

MEWEA Executive Board Meeting
Friday, November 18, 2022
In-Person – MWUA – 15 University Drive
Zoom

MINUTES

Attendance: Dave Beauchamp, Tim Wade, Jeff McBurnie, Phil Tucker, Stacy Thomson, Emily Prescott, Charlene Poulin, Terry Tucker, Brody Campbell, Sierra, Travis Peaslee, Andre Brousseau, Paula Drouin, Bryanna Denis, Joan Kiszely, Bruce Berger

Zoom Attendance: Alex Buechner, Amanda Smith, Gregg Wood, Jim Cohen, Sarah King, Alexander Lewis, Peter Zaykoski, Kristie Rabasca, Travis Jones.

Guest: Alexander Lewis & Kaitlin – Science Journalist

Call to Order: President Dave Beauchamp called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Absent: Andy Wendell, Mike Guethle, Travis Jones, Rob Pontau, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Quorum: It was determined there was a Quorum.

Minutes: Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Brody Campbell, all approved the October 21, 2022, minutes.

Tim & Emily met with Alexander Lewis & Kaitlin. They gave an update on their product. Together they are making a featured film about Wastewater. Theme of the film infrastructure, first responder massive workforce, massive workforce, etc. They want to educate the public about wastewater. Looking to have MeWEA help with this film and find some story lines. They did a movie about Snowy and will share it with MeWEA. Tim will discuss with the board how they can help Alexander & Kaitlin with this film. Tim would like anyone that has suggestions or concerns to reach out to him or Emily.

Tim noted they are looking to help these two however they need to be cautious. Charlene reported that they have been filming Portland Water District for the past year.

Tim noted they are very excited about the work they are doing and they feel the work that the professionals and operators do in the field are under valued to what they do,

Treasurer’s Report: Jeff reviewed the Treasurers report indicating everything is in order on the September & October financial report. Discussed the Sunday River invoice. Joan indicated the invoice was about \$26,000. He noted that as long as we do things in person we should be ok.

Motion made by Dave Beauchamp, seconded by Stacy Thompson, all approved the Treasurers report.

Budget Review: Jeff McBurnie reviewed the 2023 draft budget. He will forward the draft budget to the entire board. Bruce indicated they will be more aggressive with the sponsorship next year. He reviewed all the representatives and committee chairs budget. No action at this point on the draft budget. The final budget may be ready for a vote in December or January. Brief discussion on the Budget for the Black Fly Media. Phil indicated they gave 9 months covered on the line budget. Also, a discussion on the contract with the lobbying fee. Jeff indicated they split the fee with MWUA. There will be a meeting to do with the fee on the Agreement contract for administrative services with MWUA. A brief discussion on the Washington D.C fly in.

Tim noted that MeWEA may be a MOU with DEP for a study by Brown & Caldwell. Tim talked about where the funding was coming from. This is for a Bio Solids study. Thee budget will be voted on in December or January.

Phil Tucker & Rob Pontau & Stacy Thompson did a Membership & Convention Fee & Structure

Membership Fee & Structure:

Memberships		Current	25%	10%	9%
Individual memberships	90	\$40	\$50	\$55	\$60
Group memberships	43	\$100	\$125	\$140	\$150
Group members	354	\$20	\$25	\$30	\$35
Corporate membership	50	\$200	\$250	\$275	\$300
Corporate members	148	\$25	\$30	\$35	\$40
TOTAL		\$28,680	\$35,665	\$40,520	\$45,138
Increase in Revenue			\$6,985	\$3,585	\$3,549
Grand Total Increased Revenue			\$17,007.00	\$9,925.00	\$9,589.15

Convention			2023	2024	2025
		Current	12%	9%	8%
Full Conference (member)	62	\$205	\$230	\$250	\$270
Full Conference (non-member)	17	\$290	\$320	\$350	\$380
Full Conference door (member)	2	\$260	\$290	\$310	\$340
Full Conference door (non-member)	4	\$350	\$390	\$420	\$450
Full Conference (Young Professional or Lifetime)	15	\$100	\$110	\$120	\$130
1 Day (member)	19	\$105	\$120	\$130	\$140
1 Day (non-member)	16	\$150	\$170	\$180	\$200
1 Day Door (member)	8	\$130	\$150	\$160	\$170
1 Day Door (non-member)	9	\$175	\$200	\$210	\$230
1 Day (Young Professional or Lifetime)	9	\$50	\$60	\$60	\$70
Sponsorship Special Rate	4	\$95	\$110	\$120	\$130
TOTAL		\$28,898	\$32,470	\$35,090	\$38,070
Increase in Revenue			\$3,572	\$2,620	\$2,980
		Current	20%	11%	8%
Vendor Booth (member)	30	\$550	\$660	\$730	\$790
Vendor Booth (non-member)	18	\$685	\$860	\$950	\$1,020
TOTAL		\$28,830	\$35,280	\$39,000	\$42,060
Increase in Revenue			\$6,450	\$3,720	\$3,060

Motion made by Terry Tucker, seconded by Emily, all approved the 2023, 2024 & 2025 proposed budget for membership fee, and convention fee.

