

APPROVED

MeWEA Executive Board Meeting
In-Person & Zoom
Bangor Wastewater Treatment Plant
July 21, 2023

MINUTES

Attendance: Amanda Smith, Tim Wade, Jeff McBurnie, Dave Beauchamp, Stacy Thompson, Emily Cole-Prescott.

Zoom Attendance: Sarah King, Evan Pereira, Paula Drouin, Travis Peaslee, Jim Cohen, Rob Pontau, Terry Tucker, Peter Zaykoski, Sierra Kuun, Jennifer Nicholson, Cindy Wade, Joan Kiszely.

Absent: Andy Wendell, Bryanna Denis, Travis Jones, Charlene Poulin, Mike Guethle, Alex Buechner, Phil Tucker.

Call to Order: President Tim Wade called the meeting to order at 9:02a.m.

Quorum: It was determined there was a Quorum.

Minutes: Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Dave Beauchamp, all approved with edits mentioned in the June 16, 2023, minutes

Treasurer's Report: Jeff McBurnie submitted a written report (attached at the end of minutes) on the June 2023 financial report. Jeff reported the following: Need to keep an eye on things with the budget. May need to look at the membership dues when doing the budget. When planning the budget, they need to have the budget sustainable. The biggest shortfall is Member Clicks increase. There was a brief discussion on how they can make more revenue and possibly market the Fall Convention to get attendance & vendors. Peter Zaykoski mentioned he thinks the convention team should be able to work with Ed Wright with the Community College for possible revenue. He explained how the Community College worked with JETCC for funding.

Motion made by Emily Cole-Prescott, seconded by Stacy Thompson, all approved the June Treasurer's report.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

DEP Report: Gregg Wood was not in attendance.

JETCC-NEIWPCC: Peter Zaykoski reported the following and submitted a Report. (attached at the end of minutes).

- In – person training
- Exam prep class – they are full August 15, 16 & 17. Offer another class on August 23, & 24 if others want to attend.
- Management Candidate Class update. He thanked all those that have been assisting him.
- Working on JETCC budget
- 2024 – MeWEA agreed to let Management Candidate members come to the Fall Convention at a discount.
- Spring Connolly will attend the Fall MeWEA convention. She will come as a Certification Representative, and hand out letters to the members that want theirs. They will advertise on Thursday a.m. that members can pick up their certification letter at the JETCC booth., and she will be their to answer questions regarding Certification. Joan Kiszely will mention this in the program.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE: Jim Cohen reported the following:

- Legislatures are still in session They will meet on Tuesday, July 25th. The primary reason they will be meeting is the two-veto override votes. One being foreign government interference and minimum wage for agriculture workers.
- The legislature is having to go through the 50 bills processed by the appropriations committee about one week ago.
- 266 Legislation bills on the appropriations table.
- 40 -50 bills have some funding.
- Some of the things that came out of the appropriations committee was Part 2 Budget process which included funding for medical leave law that was passed. They added a Child Tax Credit. This will help parents with childcare. There were some housing initiatives in the budget. The Part 2 budget got signed by the Governor a week ago.
- The issue we were following that was in the Part II budget was the funding for SRF. There was a very generous package of funding that was in the budget. The Appropriations Committee trimmed about 30 million dollars off of that out of the budget. Let's focus on what money we got. Did a lot on this, and let's be happy with what they got. That money will not be restored. There will be a supplement for monies at the next session.

- Fall Session: Jim has not heard anything about there being a fall session. The intent is to come back in January. A few committees will meet in the fall.

State Directors Report: Paula Drouin submitted a report. (attached at the end of minutes). She reported the following:

- NEWWEA is having their 4th Annual Source Water Brewery Competition
- Included a link in Women's Environmental Networking event in Boston on August 16th.
- Working on Operator Exchange and will talk with Stacy Thompson about an Operator that is interested in the Operator Exchange program.

MWUA: Rob Pontau reported the following:

- August 2 is the MWUA Golf Tournament at Val Halla
- August 10 is the MWUA Summer Outing
- Executive Board & Membership got an invite sent out yesterday.

MEWEA/MWUA Affiliate: Joan Kiszely reported the following:

- I have 43 Exhibitors to date. I have about 3 more spaces
- Attendee Packet going out this afternoon or Monday,
- Trying to extend the overnight room deadline with Sunday River.

