

**IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
*November 18, 2016*

The minutes of the Iowa Water Environment Association Executive Committee Meeting, held at the Ames WPC Facility, Ames, Iowa on November 18, 2016.

**ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Kam Reeves, at 10:04 AM, with the following Executive Committee members present: Kam Reeves, Jonathan Brown, Paul Horsfall, Darin Jacobs, Jon Koch, Laurie Twitchell, Jay Brady, Alison Manz, John Ringelestein, and Jim McElvogue. Also present were: Greg Sindt, Curt Kampman, Ted Payseur, Jon Harger, and Jim Utter.

**ITEM II: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Darin Jacobs, and seconded by John Ringelestein, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by John Ringelestein, and seconded by Darin Jacobs, to approve the minutes of September 16, 2016 as printed. Motion carried.

**ITEM IV: OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**A. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer distributed a report with balances as of December 31, 2015 and November 18, 2016. The Operations Account is up \$18,118.02. The Region checking account is down slightly due to regional meetings expenses. Net results for the specialty conferences as of today are Maintenance \$2,729.29, Collection Systems \$9,617.17, Biosolids \$3,862.08 and Fall Operators Conference \$9,126.73. Annual meeting income was \$3,659.89. It was moved by Jon Koch, and seconded by Jay Brady, to approve the financial report as presented. Motion carried.

**B. Secretary's Report**

Jim McElvogue reported that he is planning to attend a WEF-sponsored meeting for volunteer and paid staff in charge of MA administrative duties. WEF has indicated that they intend to pay travel, lodging, and meals.

**C. Delegates' Report**

Jay Brady informed the group that WEF is trying to target non-member WEFTEC attendees to educate them about registration cost savings by becoming a member. WEF and IAWEA will offer complimentary membership for the first year to these people in the hopes that they will see the value in joining. WEF is also going to explore MA membership options to see if those members can be persuaded to join WEF as well. Jonathan Brown reported that his initial experience as a WEF Delegate at WEFTEC included a service project that was rewarding and conducive to meeting other delegates and YP's. WEF will also be developing, or may already have developed, a short standard pitch outlining WEF's composition and mission.

**D. Regional Directors**

**Region 1:** Paul Horsfall reported that the Region 1 meeting was held at the Delaware County fairgrounds on October 26<sup>th</sup> with about 190 in attendance. Paul announced that Steve Hoambrecker will become the new regional director in June.

**Region 2:** Darin Jacobs reported the fall 2016 meeting was held October 13th at NIACC and focused on water topics. The Spring 2017 meeting will be wastewater topics.

**Region 3:** Darin Jacobs reported that no activity has taken place in Region 3 since Steve Casey's retirement. Region 2

and 4 were encouraged to invite Region 3 people to their regional meetings until something could get started up again.

**Region 4:** Alison Manz reported their fall meeting was held in Atlantic on Friday, October 7th. Approximately 85 people attended.

**Region 5:** The Region 5 fall meeting was held on October 26<sup>th</sup> at the Rural Water Building in Newton. Approximately 22 people attended. It was noted that this attendance was down significantly and was attributed to problems with printing the meeting advertisement that resulted in very late notice to potential attendees.

**Region 6:** Jon Koch announced that planning will begin shortly for the Spring 2017 meeting. Chuck Pietscher will be the Region 6 Director at least until their next regional meeting.

#### **E. Correspondence**

Jay Brady reported on an email received from John Hall requesting support for him to assist the new administration in guiding EPA on environmental regulations. Ted Payseur was requested to contact Mr. Hall to obtain more details.

### **ITEM V: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

#### **A. 2017 Annual Conference Location Discussion**

Jay Brady distributed copies of proposals from two host sites, Bridge View Center in Ottumwa and River Center in Davenport. It was moved by Darin Jacobs, and seconded by Jon Koch, to select Ottumwa as the site of the 2017 annual conference. Motion carried.

#### **B. 2017 Draft Budget**

John Ringelestein distributed copies of the 2017 draft budget. The budget was discussed line item by line item with some minor changes suggested. No action was taken at this time.

#### **C. Operator Award Application ad hoc Committee Report**

No major progress was reported.

