

IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
January 17, 2014

The minutes of the Iowa Water Environment Association Executive Committee Meeting, held at the Ames WPC Plant in Ames, Iowa on January 17, 2014.

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President, Steve Hershner, at 10:17 AM, with the following Executive Committee members present: Steve Hershner, Jim Rasmussen, Jonathan Brown, Jim McElvogue, Laurie Twitchell, Keith Hobson, Dan Riney, Ed Askew, Rick Graves and Darin Jacobs. Also present were: Bob Ranson, Lance Aldrich, Patrick Brown and Eric Evans.

ITEM II: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Ed Askew, and seconded by Jonathan Brown, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Ed Askew, and seconded by Jonathan Brown, to approve the minutes of November 15, 2013 as printed. Motion carried.

ITEM IV: OFFICERS' REPORTS

A. Secretary/Treasurer's Report

The Secretary/Treasurer submitted a written report with balances as of December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2013. Most of the accounts are up by interest only. The Operations account is up by \$50,566.75 since the first of the year due to the specialty conferences, the annual meeting and the fall short course. The Newsletter account is down \$2,776.29. The Region checking account is up \$1,362.41. All income for the fall short course has been received but no distribution has been made due to the lack of a contract. DMACC has not yet submitted an invoice for the fall conference. The \$19,341.56 net income for the fall short course is still being held by us and will lower our net assets when the bill is finally paid. \$18,878.06 has been sent to AWWA as the 90% for the spring short course. The calendar had a net of \$313.95 this year. The golf amount is a pass through for the Water for People fund raising efforts. It was moved by Keith Hobson, and seconded by Ed Askew, to accept the report of the Secretary/Treasurer as submitted. Motion carried.

B. Delegates' Report

Keith Hobson reported WEF has developed a communication tool called WEF.COM. It is primarily a means of exchanging information for education, committees, and technical information. It is an on-line service that members can sign up for and join discussion threads based on a specific interest; Biosolids, Collection Systems, Government Affairs, etc. WEF has started a new program called Water Advocates which deals with Government Affairs issues. It has information for members to use at the state and local levels for public and political education. Keith also discussed the annual WEF/NACWA/WERF Water Policy Forum fly-in at Washington D.C. and passed along information on dates. Attendance at WEFMAX was also discussed.

C: Regional Directors

Region 1: No report.

Region 2: Darin Jacobs reported Region 2 will hold their spring meeting on April 17 at NIACC and this meeting will concentrate on the wastewater side. (Water in the fall, wastewater in the spring.) Topics will include generators, pump maintenance, and IDNR presentations.

Region 3: Steve Casey had a therapy session scheduled for today and thus couldn't attend. He suffered a heart attack last fall but is on the road to full recovery.

Region 4: No report.

Region 5: Rick Graves reported that the next meeting will be held on March 26, 2014 at the IRWA building in Newton. The planning meeting will be held on January 24th.

Region 6: Ed Askew outlined the agenda for the spring Region 6 meeting. Jay Brady will discuss the impacts of the 8th Circuit Court ruling, Ed will talk about method reporting limits, and IDNR presentations. Ed inquired about posting presentations from the region meetings on the website. It was suggested that Ed contact the webmaster.

D: Correspondence

a. While not correspondence per se, Jim McElvogue read into the record the results of an electronic vote by the Board to reimburse Tim Snyder's expenses at WEFTEC as one of our Federation Delegates. A motion was made by John Ringlestein and seconded by Jim McElvogue to make the reimbursement. The vote was 11-0 when Steve Hershner pronounced that the motion had passed. Dan Riney mentioned that his employer had agreed to cover his expenses as a Federation Delegate.

ITEM V: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Short Course Contract for Fall 2013 and the future

Several attempts to contact IA-AWWA principals finally resulted in a commitment from IA-AWWA to have a revised draft to us by the end of January. No specific January was mentioned. It was reported that Gigi Oerter, long time administrative assistant to IA-AWWA's Executive Director, had recently retired. Gigi was an integral part of IA-AWWA's effort in sponsoring the Short Course. This may affect how a future agreement is framed. The Assistant Secretary-Treasurer relayed that IAWEA has kept all receipts from the 2013 Fall Short Course and that no payment would be made to IA-AWWA until authorized by the IAWEA Board. Hope was expressed that an agreement would come shortly. Doubt was also expressed.

