

APPROVED

MINUTES

Attendance: Phil Tucker, Terry Tucker, Andre Brousseau, Peter Zaykoski

Zoom Attendance: Tim Wade, Stacy Thompson, Amanda Smith, Charlene Poulin, Jim Cohen, Rob Pontau, Gregg Wood, Alex Buechner, Emily Cole Prescott, Bruce Berger, Mike Guethle, Jodi Keene, Joan Kiszely.

Absent: Andy Wendell, Jeff McBurnie, Travis Jones, Bryanna Denis, Jennifer Nicholson, Evan Pereira, Travis Peaslee, Paula Drouin, Sarah King, Sierra Kuun, Dave Beauchamp.

Call to Order: President Tim Wade called the meeting to order at 9:04a.m.

Quorum: It was determined there was a Quorum.

Minutes: Motion made by Terry Tucker, seconded by Rob Pontau, all approved the May 19, 2023, minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff McBurnie was absent but submitted a written report (attached at the end of minutes) on the May 19, 2023 financial report. Tim Wade gave the Treasurers Report in Jeff's absence.

Reserved balance is in decline with the biggest drain coming from our legislative advocate expenses. Our reserve is now at \$88,000 short of our goal of \$100,000. Tim and Emily will discuss this further.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

DEP Report: Gregg Wood reported the following:

- Personnel changes – Gary Brooks is now the new compliance officer for northern Maine.
Fred Gallant is the new compliance officer for southern Maine.
- Permitting Manager – hopefully this position will be filled on the 1st or 2nd week of July.
- PFAS – Still sampling and putting data together. Working on getting spreadsheets up on the website. Only found 4 watersheds that PFAS results came in higher than current DEP limit. No problems in receiving waters.

Next steps will be to take 5 or 10 high concentration areas and continue sampling.

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

- Management Candidate School will start in November and the location will be in Yarmouth.
- JETCC is putting Peer-to-Peer training on hold as the Treatment Plant Operator's Committee would like to move forward with this.
- Classes in June will be on pumps and lagoons.
- Joint exam prep series in August. Tom Bahun will do Grades 1&2, Patrick Wiley will do Grades 3,4 and 5. This will be in person at SMCC.
- Peter also gave an FYI regarding workforce development funding that will be available to Maine employers in order to send employees to trainings The employer would be reimbursed 50% up to a maximum of \$1,200 per year per employee for 2023,2024 and 2025. Peter will forward more information on this.
- Peter also mentioned that JETCC is looking for nominations for awards.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE: Jim Cohen reported the following:

- LD 718 – An Act to Increase the Beneficial Reuse of Construction Demolition Debris. Senator Black is sponsoring this bill. On house calendar today for a reading. Hopefully will be approved today, if it does it will go back to the Senate for final concurrence.
- House working late into the evening on Wednesday & House worked late into the evening on Thursday. Bills are slowly coming out of committee.
- Looking at a tentative date to adjourn next Wednesday. However, anything after that they have to decide to whether or not they get paid or not. He feels it will be the end of
- next week.
- Budget – LD 258 – Part 2 Budget – still hangs in the balance. There has not been any compromise to date. Both sides have issues about the budget. There will be changes, however not sure what those changes will be. He remains hopeful that SRF Funding from the Governors change package will remain in.
- PFAS in Products Legislation – Went to the NR Committee and this went through the house & senate. Gone to the Governor to be signed.

Bruce Berger mentioned LD 31- Utilities to Reduce Work Zone Safety. Looking to create an ad hoc committee on finalizing what that looks like.

State Directors Report: Paula Drouin was absent but submitted a report (see attached).

MWUA: Bruce Berger/Rob Pontau reported the following:

- August 2 Golf Tournament at Val Halla
- August 10 MWUA Summer Outing
- June 22: Water Professionals – Sea Dogs Game
Sponsorship: Brown & Caldwell, EJ Prescott.
Fee will be \$32 now to sign up, however that isn't a bad deal as you get game, and dinner and a special section to sit in.
A nice video will be shown.
- Jeff McBurnie presentation went well, at the MWUA Houlton Bi-Monthly meeting. Bruce indicated that he did very well.

MEWEA/MWUA Affilate: Joan Kiszely reported the following:

Joan reported that she has emailed out the Exhibitor Packet to the Exhibitors that confirmed verbally with her at the end of the 2022 conference. To date she has 10 exhibitors that have sent in their applications & some have paid. I will be doing another email blast on Tuesday, June 20, 2023. I am also updating the Attendee Packet.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AWARDS: Mike Guethle verbally reported:

- Got Pretreatment Committee Award nomination. Reminded everyone that the deadline for award nomination is July 20th.
- Got a phone call from John Hart – regarding retirees possible being able to get an award.

