

IAWEA Small Community Committee Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2016
HR Green – Cedar Rapids, IA
10:00 to 11:30

- I. Introductions
Attendees: Cedar Rapids - Lauren O'Neil, Matt Wildman, Kim Fensterman, John Lee; Conference Call – Craig Just, Angela Kolz, Larry Bryant, Jeremy Bril, Adam Schnieders, Patti Cale-Finnegan, Jeremy McMahon
- II. Approval of Minutes from last meeting and Agenda for this meeting
- III. Technical Review Subcommittee
 1. Technical Review Subcommittee Meeting Summary (Lauren) – *Lauren summarized the meeting minutes from the last subcommittee meeting.*
 1. Request to Review Biodome Technology – Update
 2. Request to Review Algae Wheel Technology – Update
- IV. IA League of Cities June Workshops
 1. Summary of Workshops (Adam, Lauren, Patti) – *Patti summarized the June league workshops. The message from the league was good. They talked about cities having a plan, raising rates early, sources of funding, and kept things fairly high level. The DNR also presented and focused on the background of water quality standards and pre-clean water act activities and practices. There were about 8-10 cities represented at each of the workshops attended.*
 2. Discussion about conducting IAWEA Workshops for Small Communities in 2017. *Please review information and provide comments to Matt Wildman by September 2 regarding changes or additions to this strategy for the workshops. These workshops will be introduced at the League's Annual Conference on 9/15.*

2017 IAWEA Small Community Workshops

1. 6 workshops, 1 per 1-2 months starting in April 2017.
2. Workshops would be 3-7 p.m. on Tuesday or Thursday nights with dinner served around 5:00.
3. Cost ~\$? (have to determine food availability)
4. Request volunteer host cities to find location and date in each region
5. Invitees would be city administrators, managers, council, mayors, pwds
6. Advertising/Invitations through IAWEA and the IA League of Cities
7. Focus of the content would be on Wastewater Infrastructure, but could involve water as well
8. Presentation Outline/Topic Areas:
 - a. Iowa DNR – Regulation updates, history of CWA, Timing of new regulations
 - b. DNR Field Office - Operator Training/Operator Availability/Operator Certification changes
 - c. Research – Provide a summary of research activities aimed at development of technology.
 - d. Consultant – High level discussion of treatment technology, I&I issues, or other content to be determined.

- e. *Case Studies – Invite towns in region to go through recent or current upgrade projects*
 - f. *SRF - Funding Opportunities, Municipal Advisor*
 - 9. *Pass Out surveys at the end requesting content suggestions for next year's workshops*

- V. *Clarion Ruling Update and Rulemaking (Larry) – Rule change for antideg was approved on August 10th and went into effect on August 12th. The rule change has not been approved by the EPA so IDNR is keeping with the current approved language requiring environmental benefit review be included in the analysis. The new rule includes language for binding criteria (115%) versus non-binding criteria which requires a more in-depth environmental benefit review for all alternatives.*

- VI. *New Email Addresses – Use these addresses when communicating with Cities and others. If you would like access to these accounts, contact Matt Wildman.*
 - 1. smallcommunity@iawea.org
 - 2. smallcommtech@iawea.org

- VII. *Iowa League of Cities Annual Conference Presentation*
 - 1. *Title*
 - a. *Wastewater Infrastructure Needs - Now and in the Future*
 - 2. *Description*
 - a. *Waste water utility systems provide a needed community service that must be managed properly. This workshop will address tips for a strong system, including upcoming regulations, financial preparedness, operator licensing changes, treatment technology options, and collection systems inflow and infiltration (I&I).*
 - 3. *Time and Room*
 - a. *Thursday, September 15, 2:15-3:15 pm*
 - b. *Room 315*
 - c. *Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center | 833 5th Ave, Des Moines*
 - 4. *Other Information to Include*
 - a. *Funding Agency Fact Sheets*
 - b. *DNR Slides (Adam & Eric)*
 - c. *Other?*

Discussion: Group discussed the format of the presentation. For a 1-hr presentation, we would like to cover a lot of areas, but at a very high/introductory level and explain that we will be conducting workshops in 2017 that will dive deeper into several of the topic areas. Speakers and areas covered at the conference will be as follows:

 - i. *Matt – Introduction of Committee Aims and Objectives, 2017 Workshops and Speakers*
 - ii. *Adam – DNR regulations and timing*
 - iii. *Patti – Funding Options and opportunities*
 - iv. *Craig – Research going on at the universities*
 - v. *City (TBD) – Communication with residents, rate raising*
 - vi. *Craig – Research going on at the universities*
 - vii. *Matt – Technology availability, operator certification*

- viii. *Each speaker would have 2-3 slides and about 7 minutes to cover material.*
- ix. *If anyone else would like to present a topic, please contact Matt right away so the presentation can be adjusted accordingly.*

VIII. Website

- 1. <http://www.iawea.org/content/small-communities>
- 2. Email:
- 3. Content Suggestions – *DNR does not have stock photos of WWTP. Matt will discuss this at the next board meeting to see if we can get DNR some of the IAWEA photos.*
 - a. Project photos – send to smallcommunities@iawea.org
 - b. Current committee members name and email – update list to go on website

Next Meeting will be October 28, 2016 at 10:00 at HR Green Office or via Conference Call

IX. Adjourn