot of communities haven't complied with LD2003 yet and is not clear on how all this is going to shake out. Emily and Dan will partner on some guidance for members regarding local home rule or planning efforts that towns may have taken for housing and sewer capacities.

Communications: Phil reported that Bryanna is working with NEWEA on a format for our newsletter.

Membership: Phil reported that they have a meeting next week to discuss a strategy to try to recruit new members and more members into the association, as well as going after existing members who have not renewed their membership.

Public Relations: Evan Pereira – no report.

Officer's Reports

Immediate Past President Report: Emily Cole-Prescott did not have a report.

President-Elect Report: Rob Pontau added to Andre's report that there's a meeting on June 30th with the Brunswick Town Council regarding biosolids. After that, he should have a better idea of what's happening with the Brunswick project.

President Report: Terry Tucker spoke about a survey for superintendents that will be circulated.

Vice President Report: Amanda Smith did not have a report.

Other New Business: no new business

Adjournment

Motion made by Phil Tucker; seconded by Rob Pontau, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 a.m.



COMMITTEE / OFFICER REPORT

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

GUIDELINE FOR OFFICER / COMMITTEE REPORT

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: June 20, 2025

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: Residuals

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: André Brousseau, Travis Peaslee

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: Attend a biosolids task force meeting on June 25th

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: Aries Water technology continues to push a drying facility in Sanford. André is working with Aries to sample biosolids from a handful of southern Maine facilities.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: André Brousseau

DATE SUBMITTED: June 16, 2025

DISTRIBUTION: MMA Affiliate Liaison
Executive Committee Meeting
Other:

NEWSLETTER

Please check if item should be expanded for external release. ☐



COMMITTEE / OFFICER REPORT

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

Local Government Center

60 Community Drive

Augusta, ME 04330

GUIDELINE FOR OFFICER / COMMITTEE REPORT

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: June 20, 2025

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: State Director

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: André Brousseau

RECENT ACTIVITIES: Attended NEWEA's spring conference held on May 11-14. Observed Force Maine participate in the operations challenge. Participated in the awards committee meeting during the conference. Attended NEWEA's virtual executive committee meeting on June 9th and the ASA/state directors meeting on June 13th.

Submitted the Operator and Peloquin nominations. Blast email was put out for any interested operators willing to exchange with Rhode Island September 11 & 12. Bryan Chonko from the Brunswick Sewer District will be heading to Rhode Island.

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: ASA/state director's meeting August 15th at 9AM. Coordinate the exchange program with RI, plus work on our plant tours for the RI operator heading to Maine.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: Make sure we update NEWEA's calendar to make sure none of the NE states have concurrent conferences. Connecticut is looking to the other states who have been successful with Young Professional committees.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: André Brousseau

DATE SUBMITTED: June 16, 2025

DISTRIBUTION: MMA Affiliate Liaison

Executive Committee Meeting

Other:

NEWSLETTER

Please check if item should be expanded for external release.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

Maine Municipal Association

60 Community Drive

Augusta, ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 6/20/2025

TREASURER NAME: Jeff McBurnie

ACCOUNT/BUDGET STATUS: I've reviewed our MMA financial documents for April. Our most recent statement (4/30/2025) shows balances of \$54,779.62 in our checking account and \$21,343.07 in our CD account. I cancelled our access to the Bangor Savings Bank Electronic Portal, which will save us a \$30 per month fee. It was used infrequently, so it seemed reasonable to cancel. We expended significant resources, \$9,321 in April, on legislative assistance. Ops Challenge had around \$3,200 in expenses, but much of that should be covered by sponsorships. May's expenses don't look to bad; biggest expense was Ops Challenge, ~\$4,500, for both the WEFTEC event and the competition at the NEWEA Spring Meeting, where Force Main took second place and advanced to the National competition in Chicago. Congrats! Again, much of the Ops Challenge expense will be reimbursed, either by Sponsors or by NEWEA. I

would encourage all committee chairs and council directors to hold a tight rein on spending, making expenditures on mission-critical items and avoiding unnecessary or frivolous expenses. If you have any ideas for additional Sponsorship and Advertising revenue, please feel free to share.