Collection System: Travis Jones was not present.

Communications: Bryanna Denis was not present.

Convention: Phil Tucker reported the following:

- Fall Convention is moving along. Just approved vendor packet.
Joan & Cindy working on Fall Convention
- Charlene has done a great job on sessions.

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

- Kickoff for the Bio-Solids Study has started– Emily is representing MEWEA, Travis & Andre’ are weighing in on residuals. Brown & Caldwell and other stakeholders will also come to the table. Andre to report more on this.
- SRF Funding – Emily mentioned she has a call in to the DEP Commissioner to discuss. She has not heard back yet.

Laboratory: Andy Wendell was not present.

Membership Committee: Jennifer Nicholson submitted a report. (attached at the end of minutes)

Personnel Advancement Report: Charlene Poulin reported the following and submitted a report. (attached at the end of the minutes)

- Trying to get the sessions completed by end of next week.
- Good Speakers lined up.
- Following up on getting information from people
- Great session on CDC – 2 good speakers to speak on CDC.

Pretreatment Report: Terry Tucker had nothing to report.

- Committee meeting scheduled for June 29th.

Public Relations: Evan Pereira was absent but submitted a report. (attached at the end of the minutes)

Phil Tucker reported the following:

- Phil Tucker mentioned that the poster contest received some good press. Alex Buechner and Emily were contacted by Channel 6.
- Terry was interviewed by Spectrum News this week, Tim was also contacted regarding labor shortage.
- Diana from Black Fly Media has been great with fielding a lot of questions.

Residual Management Report: Andre Brousseau reported on the following:

- Biosolids Study kicked off on June 6. Team of 5 from Brown & Caldwell, Travis Peaslee, Emily Prescott & himself and 8 DEP Directors attended.
- Idea of this study is to get a clear direction with the fate of biosolids.

There is a similar study being done in VT. Brown and Caldwell will be reaching out to them.

- Assessment on the landfill – need to focus on ALL landfills in the State of Maine not just the 2 big ones.
- Looking at bulking agents, gas production, what's acceptable for biosolids.
- Drying technology
- Septage management and land application. Could be looking at collection areas in the State for septage.
- Looking at alternative analysis
- Looking at piloting the new technology to where it should be.
- They are setting some schedules to meet.
- Want to have everything done by the end of November.

Storm Water Report: Jodi was no longer available to give an update and no report was submitted. Sarah King was absent.

Treatment Plant Operator Report: Alex Buechner reported the following and submitted a report. (attached at the end of the minutes).

- Working with the Committee to push the Peer-to-Peer training program out. Also, working with DEP to get credits for this as well.
- Ops Challenge did not place but did great. Hoping to still attend WEFTEC if they can get the funding.

Young Professionals Report: Sierra Kuun was absent!

OFFICERS REPORTS

Presidents Report: Tim Wade reported on the following:

- **Ad Hoc Committee on Administrative Services:** Tim indicated that Dave Beauchamp was chair of an ad hoc committee. They were supposed to report back by this meeting with recommendations on what they are missing in the current contract. Possible do some RFP's.

Stacy Thompson reported on the following:

- Need to finalize an RFP soon. She has drafted up an RFP.
- Input from Travis – he knew what services they need.
- Only met once.
- Sarah & Dave and her need to meet.
- Tim will contact Dave to get him to set up a meeting.

- Timeline to move this forward.

1st Vice President Report: Emily Prescott had no report, but thanked everyone's work on LD 718, especially Amanda.

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

Immediate Past President: Dave Beauchamp was not present.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Phil Tucker report on the following:

- He met with Senator Collins yesterday, and if opportunity presents itself, she will see what she can do overall with funding.
- He indicated he will be meeting with Senator King's office next week.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: July 21 at Bangor Wastewater Treatment Plant

Adjourn: Motion made by Andre Brousseau, seconded by Emily Prescott, all approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:00am



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](#)

DATE SUBMITTED: June 6, 2023



REPRESENTATIVE/COMMITTEE/OFFICER REPORT

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE NAME: JETCC

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: May 23, 2023

RECENT ACTIVITIES: Our spring calendar will be wrapping up in June with three more classes: Introduction to Pumps I & II (two, three-hour classes: June 20 & 27) and Facultative Lagoons: Basic Biology & Chemistry (June 28).

I am working on 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, along with a optional one-day math primer beforehand. JETCC will offer a three day class for grades 3, 4, & 5 taught by Patrick Wiley. Funding is available through the community college system for reimbursement of half of the registration cost.

The next Management Candidate School class is expected to start in the fall and will be held in Yarmouth. I am now working on the content for the program. Please reach out if you are interested in contributing or know someone who would be a good fit.

