

**MAINE WASTE WATER CONTROL ASSOCIATION**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Friday, February 21, 2003**  
**Maine Municipal Association, Augusta**

**Present:** Al Jellison, Vivian Matkivich, Janet Abrahamson, Howard Carter, Tom Wiley, Andy Rudzinski, Scott Clukey, Joan Kiszely, Ron LeTarte, Dave Anderson, Greg Cataldo, Lenny Blanchette, Brian Kavanah, Darold Wooley, Joan Kiszely, Nancy Sargent

**Absent:** Jeff Pinnette, Mac Richardson, Mary Waring, Brad Moore, Mike Farmer, Paul Wintle, Steve Lane

- I. **Call to Order:** Al Jellison called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
- II. **Approval of the Minutes from the January 17, 2003 Meeting:** Howard Carter made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2003 meeting, as amended. Tom Wiley seconded the motion. All approved.
- III. **Treasurer's Report:** Vivian Matkivich reported on financial reports for the period ending January 31, 2003. Vivian noted the changes to the format of the financial report. Vivian has not yet received the general ledger report and the checking ledger. It was decided to review January reports at the March 21, 2003 meeting.
- IV. **NEWEA State Director's Report:** Greg Cataldo reported that the NEWEA conference went well. He noted that the NEWEA Government Affairs Committee met and discussed the position papers for NEWEA. Greg asked for approval of MWWCA position papers for the Congressional Briefing in DC. NEWEA has prepared a position on SRLF Funding. Greg further spoke about a companion piece on funding issues in the MWWCA packet. He asked the Committee to review the matter and advise Al Jellison or Greg. Further discussion took place on how the Executive Committee has to make a decision on what position papers are going to go. Discussion took place on position paper topics. Al asked the Executive Committee for their input on the topics. Greg would like the topics today, but does not need the actual papers until the third week of March. The Committee feels the two topics should be the funding issue and the mercury issue.

Al Jellison spoke with Senator Collins regarding the problems with clearing Clean Water Week posters through Capitol security. If the posters are in her Bangor office one month before the meeting, they will be at her Washington office for MWWCA. Taking into consideration that time frame, the posters need to be in Bangor the first week of March. Vivian and Greg will e-mail their position papers to Howard Carter in order to get them into the MWWCA packet.

Greg further reported that he is looking for nominees for NEWEA annual awards: Operator of the Year and Alfred Peloquin. He asked the Executive Committee to think it over and he will ask for names next month. He further reported that people can file for the Quarter Century Operator's Club directly on the NEWEA website.

Greg has a working copy of the legislative agenda that NEWEA is distributing and has some copies available for those who are interested.

- V. **DEP Representation:** Brian Kavanah reported that Dawn Gallagher was unanimously confirmed as the new Commissioner. He also reported that there are two new inspectors in the Augusta region.

Brian reported that DEP is busy working on a general permit program for aquaculture and is also busy with Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) and the citizens' lawsuits. DEP will meet with CLF on March 7<sup>th</sup> regarding two lawsuits. DEP is comfortable with their enforcement in these two cases. They expect more suits by CLF in the future.

The Governor accepted all of the flat funding proposals from State agencies for 2003. Brian noted that the DEP proposal would eliminate funding for JETCC and for the Surface Water Ambient Toxics (SWAT) program. These items will be discussed by the Legislature.

Brian further reported that DEP is requesting feedback on its proposal for Laboratory Performance Standards. Malcolm Burson wants official comments from MWWCA on this matter and is willing to meet with MWWCA to discuss it. Vivian Matkivich thought it would be wise to meet with him as they have more questions than comments at the present time. Al Jellison thinks the MWWCA Lab Committee should meet with Malcolm. He further noted that it is in DEP's best interest to provide guidance to wastewater laboratories regarding required procedures. Extensive discussion took place on various points of the laboratory performance standards. Dave Anderson said that the Lab Committee will set up a meeting with DEP (Malcolm).

Janet asked Brian about the O&M Newsletter from 2000 that said that the maximum daily was the average of all the numbers for the day. Brian noted that DEP agrees that what Dennis Merrill wrote in the O&M News was correct.