Convention Report: Phil Tucker & Stacy Thompson reported on the following:

- Phil reported on the fee structure.
- Stacy wants the golf to go into the Fall Convention and not have it stand alone
- Ski Day is still up in the air and has not have a contract yet– New Hampshire is working on. Green Mountain.
- 2023 & 2024 will not be competitive in the future in Sunday River
- Wanting to do the August meeting at the Samoset, and Spring Conference in 2024 at the Samoset
- Discussion on does MeWEA continue with having the Spring Conference
It is also a lot of work with no profit

- Amanda & Travis Jones will reach out to plants and see why they are not attending the MeWEA training.

Old Business

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

DEP Report: Gregg Wood reported the following:

- Operator Certification rule is out for review is at the AG office Looking to adopt in late January
- Modifying the bacteria; numbers
- Personnel crisis– a lot of positions open
- Brian K is retiring the end of the year
- 28 percent backlog on the POTWs & probably doing this in 3 years
- Mining application coming in
- Jim Crowley will probably go another year before he retires. He wants to see the PFAS through

JETCC-NEIWPC: Peter Zaykoski submitted a report to Google Drive. He indicated the following:

- Last meeting yesterday
- Working on the Fall calendar
- Have remote training going on
- Looking ahead at their winter/spring calendar
- Looking at in-person training
- Remote classes also are planned
- North Country Review – Spring has blocked overnight rooms. Proof of vaccination is required.
- Preparatory Class: Travis Jones gave an update on this class. JETCC cannot give a Certificate. Candidates must put together an application. Test is done like operator's test. NEWEA has taken this process back. He wanted to make people aware.
- Did discuss candidates to fill positions on JETCC board

NEWEA: Paula Drouin submitted a report on the Google Drive.

- Attended NEWEA Nominating Committee meeting on 11/10.
- Operator Exchange - Grady Handsom from Biddeford is the Maine Operator. He will attend tours in NH on 12/7-8 and attend the NHWPCA Winter Meeting on December 9th. I am waiting for confirmation on who

they will be sending to us, but those dates will be: 12/14-15 for tours and 12/16 attending our holiday meeting/luncheon.

- Wrapped up work with MEWEA Ad hoc committee. Information should be presented to MEWEA EC at the 11/18 meeting.
- Working to get the events calendar populated for 2023, including getting as many events from our affiliates and other state associations so we can schedule appropriately. FYI – WEF Collection Systems Committee is potentially looking to have their specialty conference in Portland May 2024. Howard Carter will be President of WEF in 2025, so we are going to try to get WEFMAX to New England that year, stay tuned.
- Attended NEWEA EC meeting on 11/16. One discussion item was about Operator Exchange program and how sometimes operators are required to use their own time off and there isn't adequate funding. Because of this, they have asked that each affiliated state association (ASA) investigate getting training credit hours (TCH's) for the program.
- Dan Bisson, leading the Workforce Development Initiative, is looking for a list of items we have done in Maine to develop the workforce. (e.g. career fairs, career path brochures, free website postings of career opportunities, PR events and tours at facilities).

MWUA: Bruce reported on the following:

- Planning the conference
- Has allocated a space/booth for MeWEA
- Joint meeting with MeWEA & MWUA November 28th – 1 to 3

Membership & MWUA: Rob Pontau was not in attendance.

MeWEA: Joan Kiszely reported on the following:

- Doing a Timeline for the next 4 months so the team here is onboard with me. Working on 2022 Fall Convention invoice, upcoming 2023 Ski Day, Legislative Breakfast, Proposal for the 2024 Spring Conference, Clean Water Week, reviewing, and reviewing the 2023 Fall Convention.
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Legislation Advocate: Jim Cohen reported on the following:

- PFAS spent a lot of time in Legislature.

- Elections – Democrat leadership on all level. 45% legislators are new.
- Margins on both bodies are about the same
- Legislative Leadership races - Will have new leaders
- Historic: First black leader
- He gave the lineup of who the leaders would be
- PFAS – work in what we have for bills. Thinks they want to change some bills
- Need to meet with the new legislators
- Hope to have the Legislative Breakfast on January 18th.
- Question & Answers

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards Committee: Mike Guethle submitted a report to Google Drive.