JETCC is seeking nominations for the Founder's Award and the Hanson Excellence in Management Award. All nominations are due by July 18, 2023. I am grateful to MEWEA for continuing to allow JETCC to present these two awards, along with the Lee Agger award, at the Fall Convention.

DECISIONS MADE:

The Committee voted to elect Jonathan Helstom as the Vice Chair, as Mark Holt has now termed out. The Committee is seeking to reappoint Yarissa Ortiz-Vidal, moving her to one of the MEWEA representative positions. I have spoken to Tim about this and he supports the move. Additionally, the Committee is seeking to fill the remainder of the current, open MMA position with Warren Smith from Livermore Falls. The At-Large position will be open and the Committee is actively working to fill this position. I welcome any thoughts on potential candidates that I can bring to the group for consideration.

The Committee supported moving forward with a Peer-to-Peer training program that builds from the work of the TPO Committee and integrates that into structures JETCC has used during MCS. The future and fate of this is somewhat uncertain however, due to communication from the TPO Committee chair after the JETCC meeting.

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS: Discussion on the coordination of the Peer-to-Peer training program with the TPO Committee is needed.

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

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Peter Zaykoski, JETCC Program Manage



REPRESENTATIVE/COMMITTEE/OFFICER REPORT

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 6/16/2023

COMMITTEE: Public Relations

COMMITTEE OFFICER NAME: Evan Pereira

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

- Continue to stay engaged on legislative developments around both potential PFAS/Biosolids bills proposed for short term solutions and SRF updates.
- 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.
- Developed Clean Water Week Press Release with Black Fly Media to highlight events, milestones, and positive storylines throughout the state.
- Diana Nelson and Alex Buechner finalized and delivered press release about the success of this year's poster contest.
- 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.
- Continue development of pitch for Maine Calling Panel Discussion, identify panelists.
- Hold next PR Committee meeting with Diana of Black Fly Media to regroup and confirm next steps for continued rollout.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Evan Pereira

DATE SUBMITTED: 6/08/2023



REPORT

TREASURER'S

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 6/16/2023

TREASURER

NAME: JeffMcBurnie

ACCOUNT/BUDGET STATUS: I've reviewed and reconciled the year-to-date (May) financials. Our reserve balance is in decline again. The biggest drain has been our legislative advocate expenses, which are already over \$14,000. This has been budgeted for (approximately \$28K for the year), but the revenue stream has not increased to a level at which this is sustainable. By contrast, we spent roughly \$3,000 less than this for all of 2022. The financial reserve is now at ~\$88,000, well short of our goal of \$100,000.

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: None

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS: None

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Jeff McBurnie



REPRESENTATIVE/COMMITTEE/OFFICER REPORT

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE: NEWEA State Director

NAME: Paula Drouin

- I attended the NEWEA EC meeting on June 1 and the NEWEA Spring meeting June 7-9. Though the Ops Challenge team didn't place in any event, they did a great job given there are a couple new members, and their attitudes were very positive.
- I submitted NEWEA award nominations for the Operator and Peloquin awards.

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Paula Drouin



REPORT

COMMITTEE / OFFICER

MAINE WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DATE: 6/16/23

CHAIR/OFFICER NAME: Alex Buechner, Treatment Plant

RECENT ACTIVITIES:

TPO: Working with TPO committee to push the Peer to Peer Training program out soon. While this year's Ops Challenge event was a great success, Force Maine did not place at NEWEA. There is a chance they can still attend WEFTEC if they can come up with the funds to offset what NEWEA contributes. Once this is confirmed, it will be on the team to solicit donations. Other NE state teams are receiving more support for OC, so we feel that supporting the team in attending WEFTEC is a great way to keep them competitive in the future.

POSTER CONTEST: I will be sending poster out for printing soon. Last year we did 200. Same for this year? We also had great success in getting many of the unrecognized posters up in local business on Main st in Biddeford. We worked with Blackfly to advertise this in several papers, and we also wrote an article for the local newsletter.. I think finding places to display posters in future years is much better than me throwing them in a dumpster at the end of the contest. If anyone wants to volunteer their community to display them for next year, please let me know. They will be on display in Biddeford until the end of June.

MEETINGS HELD/ATTENDED: 4/3/23 – Met with TPO Committee, 6/6-6/9 - NEWEA/NYWEA Ops Challenge Event

ACTION PLAN COMMITTEE/OFFICER ASSIGNMENTS: Test new forms for Peer to Peer training before approaching DEP for credit approval. Next meeting we will discuss idea for operator friendly sessions for future MEWEA events

NEXT MEETING/OTHER IMPORTANT DATES/DEADLINES: TPO committee committed to quarterly meetings. Next meeting will be set sometime in July/Aug

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS & MISCELLANEOUS:

REPORT SUBMITTED BY: Alex Buechner