Old Business:

Tim Wade Reported the following:

- Ad Hoc Committee has a report for the Executive Committee
At the end of this meeting, they will go into Executive Session to discuss.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AWARDS: Mike Guethle was absent but emailed Tim. Tim reported the following from his email:

Long story short, I know a lot of people have ideas of people in-line, and I also need the following in-hand no later than August 1:

1. Name of awardee

I need the following by August 15 so that I can pull together the program:

2. Presenter

3. 1-2 sentences for the awardee in case the presenter is sick/busy with work.
4. Contact info for awardee so that I can let them know the details
5. Picture of awardee for the little booklet we do.

Collection System: Travis Jones was not present.

Communications: Bryanna Denis was not present.. Tim Wade reported the following:

- Newsletter is being proofed and will go out next week,

Convention: Stacy Thompson reported the following:

- Attendee Packet – will be reviewing this afternoon.
- Charlene has done a great job. Wanted to recognize her efforts.
- Promote golf & sponsorship – Joan to promote!
- Reported on the pricing of golf.
- Possible having a BBQ at the golf course rather than at the Camp Restaurant.
- Going to meet with Troy at Sunday River to go over 2024 & 2025 contracts.
- Joan to start a schedule to what day & time to hold meetings in Sunday River.

Government Affairs: The committee did not submit a report. Emily Cole-Prescott verbally reported the following:

- Nothing new
- Bio-Solids – Travis Peaslee, Andre Brousseau & Emily are taking the lead to joining the Bio solids meeting.
Phil proposed to get a larger group together. Travis Peaslee mentioned possible meetings at the Fall Convention or the middle of next month.
- Joan will send out an email to those that want to hold a meeting at SR and set up a schedule of the meetings in the small room at Sunday River.
- Jeff McBurnie reported that the Governor signed LD 1718 on June 23rd.
There is some temporary relief. He indicated that there were several solid waste Stakeholder meetings throughout the state.

Laboratory: Andy Wendell submitted a committee report. (attached at the end of minutes). Tim Wade reported on the following:

- Loosing Andy at the end of the year
- Will need a new Laboratory committee chair.

- Any ideas on who would like to be the committee chair.

Membership Committee: Jennifer Nicholson submitted a report. (attached at the end of minutes) Nothing new to report.

Personnel Advancement Report: Charlene Poulin was absent. She submitted a report. (attached at the end of the minutes)

Tim indicated that Charlene has done a great job on getting the Session Map completed.

Pretreatment Report: Terry Tucker submitted a committee report (attached at the end of the minutes) Terry added the following:

- Had a meeting at the end of June.
- Talked about the PFAS study.
- Website: Not sure it has been updated on the data?
- DEP stated that once permits start getting renewed, then there is possibility that permits could potentially have PFAS monitoring added to the permits.
- DEP will pick up the cost for the second round of sampling for 12 POTWs who have the highest PFAS limits.
- Alpha Analytical reached out and stated that there is an issue with Method 1633 if the TSS is higher than 50 mg/L.
- New England Regional Pretreatment Conference coming up the end of October in Lowell, MA
- Jim Crowley is leaving at the end of the year.

Public Relations: Evan Pereira submitted a Committee report (attached at the end of minutes). He added the following:

- Held a few meetings with Diana Nelson to establish better communication.
- Will hold Bi-Weekly check-in with Diana, Terry, and himself as a regular touch point for Diana to gather information.
- Sending out monthly emails & updates to those who sponsored Diana for potential stories as well as Committee Chairs.
- Tim indicated it might help to reach out to other committee members as opposed to just the Chairs.

Residual Management Report: Travis Peaslee submitted a report. (attached at the end of minutes). He added the following:

- Actively communicating\

- Working with Brown & Caldwell on the study.
- Bi-weekly meeting
- A lot of good things happening
- At some point they can get information out about the study
- PWD – Bown & Caldwell is in close contact with PWD

Storm water Report: Sarah King reported the following:

- High Level has had low attendance at their meetings.
- Putting together another Survey to see what people are looking for to better engage.
- Maybe do a lunch & learn.
- Having trouble to get DEP to respond to them.

Treatment Plant Operator Report: Alex Buechner was absent.

Young Professionals Report: Sierra Kuun reported the following:

- Meeting in August
- YP Awards – Sierra will be emailing the committee about the YP Award, and will encourage interns to apply for the scholarship.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Presidents Report: Tim Wade reported on the following:

- Sea Dogs Event was a couple of weeks ago and it went well. The committee had a follow-up meeting and wants to look at doing it in 2024. There was no expense. He indicated that MeWEA indicated they would be interested in participating.
- Following the LD 1718 – Interest in a couple of spin offs – They will see what sessions the convention offers & NEBRA. Maybe adding another committee – Superintendents/Manager committee. Travis & Emily will be working on this,
- Next meeting, they will come back with their findings.
- Report from a colleague – Flagging company
Good Samaritan came by with water for the flag man. One got sick and there was a death. Pass this information on.
Recommendation is to not accept anything.

1st Vice President Report: Emily Prescott had no report.

2nd Vice President Report: Terry Tucker had no report.

Immediate Past President: Dave Beauchamp had no report.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Executive Session: Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, seconded by Dave, Beauchamp, all approved to go into Executive Session
Motion made by Jeff McBurnie, Dave Beauchamp seconded the motion, all approved to go out of Executive Session at 11:10 a.m.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: August 18, 2023, + at Tim Wades Home
Propose the time to start between 10 :00 a.m.-11 a.m. There will be a short meeting.

There will be Swimming, horse shoes, and cornhole. Try to get RSVP out. Please attend in person if possible. Zoom may not work.

Adjourn: Motion made by Jeff McBurnie,, seconded by Dave Beauchamp, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 11:11am.



REPRESENTATIVE/COMMITTEE/OFFICER REPORT

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION
15 University Dr.
Augusta ME 04330

- COMMITTEE: NEWEA State Director
- NAME: Paula Drouin
- I attended the NEWEA Govt. Affairs meeting on June 21, MEWEA Govt. Affairs meeting 6/22, and MEWEA PR meeting on 6/27.
- Affiliated States Association Meeting is this coming Monday. If there is anything you want me to relay to NEWEA or other state associations, please let me know!
- Working with John DiGiacomo on Operator Exchange (Massachusetts).
- NEWEA Events:

- 4th Annual Source Water Brewers Competition aims to increase public awareness about water quality while promoting a friendly competition that challenges each brewer to create an original beer using local source water. - <https://www.newea.org/events/watershed-homebrewing-competition/>
- 8/16, Boston - Women's Environmental Network (WEN) evening of networking and socializing with water industry colleagues. All water professionals are invited to attend. Appetizers and drinks will be provided. <http://www.newea.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/WEN-Summer-Flyer-2023.pdf>
- REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Paula Drouin

REPRESENTATIVE/COMMITTEE/OFFICER REPORT

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION



15 University Dr
Augusta ME 04330

COMMITTEE NAME: Residuals Committee

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: n/a

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

- Working with Brown & Caldwell + DEP on the biosolids study. Work is being done to compile existing data and information request surveys have been sent to landfill operators as well as potential regional treatment companies.
- Continued discussions with pfas destruction technology vendors, biosolid volume reduction vendors, landfill operators, and firms exploring regional treatment solutions

DECISIONS MADE: n/a

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS:

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES:

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS:

We have been part of a few conversations regarding opportunities to offer biosolids/pfas related training. We would like to see what gets offered at the MEWEA Fall Convention and the

NEBRA conference, and then solicit input on what additional biosolids related training we could help pull together for the February trade show and/or a day of dedicated training on this topic.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

NAME: Andre' & Travis



REPORT

COMMITTEE / OFFICER

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

**Local Government Center
60 Community Drive
Augusta, ME 04330**

GUIDELINE FOR OFFICER / COMMITTEE REPORT

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 6/29/23

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: Pretreatment Committee

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: Theresa Tucker

RECENT ACTIVITIES: Meeting January 29, 2023, at York Sewer District

We discussed the following:

EPA did not have much to report. The annual New England Pretreatment Conference is scheduled for October 24-26th.

DEP gave an update of the PFAS sampling study. What was posted on the website earlier was not complete. There were only a few facilities that tested high, and what was found was that the higher facilities were taking leachate. The rankings for the study were as follows: Average 52 ng/L, Median 20 ng/L and Minimum was ng/l, maximum 829 ng/l. There will be a 2nd phase of testing for those who want to volunteer but this phase will only be for the top highest facilities in the State. This study will involve a lot of sampling in the collection system and various communities. DEP will be for analysis and courier service.