VI. **Old Business:**

- a. Spring Conference:

Brochure: Al reported on the sample brochure and noted that the Personnel Advancement Committee came up with good training programs. Al discussed the conference attendance fees. It was noted that Maine

Water Utilities members would be allowed to attend at the MWWCA member rate. Janet noted that Maine Water Utilities would be able to have a booth at either the Spring Conference or the Fall Convention to reciprocate for them allowing MWWCA the membership rate at their conference. Tom Wiley noted that there is an additional fee for power point/LCD projector equipment, but that will be the only difference in the price for the conference. Janet distributed the agenda for the conference. Clean Water Week poster winners will have been chosen at the time of the conference, but MWWCA will display the finalists' posters. Janet will try to find moderators among the people on her committee, but if anyone else is interested, let Janet know. Janet submitted the schedule of the training sessions to Roger Krauss of the state agency giving water operator credits. She's still waiting to hear from him on whether water people will receive any credits.

Spring Sale (shirts, hats, etc.) Darold Wooley made a motion to sell shirts and hats at the spring conference on April 4, 2003 and at the fall convention on September 18 and 19, 2003. Howard Carter seconded the motion. All approved.

- b. Position Papers for Washington DC – This topic was discussed during NEWEA report.
- c. Dental Amalgam Bill: Vivian noted that the MWWCA bill, LD 134, has not been scheduled for a public hearing. Vivian stated that they have to start working on their testimony once they receive notice and anticipates that they will only have about a week to get the testimony together.
- d. Marine D.O. Standard Update: Janet attended a stakeholders meeting last Friday. There will be legislation this session for the fresh water standards, but there was considerable concern with marine standards, and legislation on the marine side is pushed back. Janet reported on the four criteria DEP is using to set the standards. The marine legislation should be ready by the Fall. Janet advised the Committee to go to any public hearings on the fresh water D.O. standards. The next meetings of the stakeholders are March 10, 2003 and April 14, 2003 (marine).
- e. Administrative Guide: Al noted that MMA has prepared the 2003 updates and asked the Committee to send any changes to Nancy Sargent.
- f. Goals 2003: Al asked the Committee review the Committee Goals for 2003.

## **VII. Committee Reports:**

Al reported that Mike Barden has accepted the post of Industrial Representative

- a. **Government Affairs:** Mike Farmer was not present – no report.
- b. **Communications:** Mac Richardson was not present – no report.
- c. **Membership:** Paul Wintle was absent – no report.
- d. **Laboratory:** David Anderson reported that his committee plans were discussed under the DEP report.
- e. **Personnel Advancement:** Janet Abrahamson has contacted Mac Richardson regarding publication of a call for abstracts for the Fall Convention in the next MWWCA newspaper, which is due out in the middle of April. Janet will set a deadline for receipt of abstracts of May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- f. **Public Relations:** Brad Moore was absent – no report.
- f. **Safety:** Andy Rudzinski reported that Steve Greeley, Maine Bureau of Labor Standards, will present a session at the Spring Conference. Andy informed the Committee about finding the North American Industry Classification Systems (NAICS) and SIC codes for making chemical inventory reports and regulating industrial users. An older version of the NAICs book compared them to SIC codes, but the new version does not. There is a website that has the cross-reference of the SIC and NAICS codes. Ron LeTarte asked Andy to bring more detailed information to the next meeting.
- h. **Collection Systems:** No report.
- i. **Operations Challenge:** Vivian Matkivich reported that there probably would not be a team this year.
- j. **Web Master:** Steve Lane was absent – no report.
- k. **Industrial Representative:** At the present time this position is vacant.
- l. **Residuals Management:** Jeff Pinnette was absent- no report.
- m. **Awards:** Mary Waring was absent – no report.
- n. **Past President:** Howard Carter reported that Paul Goodrow, State Electrical Inspector, was incorrect in what types of permits are needed by municipalities that may be changing service connections.
- o. **Pretreatment:** Ron LeTarte reported on his committee's February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. He thanked Andy Rudzinski for his guidance over the last few years. Ron handed out a written report (see attached). Ron noted that there is a proposed regulation in the works that may require POTWs serving 25,000 or more users to submit a

vulnerability assessment to EPA, similar to drinking water treatment plant regulations. EPA has appropriated \$20,000 to the Maine DEP for wastewater security training. Janet noted that Maine Rural Water sent an individual for national training on vulnerability assessment.

Ron further reported that one of the programs presented at the AMSA & EPA conference related to potential new pollutants of concern, including persistent bioaccumulative pollutants and endocrine disrupters.

