

MAINE WASTE WATER CONTROL ASSOCIATION
Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, January 16, 2004
Maine Municipal Association, Augusta

Attendance: Darold Wooley, Mac Richardson, Andy Rudzsinski, David Anderson, Tom Wiley, Al Jellison; Howard Carter; Tony Gordon; Leonard Blanchette; Chuck Applebee; Vivian Matkivich; Brian Kavanah; Dan Bisson; Janet Abrahamson; Mary Waring; Karen Brown-Mohr; Dean Dadmun (JETCC); Kirsten Hebert (MRWA); Nancy Sargent; Joan Kiszely

- I. **Call the meeting to Order:** Darold Wooley called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
- II. **Approval of the Minutes from the December 19, 2003 Meeting:** The Executive Committee reviewed the minutes from the December 19th meeting. Al Jellison made a motion to approve the December 19, 2003 minutes, as amended. Vivian Matkivich seconded the motion. All approved.
- III. **Financial Report:** Dan Bisson reported that the financial report for the period ending December 31, 2003 needs to be tabled, as he has not received the report.
- IV. **NEWEA State Director's Report:** Howard Carter reported that he'll be voted in on Monday, January 26, 2004 at the NEWEA Annual Conference in Boston. He further reported that Greg Cataldo is hosting a meeting for incoming NEWEA State Directors. Howard will have more to report at the next meeting.
- V. **DEP Representative:** Brian Kavanah reported on permitting. In 2003, DEP issued 101 permitting actions, which has helped to eliminate the backlog. He further reported that 16% of facilities do not have a current permit. DEP has 152 actions scheduled for 2004, with the ultimate goal of not more than 5% of facilities with outstanding permit renewal. He noted that the DEP has been making progress.

Brian reported that there will be a report at the next legislative session on the mercury legislation. He does not have an indication, at this point, what the number will be. The Executive Committee made a formal request to bring MWWCA in on this issue.

Brian reported the status of the grant money for Vulnerability Assessment training linked to homeland security. Dick Darling conducted eight assessments last year and is looking to complete the two outstanding facilities that requested assistance in 2004. Brian noted that the assessments are not just focused on terrorism but take into consideration natural disasters, vandalism, and other incidents that require appropriate emergency response planning.

There will be a legislative report submitted to the Natural Resources Committee on January 22nd which covers three issues; changes to bacteria standards, fresh water Class B and C – adopt ambient based standards; and a proposal to adopt new Marine DO Standards for Class MB and MC waters. He noted that it is just a presentation to the committee and not a public hearing. If the Natural Resources Committee wants to adopt these recommendations, there will be a public hearing and a work session. Karen Brown-Mohr stated that some of the recommendations could be rolled into existing legislation, but there would still be a public hearing. Karen suggested that any questions be reported prior to the workshop. Kirsten Hebert from Maine Rural Water Association reported that someone on the Natural Resources Committee advised her to be prepared and ready for comments. Brian suggested that Andy Fiske and Dave Courtemache report to MWWCA what impact the legislation may have. Janet asked if 24 hour testing was done on Class B waters. Janet asked that DEP look at the data they have right now because it could cause problems as some high results could come from non point sources and would require further action and could have an impact on the point sources. Lengthy discussion took place on the standard. Brian noted that mercury is only 1% of the problem and that some type of regulatory standard needs to be devised. Brian does not know where the money is going to come from. The Executive Committee feels it adequately relayed their concerns on this matter to Brian.

VI. Old Business:

A. 2004 Administrative Guide: Darold Wooley asked the Committee to have their information in to Nancy Sargent by the end of next week so that the guide can be completed by the February retreat.

VII. Committee Reports:

Ops Challenge: Tony Gordon reported that he drafted a letter to EJ Prescott soliciting a donation of pipe for the Ops Challenge team to practice on for the competition, as done in the past. They may need to spend \$600.00 to buy or have a cutting table made. Had several practices and worked on reducing the pipe cutting times to be under 5 minutes and very competitive. They still have no idea what the safety event is going to be. Tony will be going to the NEWEA Annual Conference on January 26th to meet with the Operations Challenge Committee to discuss the timing and rules of the competition.

1st Vice President: Vivian Matkivich had no report.