B. Government Affairs 4-States Meeting Report

The decision by the 8th Circuit Court was a major topic of conversation. EPA sent 3 lawyers to the 4-States meeting to emphasize that this decision pertains only to Region 7 and not anywhere else. This of course will be appealed by others. Representatives from the Government Affairs Committee have met with IDNR and the League of Cities to discuss the path forward from this decision. The next topic may very well be to determine what size storm event plants should be designed to accommodate. Another challenge coming up will be to work with IDNR on outlining steps to take for Integrated Planning for communities to comply with the Clean Water Act.

C. Kirkwood On-site Training – Eligibility for Scholarship Assistance

Steve Hershner has determined that Kirkwood does still have a 2-year Associates degree program with multiple environmental options. They also have 1-year diploma options for both water and wastewater. While some evening classes are offered the vast majority of training is conducted on-line. Their on-site treatment facility has been discontinued and demolished. A question was raised as to how certain tasks could be taught on-line when direct face-to-face instruction is necessary. Classes at DMACC are primarily on-site instruction with even a working laboratory available. Both programs evidently require some type of internship at actual plants.

Keith Hobson reported that the Shrimp Bingo event was set up to direct scholarship money specifically to DMACC. (Assistant Secretary-Treasurer note: Several organizations are involved in the sponsorship of Shrimp Bingo so IAWEA does not control the distribution of those funds. IAWEA's budget does contain a line item entitled "DMACC Scholarship Fund". The contribution for 2013 was \$1,500.00 and the amount budgeted for 2014 is \$2,000.00.) Ed Askew will contact Kirkwood to ask if donations can be earmarked for specific uses or if contributions go into their general fund. He will provide information back to the Board on his findings.

D. Draft Budget

The draft budget put together by the Secretary/Treasurer was discussed. A motion was made by Ed Askew and seconded by Dan Riney to adopt the budget as presented. Motion carried.

E. IAWEA Region 6 Manual of Policies

Ed Askew provided a draft copy of a Manual of Policies for IAWEA Region 6. This was an information only item.

F. Hardness Analysis Variations Study

Ed Askew provided initial study data that indicates no statistical difference between the titration and ICP-AES methods for hardness. It had been hoped that a significant difference might help some communities get some relief on copper limits.

ITEM VI: COMMITTEE ACTION/DIRECTION REQUESTS

Maintenance Committee

Bob Ranson reported that the Maintenance Conference would be held January 28-29, 2014. The Collection and Maintenance Committees are putting together a pump maintenance class with field demonstrations for the Annual

Conference. It will be available as a separate track on the 2nd day of the conference. Bob was advised to contact Jay Brady if an indoor classroom was required.

Newsletter Committee

Steve Hershner reported that personal issues complicated the effort to get out another issue before the end of last year. Everyone understood that sometimes even the best of intentions cannot overcome life's setbacks sometimes.

Program Committee

Jim Rasmussen reported the committee met last Friday. The program is at the 90% developed stage with the final presentations waiting for confirmation. The next step is to have the committee review the program for confirmation.

Government Affairs

More discussion on Integrated Planning was held. The committee intends to play a big part in defining this process.

Biosolids

The Biosolids Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, March 19th. Registration is available on-line and postcards will be mailed soon.

Awards Committee

Bob Milroy and Todd Penisten are seeking nominations for various awards. IDNR has discontinued making recommendations for the Operator Advancement Awards. We need to come up with a new method of determining worthy candidates.

Collection Committee

Mark McGuire has been working with G & L Clothing to develop a way for IAWEA members to order shirts with the IAWEA name and various emblems. A catalog and an order form were distributed electronically. The Collection System Conference will be March 6-7, 2014 and registration is now open.

ITEM VII: ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Keith Hobson, and seconded by Jim Rasmussen, to adjourn the meeting. President Hershner declared the meeting adjourned at 11:59 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McElvogue, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer