

**Maine Wastewater Control Association
Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, February 25, 2005
9:00 am
MMA, Augusta, ME**

Present: Mike Grove, Howard Carter, David Anderson, Tom Wiley, Vivian Matkivich, Darold Wooley, Brad Moore, Al Jellison, Margaret Langhill, Heidi Gage, Jeff Pinnette, Dan Bisson, Andy Fiske, Barry Mower, Joan Kiszely, Mary Waring.

1. Call to Order: President Vivian Matkivich called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m.
2. Approval of the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes: Al Jellison made a motion to approve the Executive Committee meeting minutes of January 21, 2005, as amended. Darold Wooley seconded the motion. All approved.
3. Treasurer's Report: Dan Bisson recommended the approval of the financial reports for the period ending December 31, 2004. Jeff Pinnette made a motion to accept the financial reports for the period ending December 31, 2004 with the addition to record the YTD total of the general fund transfer. Mike Grove seconded the motion. All approved. The January financial statements were reviewed and several changes to January Financial reports were discussed. Because of these changes, Dan recommended the January financials be tabled until the changes can be incorporated. Darold Wooley made a motion to table the approval of the January 2005 financial reports until the March 2005 meeting. Brad Moore seconded. All approved.
4. Budget Session: Recommendations for changes to budget items were made by Committee Chairs to update the budget. Darold Wooley made a motion to accept the 2005 budget, as amended, seconded by Jeff Pinnette. All approved.
5. DEP Representative Report: Brian Kavanah was absent, but Andy Fiske reported for him. Andy gave a general update on the recent loan fees reduction for SRF loans made through the Maine Bond Bank. He noted that he thought the public hearing on the SRF/wastewater treatment grants bond bill on February 24th went very well. He received some feedback that the DEP's presentation was overly centered on old infrastructure, while many SRF loans go towards the expense of keeping up with new requirements put on the waste water industry. Andy noted that DEP was impressed by the work put in on the bill by Environment Maine. He noted that Environment Maine is supportive of the DEP having

direct authority to levy fines. It was noted that although Environment Maine and MWWCA may have some core differences of opinion, MWWCA should continue to look for middle ground to work with them when possible. Mike Grove added that he and Vivian Matkivich had a great meeting with Environment Maine and that MWWCA intends to continue the close lines of communication with them.

- a. SRF Focus Group: Andy Fiske reported on the State Revolving Loan Fund Discussion Group. They asked the Maine Bond Bank to run a series of projections for how big to grow the SRF fund to make it self sustaining. At the next meeting on March 11th, the group hopes to review the projections and to consider solutions for the DEP's deficit for SRF program needs (staff), estimated to be \$250,000. Andy noted that it has been useful to have SRF policy discussions and feels that the group will be making policy recommendations shortly. The group has a long list of ideas that they are vetting for presentation. Andy reviewed charts and projections of staff funding of the DEP Construction Grants Staff.
 - b. DEP Plans for a BAF for Mercury: Andy Fiske distributed copies of the Report on the Status of Mercury Discharges (1/25/05) to be presented to the Legislature during a DEP briefing at the end of the month. Barry Mower made a report on the Development of Maine Based Bioaccumulation Factors and a Wildlife Criterion for Mercury. Barry reviewed the history of dealing with mercury issues in fish and wildlife, and resulting DEP actions as a result of the investigations. The DEP must provide the Legislature with Maine Based Bioaccumulation Factors and Wildlife Criterion for mercury. A lengthy discussion followed about the federal and state guidelines for mercury levels and legislative impacts. DEP does not feel that new water quality based permit limits will result and that they will continue with interim limits for wastewater treatment plants. DEP will be working with the Governor's office and others to reduce mercury in the Maine environment that come from out of state sources (air pollution) and from products.
6. NEWEA State Director's Report: Howard Carter reported that he attended the NEWEA Annual Conference in Boston. He noted that it went well, and there was good attendance considering the weather. He also noted that the Leadership Workshop had to be cancelled but will be rescheduled. Howard wants MWWCA Chairs and officers to offer topics for the position paper brochure for the Washington Briefing in May 2005. He passed around a copy of the 2004 position papers for everyone's review. The Executive Committee suggested the following topics: Blending, SRF and other funding issues, Mercury Air Pollution, and EPA budget cuts.

Position paper drafts will be done by Mike Grove and Vivian Matkivich. Drafts are due by next meeting, March 18.

Howard noted that the NEWEA award nominations are due August 1st, but the WEF Public Education Award nomination is due April 1st. He feels that the MWWCA video should be submitted. Brad Moore added that Greg Cataldo also supports submitting the video for awards from both WEF and NEWEA. Brad Moore agreed to write up nominations. He probably will do the same write up for both awards. Tom Wiley noted that it may be possible to nominate Tom Hennessey, a Maine writer who made a presentation in the video, for the NEWEA Public Educator award. Jeff Pinnette will ask Wright Pierce to print up the position papers brochure. Vivian noted that she would like to get the position papers to local Congressional offices before bringing them to Washington. Al Jellison will frame the Clean Water Week posters to be distributed to the primary Congressional offices in Maine.