Awards: Mary Waring reported that she will be adding Al to the Past Presidents plaque. She noted that one life member recently passed away (Harry Jackson). Al Jellison noted that a By-law change may need to be done regarding the life membership criteria. Mary noted that the life member issue should be placed on an agenda later in the year. The Second Vice President could work with the

Membership Committee regarding establishing new criteria for the Life Member. Mac read the current criteria of the life membership.

Mary will not order ribbons for the Stockholm Jr Water Prize contest/scholarship.

Mary spoke about the Clean Water Week posters for the Congressional Briefing. Mary will need instructions on what MWWCA wants for the posters by February so she can have adequate time to get them framed.

Government Affairs: Mike Grove was not present – no report.

Residuals: Jeff Pinette was not present – no report.

Personnel Advancement: Janet Abrahamson reported that the committee will meet at the retreat. She has received an oral request from an operator for a statistics course. She advised the individual to put the request in writing.

Janet attended a SWAT meeting and received some information on dioxin study in rivers. She may ask the group to have an hour-long session at the Spring Conference and asked the Executive Committee if they felt it would be a worthwhile session based on new technology. The Personnel Advancement Committee will meet and decide on further topics.

Laboratory: Dave Anderson reported that his committee will meet again on January 22nd. They expect to have seven lab procedures ready to finalize and are working to include the QA/QC procedures. Leann Hanson and Dean Dadmun from JETCC will be at the next Lab Committee meeting. The Lab Manual should be ready to go and the Committee will work with JETCC on rolling out the training, which may take place toward the end of April. Dean Dadmun noted that the JETCC training calendar is ready and will be out soon. He noted that on Page 3 of calendar, Leann has four tentative locations for the QA/QC training.

2nd Vice President: Andy Rudzinski had no report.

Membership: Chuck Applebee reported that Al Jellison is going to assist the Membership Committee. Chuck has a list of public works directors and highway departments and a letter for the new membership drive targeting these areas. The letter will be sent out once the list is finalized. Chuck passed the letter to the Executive Committee for review. MWWCA finished the year with 610 members. The group that is growing the fastest is the corporate membership up from 41 to 55 active members. The group membership has been staying stable.

Public Relations: Mac Richardson did not have much to report as his server crashed at work and has not had much e-mail contact. He should be getting an article from Pete Atherton on the Old Town improvements and Jim Fitch is also submitting an article. Mac noted that they need more articles and welcomes what

anyone would like to submit. Mac mentioned that it appears the deadlines have been slipping, but encourages people to go ahead and send things to him and if it does not make the current issue, they can use it in a future issue.

Collection Systems: Leonard Blanchette reported that there was no meeting and has nothing to report at this time.

Pretreatment: Ron LeTarte was not present – no report.

JETCC: Dean Dadmun presented a cost sharing proposal prepared by JETCC to solicit financial assistance with some specific training sessions. Dean noted that funding from the State is \$20,000 this year and expected to be \$10,000 next year. Dean spoke about the training calendar that will be going out within the next two weeks. As a means to assist with reducing their operating costs, JETCC is soliciting sponsors for the lunches.. Dean further reported that they are working with the MWWCA Lab Committee to develop four lab QA/QC classes. This money has come out of a supplemental environmental project (SEP) and JETCC hopes to have those four classes in April. Dean reported that the training has been set for next year and will happen regardless of the outcome of the proposal. A copy of the cost sharing proposal was distributed to the Executive Committee and was reviewed. JETCC feels this proposal gives MWWCA a membership benefit. A mailer on the training will not be sent out in order to keep postage and printing costs down. JETCC will advertise the training through other means including a notice in the NEWWN newspaper and think they can draw a decent response. The training sessions in question will be held at the Cohen Community Center in Hallowell. Darold Wooley asked the Executive Committee how they felt on this matter. Al Jellison felt that supporting JETCC and training in Maine is important, but felt that a lump sum donation to JETCC would be more appropriate than a donation for a specific training. Discussion took place on the best ways to assist JETCC. Three possibilities presented to the Committee:

- JETCC Proposal: 4 members voted for this proposal
- Set Grant/One Time grant: 7 members voted
- No Action: 0

The Executive Committee discussed the details of a set grant. Mac made a motion to give \$500.00 toward JETCC training and charge the amount to the Personnel Advancement Committee budget. Lenny Blanchette seconded the motion. In Favor – 8; Opposed - 4. Motion carries. Leonard Blanchette will make sure MWWCA receives its proper recognition..