REMINDER: As always, if you spot errors, have questions, or just want to discuss the Association's general financial status, please don't hesitate to contact me.

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: 7/18/2025

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: None

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Jeff McBurnie

DATE SUBMITTED: 6/10/2025

DISTRIBUTION:

X MMA Affiliate Liaison
X Executive Committee Meeting
Newsletter

Other:

Please check if item should be expanded for external release.

REPRESENTATIVE/COMMITTEE/OFFICER REPORT

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

**15 University Dr
Augusta ME 04330**

COMMITTEE NAME: JETCC

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: March 13, 2025

RECENT ACTIVITIES: We are wrapped up for the summer. I am now working on the fall calendar and welcome any ideas, contacts, or offers for training.

The Management Candidate School Class of 2025 continues at the Bangor Water District. We are preparing for Operator Exchanges over the summer. We have 19 participants in the program. I anticipate that the next MCS class will be held in Portland.

DECISIONS MADE:

The Committee has not met since the last MEWEA EC meeting.

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS:

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: The next JETCC meeting is scheduled for June 26, 2025 in Bangor.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS:

REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

NAME: Peter Zaykoski, JETCC Program Manager
DATE SUBMITTED: 6/11/2025

REPRESENTATIVE/COMMITTEE/OFFICER REPORT

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION 15 University Dr Augusta ME 04330/18/2025

COMMITTEE NAME: Laboratory Committee

REPORT DATE: 6/11/2025

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 3/19/2025

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

DECISIONS MADE: Recipient for the 2025 David Anderson Laboratory Excellence Award

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS: P.Rand to attend virtual WEF Laboratory Practices Committee Meeting on 6/20/2025.

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: Next meeting on 6/18/2025 (virtual).

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: Will discuss laboratory training needs for Maine water and wastewater operators during 6/18/2025 committee meeting.

- Effective July 1st, 2025, wastewater surveillance testing by Biobot Analytical Services will transfer to the State of Maine's Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory. Biobot is the lab that many wwtps used during the COVID-19 Pandemic to test their influent wastewater for COVID-19. Wastewater surveillance has expanded since then, and now includes surveillance for additional viruses such as monkeypox, polio and Influenza A.
- The Lab Committee is proposing to offer a free, 2-hour, virtual "Lab Chat" session on Biochemical Oxygen Demand. The Lab Chat will be open to all MEWEA members to discuss BOD troubleshooting, best practices, and in general just provide a forum for questions and answers regarding this test. The Lab Committee is requesting the Executive Committee's approval to move forward with this initiative.
- Two of Maine's well-known commercial labs were recently acquired by other companies: Maine Environmental Laboratory was acquired by Eurofins, and Katahdin Analytical Services was acquired by SGS USA Laboratory Services.
- The address verification letters for the 2025 EPA Discharge Monitoring Report Quality Assurance (DMR-QA) Study were recently sent to wastewater treatment plants, marking the announcement of the Study. The deadline for wwtp labs to submit their DMR-QA Study analytical test results to their providers is August 29, 2025.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: MEWEA Lab Committee
NAME: Phyllis Rand, Co-chair

DATE SUBMITTED: 6/11/2025 amended 6/18/2025

Personnel Advancement Executive Committee Report

6/20/25

Council Director – Stacy Thompson

- Met with Justin and Charlene on 05.29.2025 to discuss getting the vendor/attendee packets out quickly. Goal is to have them out by end of June. Draft is being reviewed currently.
- Signed a contract this week with Saddleback for 2026's ski day, which will be held March 19th. Discounted ticket for Friday as well will be available.

Awards – Mike Guethle

- Awards nominations have closed. Do we need to keep the open a little longer? Until end of June?
- Much more nominations than last year but still needs improvement. Any suggestions?

New Professionals – Sierra Kuun

- Sea Dog event is scheduled for June 21st.

Personnel Advancement – Charlene Poulin

- Crafted a save the date email to send to membership for the Fall Convention. Should be going out on Monday this week (16th).
- All set with sessions.
- Working on spreadsheet with sessions for attendee package.

Convention– Justin Barnett

- Working on vendor/attendee packet, with goal of being out and complete by the end of June. Draft in progress. Once vendor packet is complete, we will shift to attendee packet.