The Committee discussed the draft Laboratory Performance Standards from DEP, but is looking for the Lab Committee to head up MWWCA's position on this issue. Ron further noted that the Regional Pretreatment Coordinators meeting will be June 19, 2003 in Concord, NH. If anyone has any ideas on subjects that should be presented at the meeting, please contact Ron.

Ron thanked MWWCA for the grant to go to the AMSA/EPA conference in Philadelphia. He noted that there is scholarship money available to assist MWWCA members who want to attend the Regional Pretreatment Coordinator meeting as well as the next national meeting.

- p. **JETCC:** Lenny Blanchette reported that the DEP portion of JETCC funding is slated to be eliminated. Lenny was going to the Appropriations Committee hearing to support JETCC funding. He reviewed the suggestions from JETCC's website on the funding cuts issue. Lenny reported that Leeann Hansen has asked that MWWCA consider providing JETCC with a contact tree of MWWCA members so that she could use MWWCA's communication system to put information out about JETCC. Vivian Matkivich noted that at the present time, there is no fax tree set up, but it is something MWWCA is working on. Tom Wiley noted that JETCC, as an affiliate, can get MWWCA's mailing list for purposes of contacting membership. Darold noted that Gilles St. Pierre has asked if MWWCA would consider donating MWWCA surplus money to financially help JETCC. Darold was not in favor of doing so at this time. Vivian noted that one of MWWCA's 2003 goals is to figure out how much MWWCA needs in a reserve account, and the CD monies should be protected until the goal was established. Scott Clukey noted that it was important for the Legislature to know that JETCC is a quality training facility for wastewater treatment plants. Darold Wooley thinks that some in State government feel there are enough facilities to take up the slack should JETCC not be able to carry on. Al Jellison reported to the Committee that he took an adaptation of Mac's letter that supports reintroduction of DEP funding for JETCC, and sent the letter to the Natural Resources Committee and the Appropriations Committee. MWWCA has consistently made its members aware of how valuable JETCC is to their organization. Howard noted that MWWCA provides training to operators.

Scott Clukey noted that Leeann would like Al Jellison and Darold Wooley to attend the JETCC quarterly meeting in Brewer on Friday, March 1, 2003.

- q. **Convention:** Tom Wiley had nothing new to report.
- r. **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President:** Darold Wooley reported on his participation with a working group for submitting reports to DEP via electronic format. DEP is proposing the use of a specialized database process requiring web access rather than accepting reports in spreadsheet, such as "EXCEL." Reporters will have to fill in information on multiple screens; it does not appear to be a "user friendly" format. He noted that there will be another meeting next week. Darold noted that there will be no software to use at your facility from which to report. Reporting will be a dial-in and enter format. DEP plans to have a mandatory electronic reporting procedure for all facilities. There was a Committee consensus that a spreadsheet format would be preferred. Darold will relay that information at the meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup>.
- s. **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Vivian Matkivich is reviewing the life membership criteria. If anyone has any suggestions, let Vivian know.

#### VIII. **Other Business:**

**Motto Change:** Darold Wooley led discussion on a MWWCA motto change and distributed a list of proposed mottoes to the Committee. Those listed on the bottom are what he considers the "A" list. Darold asked this Committee to bring back its ideas on a new motto to the next meeting. Tom Wiley inquired as to the procedure for a motto change. Al Jellison reported it might be a good idea to bring the motto change to the membership at the Fall Convention.

**Salary Survey:** Al Jellison reported that the salary survey is out and responses are coming in. Joan Kiszely noted that Cindy Wade may call Al next week to review the surveys that have been received.

**Membership:** Al Jellison reported that there are 573 memberships thus far this year for a total of \$24,215 dollars.

On correspondence, Al received a letter from Olver Associates who was concerned that they had not been listed as a member resource in the most recent MWWCA newspaper. This issue was discussed. The listing was actually a report of exhibitors at last fall's convention, not a resource directory. A correction may be made to clarify this.

**Website:** Darold Wooley noted that now that we have a new web service, the website needs to be updated. Janet Abrahamson advised Steve Lane that the lab manual was not working on the site. He will be working on that. The "Lagoons" site is back up and Janet noted that it is a great website for wastewater operators.

**Adjourn:** Howard Carter made a motion to adjourn. Greg Cataldo seconded the motion. All approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.