Convention: Tom Wiley reported that Joan Kiszely has set up a timetable for the Spring Conference. He would like the tech session schedule by March 19th. A draft brochure will go out for review on March 22nd and the final brochure should be in the mail by the first of April. Tom will make a visit to Point Sebago in early spring to start working on some changes for the fall convention.

Web Master: Steve Lane was not present – no report.

Industrial Representative: Position is vacant.

Past President: Al Jellison did not have anything to report.

Safety: Andy Rudzinski reported that he and Al Jellison will divide the duties of the Safety Committee. They are currently looking at ideas for the Spring Conference. Darold Wooley mentioned the possibility of a session on blood borne pathogens. Discussion took place on possible topics for training at the Spring Conference.

VIII. **Other Business:**

A. Position Papers for Congressional Briefing: Darold asked what may be out there for position papers. Vivian has been the champion for preparing the blending position paper. Howard mentioned that a paper may want to be done on the mercury/clean air policy and how it is tied into water quality. Last year's paper on this issue may be available on the website and Vivian will take a look at it. A thank you for your support and for the continued effort on this issue may be a good idea. Vivian volunteered to take care of that. Janet noted that National Rural Water Association issued a statement on the wideband to broadband radios and wanted to know if MWWCA wanted to issue anything in support of that matter. Howard mentioned a paper on funding. Darold will call Dale Glidden and ask that he put something together on the funding. Janet noted that there may be a bill out on funding and if there is, MWWCA may want to support what is already out there. Howard noted that it is important to let the delegates know who the MWWCA Executive Committee is and that we are around. Darold noted that if there are any other topics, it must be developed by the retreat on February 5th & 6th.

Critique of blending policy. Vivian reported on what she wrote for the blending policy support paper. Executive Committee discussed the changes to be made to the letter and came up with the final version for Darold's signature.

B. Goals for 2004: Darold reviewed his preliminary draft of the 2004 goals. Mary noted that there was not a goal for increasing membership. Darold noted that Brian Kavanah thought he should add a few more things including contact with legislators to keep them apprised of issues that come up that would affect MWWCA and individual facilities. Another suggestion from Brian was a written action plan on supporting the bond package as well as setting up a mentoring program for the smaller facilities that may not have the expertise of the larger facilities. Mac noted that the goals should be as specific and as measurable as possible. Kirsten Hebert has offered to take the Stockholm issue to the schools as she goes to the schools to teach about clean water and watershed issues. We will get the information to Kirsten. Dan Bisson made mention of a trade show sponsored by the Maine Engineering Promotion Council that would be attended

by guidance counselors, science teachers, etc. who may pick up on this information to use for next year's competition. Darold asked Dan to get the information on the trade show to him. Brian mentioned a goal on public awareness including meeting with some of the environmental groups.

C. Executive Committee Retreat Agenda: Darold distributed the retreat agenda and some brief discussion took place on the retreat. Darold asked the Executive Committee to contact Joan Kiszely on attendance and if an overnight room is needed.

D. Proposed logo change: Darold Wooley presented the proposed drawing of the new MWWCA logo to the Executive Committee. The new motto, "Water Quality: Our Maine Concern" will replace the old one in the logo that encircled the graphic of the State of Maine. Al Jellison suggested that if it can be done, add "Since 1966" to the logo as well. Mary Waring will see if the "Since 1966" can be easily added. Al Jellison made a motion to accept the logo with the words "Since 1966" added, if it can be done. Tom Wiley seconded the motion. The motion is tabled until the February 5th/6th retreat.

E. CD Rollover: Dan Bisson reported that one of the Certificate of Deposits will expire on January 22, 2004 and recommended that it be renewed for another 6 month term. Mac Richardson made a motion to rollover the Certificate of Deposit in accordance with the recommendation of the Treasurer. Al Jellison seconded the motion. All approved.

F. ASA President's meeting: Darold Wooley noted that the six affiliate state associations that are part of NEWEA will be meeting at the annual conference. MWWCA needs to bring concerns of the membership to NEWEA and he asked the Executive Committee to assist in identifying what some of the concerns are. Several topics were discussed that include: what does NEWEA provide for the MWWCA membership; the new MWWCA Motto; the trip to Washington; Stockholm Jr. Water Prize; Retreat and goal setting meeting; QA/QC manual; the Biosolids White Paper; membership recruitment efforts and the MWWCA Video.

IX. Adjourn: Al Jellison made a motion to adjourn. Howard Carter seconded the motion. All approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:05.