7. President's Report: Vivian Matkivich reported on the 2005 MMA contract. Joan Kiszely reviewed the changes on the 2005 contract. Al Jellison made a motion to give President Vivian Matkivich the approval to sign the MMA/MWWCA Purchase of Services Agreement for 2005, seconded by Tom Wiley. There was a brief discussion of charges outside of the contract fee. These charges are tracked through a separate line item on the budget. It was noted that the proposed budget for MMA contract should be changed to \$8832.00. All approved. Vivian passed around the Correspondence File for Committee review.
8. Committee Reports:
 - A. Convention: Tom Wiley reported that the expenses for the 2004 Spring Conference and Fall Convention were reviewed in great detail. The budgets for the 2005 events have been finalized. Tom reviewed the research done by Margaret and Joan. They reviewed previous budgets, revenues, and expenses to determine budget projection failures. Dan Bisson noted that CDM would donate the notepads for the spring and fall event portfolios. Tom reported that Wright-Pierce would donate portfolios. Joan and Tom talked about ways that expenses would be tightened, by sharing finance reports and draft minutes at lunch tables, rather than inserting copies into each portfolio.
 - B. Past President: Darold Wooley attended Maine Water Utilities Association convention and collected potential vendor information for the MWWCA Fall Conference.

- C. Laboratory Committee: David Anderson submitted a written report. He reminded the Committee about upcoming JETCC workshops on QA/QC manuals. The DEP deadline for the SOPs for field sampling, laboratory sampling handling, and lab analyses is March 31, 2005. David reported that Matt Sica, Maine Laboratory Certification Officer, reported that it was unlikely Maine would adopt the NELAC accreditation and certification program. David also noted that the MWWCA Lab Manual SOPs have been amended.
- D. Personnel Advancement Committee: Janet Abrahamson was absent. No report.
- E. Collection Systems: Lenny Blanchette was absent. No report.
- F. Ops Challenge Coordinator Report: Tony Gordon was absent, but submitted a written report.
- G. Membership Committee: Chuck Applebee was absent. Al Jellison briefly reported on membership: there are 529 paid members, and 64 unpaid for 2005 so far. Al encouraged everyone to promote membership.
- H. Safety Committee: Al Jellison reported that air compressors need to be inspected by the state, just like boilers. Portable air tanks have a 7-year life-and must be retired after 7 years, or they are in non-compliance. Andy Rudzinski and Al Jellison have been invited to judge the Maine Principals Association Science Fair at UMO on May 14th. They did this last year and are looking for new judges. If anyone is interested, please let Al know.
- I. Public Relations Committee: Brad Moore reported that the invitations for the Clean Water Week Poster Contest have been sent, and also noted that he will be submitting the MWWCA educational DVD for consideration for an award from WEF. Brad is planning to attend the Maine Water Conference in Augusta on March 14th. Vivian will help staff the MWWCA booth. The Public Relations Committee will schedule a meeting for next month to discuss the specifications for purchasing a new booth. The Executive Committee delegated the authority for Brad to specify and purchase a new booth without further Executive Committee approval.
- J. Vice President: Andy Rudzinski was absent, but Brad Moore reported that Andy is still working with the DEP Wiper Policy stakeholder group. The latest contact with Julie Churchill was on

February 22nd. Julie reported that she believes a final policy is close to being distributed.

- K. Government Affairs Committee: Mike Grove reported that he appreciates the help from MWWCA members and supporters on LD1001 – the SRF/environmental projects funding bond proposal. He reviewed several LDs of interest to the MWWCA.
 - L. Pretreatment Committee: Ron LeTarte was absent and did not submit a written report.
 - M. Awards Committee: Mary Waring reported that MWWCA will be presenting two (2) Lifetime Achievement Awards and the Past President Award at the Spring Conference. MWWCA will also invite NEWEA reps. and EPA reps. to re-present fall and winter awards to Maine recipients.
 - N. Communications Committee: Mac Richardson reported that the deadline for content for the next newsletter is March 10th. He is trying to get a committee meeting for March. Heidi Gage asked MWWCA Committee Chairs to email copies of their written committee reports to both her and Mac.
 - Q. Residuals Management Committee: Jeff Pinnette reported that the Committee met in January and that the final draft of the White Paper for biosolids stacking has been reviewed. Jeff feels that it was a good, strong effort. DEP has named John Mitchell as a representative to the Residuals Group. Jeff commented that he is looking for a summary of results on verification sampling done by the DEP. Alex Wong of the MRWA has amended parts of the MRWA guidance on wellhead protection BMPs. It is not a perfect document as far as MWWCA is concerned, but all of the MWWCA comments were addressed. Andrew Carpenter is working on a paper for MOFGA. Jeff reported that International Compost Awareness Week is May 1-7. He wants to work with Maine Resource Recovery group to do a joint project and some sort of press release.
9. Old Business:
- a. Update to Convention Policy: Tom Wiley presented a proposal to amend the convention registration policy for award winners and speakers. His proposal included separate policies for each of these categories. The proposed award winners' policy contains explicit guidelines for how many people may receive complimentary registrations and lunches per award. Mary Waring made a motion

to accept the two revised policies. Darold Wooley seconded. All approved.

10. New Business: There was no New Business for this meeting.

11. Adjourn: Dan Bisson made a motion to adjourn. Mac Richardson seconded. All approved.

The Executive Committee Meeting adjourned at 1:04pm. The 2005 MWWCA Planning Session was held immediately following the Executive Committee Meeting.