

IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
September 12, 2014

The minutes of the Iowa Water Environment Association Executive Committee Meeting, held at the Ames WPC Plant on September 12, 2014.

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Jonathan Brown, at 10:02 AM, with the following Executive Committee members present: Steve Hershner, Jonathan Brown, Alison Manz, Jim McElvogue, Keith Hobson, Paul Horsfall, Dan Riney, Darin Jacobs, Kam Reeves, Jon Koch, and Laurie Twitchell. Also present were: Marci Whitaker, Eric Evans, Greg Sindt, Jim Utter, and Mark Jones.

ITEM II: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Dan Riney, and seconded by Keith Hobson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Dan Riney, and seconded by Darin Jacobs, to approve the minutes of June 5, 2014 as printed. Motion carried.

ITEM IV: OFFICERS' REPORTS

A. Secretary/Treasurer's Report

A report from the Secretary/Treasurer was distributed with balances as of January 1, 2014 and September 5, 2014. Most of the accounts are up by interest only. Accounts were reviewed as were the results to date for the specialty conferences, short courses and the annual meeting. Several short courses remain to be settled with IA-AWWA and that can't be done until IA-AWWA provides CEU information. It was moved by Keith Hobson, and seconded by Steve Hershner, to accept the report as presented. Motion carried.

B. Delegates' Report

Keith Hobson reported that WEF is using a web-based training system for new Delegates. He also related that as a Delegate-at-large he will be participating on a committee to study the future of operations. Dan Riney reported that he has been involved with WEF's Leadership Development work group. The first duty of this group was to evaluate WEF's current training. They are in the process of refining this training and will present 3 chapters of the finished product at WEFTEC14's Leadership Day. Also on the horizon is a series of dues increases. Dan also submitted his resignation as WEF Delegate due to the fact that he is retiring in Iowa and has accepted a position with the City of Topeka, KS. Upon recommendation from Dan, it was moved by Steve Hershner, and seconded by Keith Hobson to appoint Tim Snyder to serve the remainder of Dan's term as WEF Delegate. Motion carried.

C: Regional Directors

Region 1: Paul Horsfall reported the Region 1 meeting will be held on October 22nd at the Delaware Community Center. Region 1 has a difficult problem approaching in the upcoming retirement of their Region Secretary, Lyle Krueger.

Region 2: Darin Jacobs reported that the fall meeting will be held on October 9th at NIACC and will focus on water topics.

Region 3: Steve Casey, Region 3 Director could not attend due to pressing business involving the shutdown of one of Cherokee's treatment plants due to the closing of Tyson Foods. The Region 3 Fall meeting will be held October 1st in Cherokee.

Region 4: Alison Manz reported that the fall meeting will be October 3rd at Carson. They will be surveying attendees for suggestions and comments to improve their meeting. One of their presenters has had to cancel and they are seeking someone with a collection system topic to present. Several people suggested that she contact Bryan Robinson at Municipal Pipe Tool.

Region 5: In the absence of Rick Graves, Jim McElvogue reported that the fall meeting for Region 5 would be held on October 29th in Newton.

Region 6: Jon Koch reminded everyone that Region 6 only has a spring meeting and would be planning that in the near future.

D: Correspondence

a. Jonathan Brown reported that he would be forwarding an email from IA-AWWA regarding their decision to end the Short Course partnership.

ITEM V: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**A. Short Course Contract for Fall 2013 and the future**

Upon much discussion on IAWEA's plans to present future wastewater training it was decided that the President, President-Elect, and the Vice President would meet with the committee chairs responsible for the specialty conferences to determine the direction of this training.

B. Greg Sindt provided a summary of a memo outlining areas of consensus for Iowa Water Quality Efforts. Representatives of IAMU, IAWEA, and IEC identified four topics that could be supported by all involved. It was moved by Steve Hershner, and seconded by Jon Koch, to support the memo. Motion carried. Greg Sindt, Ted Payseur, and Jay Brady were authorized to participate in further discussions.

C. EPA Guidance for BLM Methods

Due to the fact that the majority of people could not open the link as it was sent this matter was tabled. Jonathan Brown will resend the documents in another format.

D. Annual Conference in Ames

Steve Hershner had nothing to report as yet.

E. Constitution & Bylaws Amendments - Secretary/Treasurer Proposal

Briefly, these amendments would allow the election of a Secretary-Treasurer and an Assistant Secretary-Treasurer or a Secretary and a Treasurer at the discretion of the Nominating Committee and/or the Executive Committee. Jim McElvogue, A&O Committee chair, requested input and/or changes to the draft amendments. Hearing none, it was moved by Dan Riney, and seconded by Kam Reeves, to call for a vote of the membership to approve the changes. Motion carried. A ballot will be included in the next issue of the newsletter calling for votes to be submitted 30-60 days after publication and mailing.

F. Shrimp Bingo Update

Keith Hobson reported that receipts were up from last year but final numbers were not known at this time.

ITEM VI: COMMITTEE ACTION/DIRECTION REQUESTS**Annual Conference**

Kam Reeves reported that they were looking into having some type of memento created to distribute to all conference attendees marking the 100 year anniversary of wastewater training in the U.S. (Ames, IA – 1915).

Government Affairs

Greg Sindt distributed a copy of an email from Adam Schnieders of IDNR soliciting support for reducing reporting of operational data on MOR's. Concern was expressed that if operational data was not required to be reported the data would not be gathered and treatment could thus suffer. After more discussion it was moved by Steve Hershner, and seconded by Darin Jacobs, to support the reduction of reporting operational data but still requiring the data to be gathered and kept on file. In addition, IAWEA will assist IDNR in devising the rule change language. Motion carried.

Greg also relayed that some section(s) of IDNR were still not onboard with the decision issued by the 8th District Court of Appeals allowing blending.

Membership

Kam Reeves will be attending training meetings in Regions 1, 3, 4, and 5 in the next few weeks to pitch membership.

Newsletter

Marci Whitaker reported that invoices for newsletter ads have been sent out and proceeds should start coming in. The next issue is expected on or about October 1st.

Operator Certification

Jim Utter reported on the external review conducted on the Iowa W/WW certification program. One major issue identified was the Water/Water Distribution license renewal CEU requirements. Essentially water operators are allowed to renew two certificates with the same CEU's. Another issue brought up was the fact that Iowa lags behind the national average for the number of CEU's required to renew all certificates. The committee submitted recommendations to the Executive Board and sought their support for several different proposals to address these concerns. It was moved by Dan Riney, and seconded by Darin Jacobs, to support the recommendations as submitted. Motion carried. Jim Utter reminded the Board that rule changes would be necessary and volunteers were needed to participate in this process.

Public Relations/Public Education

Laurie Twitchell sought the Board's support for the committee to participate in World Water Monitoring Day. The cost would be minimal and it was determined that funds are already available in the committee budget allocation.

Website

Mark Jones sought the Board's input and direction to address some problems he has been having with the website. The web programming options are limited and the host company wants additional payment to make changes. In order to have a member's only section on the website Envoy has requested payment of \$2,560 for each additional 50 users. Mark was directed to make further contact with the host and determine the funding required to make the changes needed. He could also explore options with other web hosting services to see if something more user friendly was available.

ITEM VII: ADJOURNMENT

President Brown declared the meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McElvogue, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer