

**MEWEA Executive Board Meeting  
Friday, June 17, 2022  
In-Person & Zoom**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Tim Wade, Paula Drouin, Mike Guethle, Jeff McBurnie, Travis Peaslee, Ben Stiles, Bruce Berger, Joan Kiszely.

**Zoom Attendance:** Dan Bisson, Terry Tucker, Sarah King, Rob Pontau, Amanda Smith, Jim Cohen, Stacy Thompson, Emily Prescott, Ben Stiles Terry Tucker, Andy Wendell, Charlene Poulin, Alex Buechner.

**Absent:** Gregg Wood, Travis Jones, Phil Tucker, Dave Beauchamp, Gretchen Anderson, Peter Zaykoski, Brody Campbell.

**Call to Order:** President Tim Wade called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

**Correspondence Folder:** No Correspondence.

**Quorum:** It was determined there was a Quorum.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Rob Pontau, all approved the May 20, 2022, minutes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jeff McBurnie reviewed the Treasurers report indicating everything is in order on the May financial report. He indicated that the total assets were \$89,927.93. He indicated he is happy to get Travis Peaslee on board as a  
Motion made by Mike Guethle, seconded by Charlene Poulin, all approved the Treasurers report.

**Old Business:**

**REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**DEP Report:** Gregg Wood was not in attendance.

**JETCC-NEIWPC:** Peter Zaykoski submitted a report.

**Legislative Advocate:** Jim Cohen reported the following:

- Legislatures remains adjourn
- Tuesday was election day
- Rep. Berry resigned his seat. Going to work on the issue of taking over CMP.
- 60 percent of all of the defeats will be turned over in the Senate
- PFAS- EPA recommendations
- Why the work we do is not a mandate

**NEWEA:** Paula Drouin submitted a report. She reviewed highlights of her report.

**MWUA:** Bruce reported MWUA had a meeting yesterday.

- The board voted to spend \$1,800 to \$2,300 to support the workforce

**MeWEA:** Joan Kiszely reported on the following:

- Working on Membership renewals that didn't go out due to not having Addresses or emails. They all received their renewal this past week, and we will make phone calls to follow-up. Total to date outstanding is around \$13,000.
- Vendor packet is with Graphic Designer. Once we get it back, we will send it to Phil, Stacy, Tim, and Dave to proof. They hope to have it out the door via email on June 2
- Reviewing the 2023 & 2024 Proposals from Sunday River. Stacy requested she inquire about the large fee on the proposals to use the Ballroom. Joan will follow-up and see if she can get that fee down.

**MeWEA/MWUA Affiliate:** Rob Pontau submitted a reported on the following:

- Membership: He has been working with Joan on outstanding membership. See above in Joan's report.
- Operators Challenge: They did not quality and finished 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Paula Drouin, all approved that Tim Haskell become a Life member of MeWEA.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Awards Committee:** Mike Guethle reported on the following:

- There are several award nominations currently,
- He is waiting for Committee Chairs to get their nominations in by end of July
- Brief discussion on the Goodnow Award

**Collections System:** Ben Stiles reported the following:

- Corn Hole tournament
- His committee is meeting in Mid-June
- He will get a nomination in for the Charles Perry Award

**Communications Report:** Bryanna Denis was not present.

- It was indicated that the Newsletter had gone out
- Bruce mentioned he would like to see the newsletter go out only 2 times a year Rather than 4. He feels it is very costly.

**Convention Report:** Phil Tucker was not present. Stacy Thompson reported the following:

- Vendor Packet going out soon
- Questions regarding the 2023 & 2024 Proposed Contracts for Fall Conventio

**Government Affairs Report:** Amanda Smith & Emily Cole-Prescott submitted a report. She reported on the following:

- Met with Maine DEP Commissioner and several DEP directors to review the impact of PFAS legislation and potential options to collaboratively move forward.
- Will be meeting again with DEP to have follow up conversations.
- Will be scheduling another GA meeting soon.

**Laboratory:** Andy Wendell reported on the following:

- Phyllis Rand will do a Session at the fall convention on Covid 19.

**Membership Report:** Rob Pontau gave his update earlier on.

**Personal Advancement Report:** Charlene Poulin submitted a report. She reported in addition the following:

- Sessions/Speakers for the upcoming fall convention
- Recommended changing Friday's structure of the conference

**Pretreatment Report:** Terry Tucker submitted a report:

- Had a meeting at Inland Technologies in South Portland
- Discussion on awards
- Discussed permitting questions & types of industrial user applications
- Possible outcome on PFAS and what it will have on the industrial users in the future
- Tour of de-icing facility
- October 26-27 – NERPCA Annual Workshop – Lowell, MA

**Public Relations Report:** No one in the position!

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

- Began working to evaluate the impacts of PFAS
- Would like to share the information with all association members. Not sure how best to communicate to our members. This is an area they need to give more thoughts to

**Storm Water Report:** Sarah King

Kristie Rabasca submitted a report. Sarah King reported:

- Clean Water Shed Survey

**Treatment Plant Operator Report:** Alex Buechner was not present.

**Young Professionals Report:** Brody Campbell had no report at this time.

## **OFFICERS REPORTS**

**Presidents Report:** Dave Beauchamp was not in attendance.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice Presidents Report:** Tim submitted a report. Tim Wade reported on the following:

- Took a position at Summit Gas and he gave his notice. His last day will be July 15<sup>th</sup>. He has support to continue with this Association from his new employer. He proposed by August or September to let the board know his commitment to this board. He indicated he will need support from others. Tim indicated he will reach out to Gretchen to get her more involved. They need a strong Vice President next year.
- Proposed to serve as Vice President for now, and by August he can report on his capacity to move on as President or not,
- Concerned that some officers are spread thin. Maybe he can find others to fill in where needed. He will reach out to Gretchen Anderson to try and get her engaged. We need a strong 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.
- Strategic Planning follow-up is June 22<sup>nd</sup>
- 50<sup>th</sup> Clean Water Week Celebration. Zach & Shannon secured the site.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Gretchen Anderson was not present.

**Past President Report:** Phil Tucker was not present.

**Other New Business:**

**Dan Bisson submitted a Regional Water & Workforce Collaboration:**

A proposal to provide Professional Services Support. He discussed the following from the beginning:

- Background
- Qualifications
- Proposed Approach
- Proposed Schedule
- Services
- Additional Support
- Budget
- On-Site
- On-site Workshop I & Workshop II
- Communication Support
- Project Management

He discussed of getting the efforts together on putting a committee together to look at attracting more workers to come into this industry. All utilities would pull together to focus on the effort & local issues regarding additional staff.

He discussed their budget and noted they are looking for more funds towards this effort. He talked about the Baywalk model. Looking to get 2 facilities to be a representative on this

committee. If this is done well it should help everyone. He indicated everyone needs to ban together to get people into this industry. The goal is to benefit everyone and not just some. Tim Wade requested that during the commission work they get updates on the work being done. Looking for letters of commitment/support by the end of July. The work product for the end result is to develop a proposal of what the industry/organization would look like.

Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Tim Wade, all approved to support \$1,800 to \$2,300 to the initiative to develop this workforce. One Opposed. Emily Prescott will write a letter for support.

**Dual Service Award:** Phil Tucker forwarded an email to Executive Board regarding looking into a Dual Service Award. This is intended for an individual who has served at least 4 years in the military, has transferred to the water sector, and has served for at least 4 years on any NEWEA or Member Association Committee. After a brief discussion it was decided to table this discussion at this time. The board felt they already have enough Awards that they present to members.

Next Board Meeting: Friday – August 19, at MWUA

**Adjourn:** Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Paula Drouim, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- August 3 – Golf/MWUA - Val Halla
- August 11 - Summer Outing/MWUA - Cumberland County Fairgrounds
- September 29 - CWA 50th Anniversary Celebration - Simard-Payne Park, Lewiston
- September 21-23-Fall Convention-Sunday River, Newry