Collections System: Travis Jones indicated the following:

- All quiet currently.
- He indicated he will do the Corn Hole tournament for NEWEA. He would need a head up early on. If he is asked, he would do this. Thinking about doing this at their Spring meeting. Would need help with this.
- There is a generic plaque

Communications Report: Bryanna Denis submitted her report to Google Drive.

- Prep for November newsletter
- Updated the Sponsorship program for 2023 (simplified)
- Transitioning to 3 newsletters per year in 2023 – March, July, November
- Maybe have a Vendor of the year from MWUA & MeWEA to put in the newsletter

Government Affairs Report: Amanda Smith & Emily Cole-Prescott submitted a report to Google Drive. They reported on the following:

- Submitted comment letter to the EPA on proposed rulemaking to designate PFOS & PFOA hazardous substances under CERCLA
- Submitted comment letters on two BABA waivers for projects funded through SRF and earmarks
- Created survey to members asking for input on DEP's O&M rulemaking (Chapter 533)

- Partnered with Defend Our Health on a source reduction letter to DEP Commissioner to continue support for the specified timelines of LD 1503
- Continued partnering with NEIWPCC on biohub concept (stakeholder meeting held on November 4th)
- Continued partnering with NEBRA on biosolids management survey
- Continued monitoring water as a resource legislative committee with MWUA
- Continued monitoring DEP's rulemaking process for PFAS in food packaging and businesses reporting PFAS products to the DEP
- Continued monitoring ENR committee meetings on Construction & Demolition Debris
- Started planning Legislative Breakfast

- Legislative Breakfast back in person this year; working with MWUA; tentative date and location: January 18th at the Senator in Augusta
Theme would be Waffles & Water
- Meeting with DEP yesterday and it went well

Laboratory: Andy Wendell submitted a report to Google Drive.

- Reviewing the amended Maine Comprehensive and Limited Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Rule. Comment deadline is Monday November 28, 2022, 5pm
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Personal Advancement Report: Charlene Poulin reported on the following:

- Working on 5 Sessions for the MWUA February Conference
- Phyllis Rand is going to the Session you cancelled on for the Fall Convention
- Travis Peaslee

Pretreatment Report: Terry Tucker submitted a report to Google Drive. She added the following:

- Did attend a Pre-Treatment conference in October
- 1633 is supposed to be done by the end of the year
- Has a timeline from EPA regarding to PFAS
- Anyone who is using Katadin Labs is not good. Many must resample

Public Relations Report: Tim Wade reported on the following:

- Contract with Fly Media – good meeting
- They need to fill this position
- They will reach out to Waterville-KSTD, and a couple people from Woodard & Curran might be willing to chair and sit on this board

Residual Management Report: Andre Brousseau & Travis Peaslee indicated:

- Working on a draft biosolids study scope with Brown & Caldwell, DEP, and MEWEA members. Travis met with DEP commissioner on 11/7 to discuss.
- Continued discussions with pfas destruction technology vendors, biosolid volume reduction vendors, landfill operators, and firms exploring regional treatment solutions
- Both attended NEBRA Conference
- Andre visited LCI dryer installation
- Submitted budget request

Storm Water Report: Kristie Rabaska & Sara King submitted a report.

- No new changes
- Continuing to work with EPA & DEP

Treatment Plant Operator Report: Alex Buechner submitted a report on Google Drive.\

- Budget request submitted. Discussed next years equipment availability and training day with NEWEA Ops Challenge (Jason Swain). Equipment availability for the NEWEA teams continues to be an issue. Team is confirmed for next year. I plan on attending the NEWEA meeting in January to discuss the joint spring Ops Challenge events.
- POSTER CONTEST: 2022 poster contest wrapped up. Tell your friends about the 2023 contest.

Young Professionals Report: Brody Campbell indicated the following:

- Sierra Kuun will be taking over for Brody.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Presidents Report: Dave Beauchamp tabled this because of time.

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

- Google Drive – did a quick training.
- Credit Card: Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Stacy Thompson, all approved for Joan Kiszely to get a MeWEA credit card. It was indicated that controls need to be in place.

2nd Vice President: Position Vacant

Past President Report: Phil Tucker reported on the following:

- Administrative Guide – encourages everyone to look at the changes. The by-laws then will need to be amended.
Council Directors - MWUA & JETCC representatives will be allowed to vote
This came out of the Strategic Sessions – restructuring the committees
- Will bring this action item up again at the December meeting
- Moving this forward will require the full membership to vote. This cannot move forward without a business meeting & a by-law change. Alternative: We could do this virtually at North Country to host a business meeting.
- Communication Council: Congratulated Phil Tucker who will serve on this committee for NEWEA.

Adjourn: Motion made by Tim Wade, seconded by Terry Tucker, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December Board Meeting held at Brunswick Sewer District on December 16th.