DEP also mentioned that Alpha Analytical reached out and stated that there is an issue with Method 1633 if the TSS is higher than 50 mg/L. EPA was unaware of this and has not seen any issues from their NPDES permittees who are using Method 1633.

DEP also stated that once licenses start getting renewed, which likely won't be until the end of this year (at the earliest), PFAS monitoring terms will start to be implemented in the permits.

This year's pretreatment Excellence award will be going to Cape Seafood.

Discussion also took place in regard to the Pretreatment Committee possibly creating some Fact Sheets that could start to be handed out to commercial and industrial users now before PFAS monitoring requirements are implemented.

Attendees:

Yarissa Ortiz-Vidal (Rockland), Theresa Tucker (York), Judy Bruejnes (MeDEP) James Crowley (MeDEP), Jay Pimpare (EPA), Phyllis Rand, David Dane (South Portland), Lisa Andrews (Geosyntec), Riley Cobb (Sacco), Amanda Smith (Bangor), and Scott Paradis (Bangor)



REPORT

TREASURER'S

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

Maine Water Utilities Association
15 University Drive
Augusta, ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 7/21/2023

TREASURER NAME: Jeff
McBurnie

ACCOUNT/BUDGET STATUS: I've reviewed and reconciled the year-to-date (June) financials. Our reserve balance continues to decline. The biggest factor is the government affairs cost, which has exceeded 75% of its nearly \$28K budget at the year's halfway point. Our revenue hasn't achieved a level at which continued expenditures here are sustainable. As we approach budget season, we'll need to have serious discussions on what is and isn't essential as well as what services that are currently farmed out that will need to be internalized. Several factors will influence how austere next year's budget must be, including legislative advocate and administrative services proposals as well as the financial success of the fall conference. It's not too early for the Executive Board and committee chairs to start analyzing your budgets and finding areas for frugality and opportunities for additional fundraising. In the upcoming planning/budgeting season, we will not be rubber-stamping budgets and will need full justification for all requests.

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: Exec. Comm. 8/18/2023

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: Start reviewing 2024 programming in anticipation of budget discussion and preparation.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Jeff McBurnie



REPRESENTATIVE/COMMITTEE/OFFICER REPORT

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

15 University Dr.
Augusta ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 7/21/2023

COMMITTEE: Public Relations

COMMITTEE OFFICER NAME: Evan Pereira

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

- Held several meetings with Diana Nelson and Terry Tucker to establish better communication and action plan to maximize her efforts to support MEWEA and maintain a PR plan for the association that is proactive and strategic.
 - Send out regular monthly emails to sponsors of the 2023 PR Campaign to provide opportunity to highlight positive PR stories in their communities and keep everyone in the loop on progress updates.
 - Send out regular monthly emails to MEWEA Committee Chairs to more frequently and proactively identify opportunities for PR support where needed.
 - Hold biweekly check-in meeting with Diana, Terry, and myself as a regular touch point for Diana to gather information, identify PR support needed, and discuss next steps on a more frequent basis.
 - Hold PR Committee meetings as needed (quarterly, or potentially more frequently) to discuss PR strategy/brainstorm/and delegate tasks.
 - For any significant or topical press releases, draft and have thoroughly vetted by the Executive Board, and/or identify representative for speaking to the media where needed.
- Continued to field and vet media opportunities as presented to the committee.

NEXT STEPS & MEETINGS:

- Continue to keep a pulse on legislative developments such as proposed PFAS/Biosolids bill amendments and SRF updates and identify potential PR support for MEWEA as needed.
- Continued brainstorming/planning for potential Maine Calling Panel Discussion based around discussion of the state of and importance of the clean water industry in Maine.
- Continue to hold biweekly check-in meetings with Diana of Black Fly Media to identify PR opportunities and develop action items.
- Begin sending out monthly email requests for story ideas from individual communities and topics that MEWEA should be keeping on our radar.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Evan Pereira