#### **D. Other Items**

Jay Brady reported on the efforts of the ad hoc Wet Weather Committee. Once again IDNR is dragging their feet on defining the storm one has to design for.

### **ITEM VI: COMMITTEE ACTION/DIRECTION REQUESTS**

#### **A. Aims and Objectives**

Nothing to report.

#### **B. Annual Meeting**

- i. A call for abstracts will be issued next month. Laurie Twitchell announced a meeting will be held in December to begin working on the program.
- ii. No local arrangements report.

#### **C. Awards**

No report.

#### **D. Biosolids**

No report.

#### **E. Collection Systems**

Curt Kampman reported the committee will hold a planning meeting in December for their conference. The conference will be held on March 1-3, 2017.

**F. Education**

No report.

**G. Exhibitors**

Jon Harger reported that no complaints about booth locations were received from last year's annual conference. It is always a challenge to separate competing firms.

**H. Financial Review**

Nothing to report until next year.

**I. Government Affairs**

Ted Payseur reported that EPA intends to conduct a national nutrient survey. At this time it appears to just be gathering information but one has to wonder what it might be used for. Ted also ventured his opinion that most or all of the top appointed positions at EPA will turn over with the new administration. He cautioned that most of the core positions will remain unchanged and that is where we seem to get most of the trouble with over-regulation and unreasonable limits. Ted also reported that Kam Reeves, Bob Watson, and he have been meeting with IDNR to discuss the new deregulation on reporting certain process testing. There are concerns about possible problems this could lead to. Greg Sindt reported that the Wasteload Allocation Procedure Manual is going to the rulemaking process. It will be used to determine permit limits in the future. IAWEA was successful in keeping flow variable discharge and effluent diffuser options intact. The manual also adopted IAWEA's suggestions on how to calculate pH in mixing zones. Also the impact of new dischargers to a receiving stream on existing dischargers' permit limits will be minimized. IAWEA also was successful in excluding biological treatment plants from thermal discharge standards. Additional guidance on establishing other limits was provided by Environ, an effort underwritten by IAWEA, and was adopted almost verbatim in the manual.

The meeting was briefly suspended while lunch was distributed with the meeting continuing during lunch.

**J. Historian**

No report.

**K. Industrial Pretreatment**

Nothing to report.

**L. Laboratory Practices**

Nothing to report.

**M. Maintenance**

Bob Ranson submitted a written report via email. The Maintenance Conference will be held on January 31 and February 1, 2017 and it will be the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. The committee is also seeking nominations for the Wrencher Award.

**N. Membership**

Jon Harger reported that the committee chair, Jason Loots, is now working at Vessco and will be able to continue as chair.

**O. Newsletter**

The Newsletter Committee is always looking for articles.

**P. Nominating**

No report.

**Q. Operator Certification**

The committee has not met recently but a meeting is tentatively scheduled for February. The current practice of allowing the same CEU's to renew both Water Treatment and Water Distribution licenses was discussed. It was pointed out that IAWEA allows the same CEU's to renew the Voluntary Collection System license as are used to

renew the IDNR Wastewater Treatment license. It was suggested that some sort of CEU point system or percentage credit might elevate operator education while minimizing the impact on utilities.

**R. Public Relations/Public Education**

Laurie Twitchell reported the committee will be meeting after the first of the year.

**S. Research**

No report.

**T. Safety**

No report.

**U. Small Communities**

Ted Payseur reported that the committee distributed info on WEF/IAWEA membership at the League of Cities annual meeting.

**V. Water for People**

Ari Herrera with JCI Industries is the new committee chair.

**W. Website**

No report.

**X. Young Professionals**

Darin Jacobs reported for Matt Mahler that a recent planned outing had to be cancelled due to a lack of interest. They will try to put something else together early in 2017.

**ITEM VII: CONSENSUS & ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Ted Payseur will contact John Hall for clarification of exactly what he wants IAWEA to endorse.
- B. In December Laurie Twitchell will issue a call for abstracts for the annual conference.

**ITEM VIII: ADJOURNMENT**

President Reeves declared the meeting adjourned at 12:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McElvogue, IAWEA Secretary