

MEWEA Executive Board Meeting
Friday, August 19, 2022
In-Person – MWUA
Zoom

MINUTES

Attendance: Jeff McBurnie, Dave Beauchamp, Tim Wade, Bruce Berger, Joan Kiszely.

Zoom Attendance: Ben Stiles, Amanda Smith, Andre Brousseau, Brody Campbell, Gregg Wood, Jim Cohen, Paula Drouin, Peter Zaykoski, Phil Tucker, Rob Pontau, Sarah King, Haley Ward, Theresa Tucker, Travis Jones, Phil Tucker, Bryanna Dennis, Emily Prescott.

Absent:

Call to Order: President Dave Beauchamp called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Correspondence Folder: No Correspondence.

Quorum: It was determined there was a Quorum.

Minutes: Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Tim Wade, all approved the June 17, 20, 2022 minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff McBurnie reviewed the Treasurers report indicating everything is in order on the August financial report. Revenue is behind in membership. On track with Sponsorship. Some funds coming in for the Fall Convention. We are \$3,000 over on legislative. The good news is they are ok but need to pay attention to spending money. He feels MeWEA is about \$8,000 short due to membership.

Motion made by Tim Wade, seconded by Rob Pontau, all approved the Treasurers report.

Old Business:

Admin Guide: Tim Wade indicated the admin guide is a work in progress.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

DEP Report: Gregg Wood reported on the following:

- PFAS – Meeting to talk about this issue
- Letter going out for Effluent Sampling – Compliance Inspector should have told everyone. Doing 4 training sessions early in September
- Rules Making
 - Operation & Maintenance & Asset Plan – Put out for 30 day for comments Public – Matt Height is in charge of this – Hearing is scheduled
 - Operator Certification – working through
 - 2023 Rules they will be working on:**

Update EPA Rules
Operator Certification
Bio Assessment
Modifying Regulations pertaining to Temperature
Fresh Water Nutrient Criteria - Phosphorus Rule
Toxics – Amend this rule
Mixing Zone Rule
Nutrient Criteria - Nitrogen – Drafted a permit for the Town of Freeport – May not be good for Marine Discharges

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

- Held a board meeting on August 9 they approved the 2023 Budget for 2023
Talked about Training for the fall & Spring and North Country in Presque Isle – April
Must have proof of vaccination – discussed this policy
Microbiology Class – 3 hours Working with Brewer – In person class
Working on remote training – some are already scheduled
JETCC Awards – Given 3 awards at the Fall Convention
New Award – Excellence Award – Named after Leeann Hanson - Excellence
Management Award – Travis Jones mentioned that Leeann Hanson was so appreciative of this award.

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

- Upcoming Operator Exchange – Jon Koestner from Biddeford is interested and will try to get someone from New Hampshire. She is trying to find someone from New Hampshire to come to our Fall Convention. Paula will not be at the Fall Convention and hoping someone will reach out to help the Operator Exchange person.

MWUA: Bruce reported on the following:

- Rob Pontau discussed the following:
MWUA Meeting was yesterday
The discussion Jim Cohen will discuss on the Maine Affordable Energy. MWUA is in support of this.
Summer outing discussion – very good outing
Golf Tournament at Val Halla – heard this was also good. Looking at locations for next year,

MeWEA: Joan Kiszely reported on the following:

- Working on Fall Convention
- Exhibitor hall is completely sold
- Paula has offered to help Mike G. on the awards program

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards Committee: Mike Guethle was not present.

- Jeff McBurnier indicated he needs to know who is receiving the Gagnon award,
- He is ordering plaques this afternoon

Collections System: Ben Stiles & Travis Jones reported the following:

- MWUA Summer Outing went well
- Sent email out to a few folks letting them know that he doesn't have time to put in on the Collections System. Travis Jones & Chris Gallant will take this over.
- Meeting yesterday to go over the Cornhole coming up at the Fall Convention
- Travis Jones gave a brief discussion on the Cornhole – purchasing battery operated lights, & wireless microphone.
- Will sponsor drink tickets and for food.
- Budget of \$3,000 – Board would like a proposal of what he is wanting to purchase. Getting a sponsor for food. He will contact Joan to go over things before she goes to Sunday River. He wanted permission to stockpile equipment. Board cannot approve without a budget. He was asked to get some numbers put together on a budget. They want him to reach out and share the equipment amongst other groups. Travis will work with Joan & Tim on a budget. Their was an over abundance of drink tickets last year.

Communications Report: Bryanna Denis submitted her report to Google Drive

- Prep for Augusta Newsletter – Should go out the end of August
- Lacey Kramer to join the Communications Committee to help Paula Drouin out on the social media.
- Lacey Kramer works for Wright Pierce – Up & coming Engineer
- No one has any reservations with Lacey coming aboard on an Admin

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

- Would like list Registered Report every Friday for Golf & Attendees She needs to update the Golf pro every Friday
- Contracts for 2022 & 2023 have not been signed yet
- Joan indicated that she will be discussing the contracts with SR next week with Troy at SR
- Was a minor issue on having the address wrong. The attendee packet went out incorrect.
- Phil indicated that they talked about having a home for this conference

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

- Sampling – DEP will do training
- Joint Survey with NEBRA & MeWEA
- Meeting with Assistant General Office on Monday – will report back on this
- Focusing on Stake Holder Collaboration & Engagement – Had a 2nd meeting with DEP
- Amanda indicated that when DEP begins the Effluent testing as that data starts coming in they are going to put in a cover page on the results

Laboratory: Andy Wendell was not present

Membership Report: Rob Pontau reported on the following:

- Travis Peaslee approached him about doing a database for our membership Survey – on salary, how many employees, what are you paying for sludge etc. Bruce, /Cindy & Joan will help Rob on this with a extra cost on admin. Need more information

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

- Working on getting Speaker Forms back
- Will upload and getting them to Cindy & Joan
- Signs are usually done by Wright Pierce
- Phil indicated that Charlene is doing a great job with the speakers and sessions -she indicated that people did reach out and help her.

Pretreatment Report: Terry Tucker had no report.

Public Relations Report: No one in the position!

Residual Management Report: Andre Brousseau submitted a report. He indicated:

- Good information on meeting
- NEBRA Lunch & Learn he attended was good
- Yesterday he presented in front of Rotary & Kiwanis
- We need to reach out to the Real Estate for LD 1911

Storm Water Report: Sarah King had no report

- Next meeting is October 7th

Treatment Plant Operator Report: Alex Buechner reported the following:

- September 29 - CWA 50th Anniversary Celebration - Simard-Payne Park, Lewiston

Young Professionals Report: Brody Campbell reported the following:

- Last meeting in July
- Couple of Nominees for the YP Award – recommendations went to Mike Guethle
- One application in for higher education scholarship

OFFICERS REPORTS

Presidents Report: Dave Beauchamp had no report.

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

- Ad hoc is still reviewing the Administrative Guide – will have updates middle of November

- Will meet with Rob Pontau about doing a membership survey
- Upcoming of the 50th Celebration for the Clean Water Week Act – September 29 2:30 p.m. NRCM will do 50 champions. This is an important event. He would like everyone to show up from 2:30 pm to 6:00 p.m.
Jeff McBurnie indicated they are looking for \$2,300 from MeWEA

Treasurer: Looking forward to the Fall Convention

2nd Vice President: Gretchen Anderson was not present.

Past President Report: Phil Tucker had no report.

Legislative Advocate: Jim Cohen reported the following:

- Lengthy discussion on the Maine Affordable Energy
What it means to join the Coalition
Ballot question committee has been put together – Will be on the ballot in November
Members of the Coalition – about 6,000 members
Testimony from former PUC officials
Timeline that reflects how the takeover proposal would phase in over the course of a decade or more
LD 1911
MeWEA should be interested in joining this because we can regulate the rates. Board will be governed by Elected Officials.
Do we support another entity to take over
- Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Stacy Thompson, brief questions & answers, all approved to join the Maine Affordable Coalition.

Next Board Meeting: October 21, 2022

Adjourn: Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Tim Wde, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 21-23-Fall Convention-Sunday River, Newry