REPORT

COMMITTEE / OFFICER

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

Local Government Center
60 Community Drive
Augusta, ME 04330

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: July 21, 2023

COMMITTEE/OFFICE NAME: Laboratory Committee

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: Andy Wendell

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

1. I attended the Open-House/ribbon cutting for the Maine Laboratories PFAS location in Norridgewock, ME. Contact is: **Katie Richards**, Katie@mainelaboratories.com work phone: (207) 518-8030

Address: 25 Main Street, PO Box 843, Norridgewock, ME 04957

As of May 2023 Katie says:

- We are accredited for Drinking Water through the Maine Lab Accreditation Program (MLAP) using method 537.1 (18 PFAS compounds)
- In addition we have validated Modified Method 537 with Isotope Dilution for 28 PFAS compounds in the following matrices: Soil, Well Water, Waste Water, Influent, Effluent, Landfill Leachate, Milk, and Animal, Plant and Fish Tissue.
- We are the only commercial lab in Maine doing PFAS testing physically in the state.
- Our website for ordering is www.mainelaboratories.com
- Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Unfortunately, in spite of specifically requesting an update from the Maine Lab Accreditation Program regarding the final approval and adoption of Maine's latest MLAP rule update, I was not contacted by the program back on April 30th, and instead only found out this July 6th. Unfortunately, that leaves me one month to prepare for my lab inspection in August. This leaves me zero time to attend the July 2023 MeWEA executive meeting. Please accept my apologies!



REPORT

REPRESENTATIVE/COMMITTEE/OFFICER

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

**15 University Dr
Augusta ME 04330**

COMMITTEE NAME: Professional Development

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: N/A

RECENT ACTIVITIES: Fall Convention sessions have been finalized and the session map turned in to MWUA.

DECISIONS MADE:

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS:

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: N/A next deadline will be for MWUA conference

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: In 2024 send out a call for abstracts for fall conference – potential to do that currently for the Spring conference for 2024.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Charlene Poulin



REPORT

REPRESENTATIVE/COMMITTEE/OFFICER

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

15 University Dr
Augusta ME 04330

COMMITTEE NAME: Membership

RECENT ACTIVITIES: None

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: None

DECISIONS MADE: None

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS: [Jennifer Nicholson](#) committee chair and Matthew Densmore assisting

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: None

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: None

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Jennifer Nicholson

NAME: [Jennifer Nicholson](#)



REPRESENTATIVE/COMMITTEE/OFFICER REPORT

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

15 University Dr
Augusta ME 04330

COMMITTEE NAME: JETCC

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: May 23, 2023

RECENT ACTIVITIES: Our spring training calendar wrapped in June. There will be an in-person wastewater exam prep training series in collaboration with MWUA for August at SMCC. MWUA (through Tom's Water Solutions) will offer a three day class for grades 1 & 2 (August 8-10), along with a optional one-day math primer beforehand (August 3). JETCC will offer a three day class for grades 3, 4, & 5 (August 15-17) taught by Patrick Wiley. JETCC will be applying on behalf of attendees to offer the course at half price.

The fall calendar will open with a Wastewater 101 2-day class at Portland Water District on September 27-28. JETCC is offering two in-person NEWEA exam prep classes this fall: Lab Analyst 1 Prep at KSTD, October 10-11 and Collection System Prep in Hampden, October 25-26. We will also be offering the Gorman Rupp pumps school in three locations (moving Bangor south), October 31-November 2. Suggestions are always welcome for additional classes and topics.

The next Management Candidate School class will start in the fall and will be held in Yarmouth on the second Wednesday of each month. Applications will open in September. I anticipate being able to offset the registration cost for attendees with the workforce development funding. We anticipate sending participants to the MEWEA Fall Convention in 2024 for graduation. In past years, MEWEA has been generous in offering a reduced rate for our participants. I would like to discuss whether we can plan for this in 2024 as well.

JETCC is seeking nominations for the Founder's Award and the Hanson Excellence in Management Award. The nomination deadline has been extended by one week to July 25, 2023.

DECISIONS MADE:

The Committee has not met since the last MEWEA EC meeting. Appointments are currently in process and we are still seeking a candidate for our open At-Large position.

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS:

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: The date for the next JETCC Meeting is August 3, 2023 in Hampden, ME.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: Thank you for your continued support of JETCC. I am grateful that we have been provided a booth at the upcoming Fall Convention.

NAME: Peter Zaykoski, JETCC Program Manager

