# IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING June 9, 2016

The minutes of the Iowa Water Environment Association Executive Committee Meeting, held at the Horseshoe Casino in Council Bluffs on June 9, 2016.

#### **ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Kam Reeves, at 5:45 PM, with the following other Executive Committee members present: Jim McElvogue, Eric Evans, Jay Brady, Darin Jacobs, Alison Manz, Tim Snyder, John Ringelestein, Rick Graves, Laurie Twitchell, and Jon Koch. Also present were Committee Chairs Mark Jones, Bob Ranson, Jim Utter, Curt Kampman, and Mark McGuire. Karen Kubick, WEF Trustee, was an honored guest.

#### ITEM II: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by John Ringelestein, and seconded by Tim Snyder, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

### ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Ringelestein requested a small change to the Historian's report in the minutes. It was moved by John Ringelestein, and seconded by Rick Graves, to approve the minutes of March 25, 2016 as amended. Motion carried.

### **ITEM IV: OFFICERS' REPORTS**

### A. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer distributed a report with balances as of December 31, 2015 and June 6, 2016. Most of the accounts are up by interest only. Operations assets are up \$58,983.74 but this is due to the three recent conferences (Maintenance, Collection Systems, Biosolids) and receipts for the Annual Conference with little of the expenses paid as yet. It was moved by Jim McElvogue, and seconded by Jon Koch, to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

### B. Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

### C. Delegates' Report

Tim Snyder reported that he had attended the WEFMAX in Orlando that saw the greatest number of MA's attending a single event. He encouraged others to attend if able, especially if they are close to Iowa. Tim thought that WEFMAX's had improved over the years with more interaction between MA's now being the norm. Jay Brady reported that he attended the WEFMAX in Chicago and that Jon Koch attended that one on his own as well. Jay was also impressed with the session he attended and reported that WEF may try to add more focus on stormwater issues. Keith Hobson, as a WEF At-Large Delegate, is involved with the Value of Water Committee. The first focus of this campaign seemed to be heavily concentrated on drinking water. Over the past year this committee has developed five or six specific messages on the importance of wastewater treatment.

### **D.** Regional Directors

**Region 1**: No report.

**Region 2**: Darin Jacobs reported that they will meet June 24<sup>th</sup> to plan their fall meeting.

**Region 3**: No report.

**Region 4**: Alison Manz reported that their next region meeting is to be held in Atlantic on October 7, 2016. The move from Carson is because many of the class sessions deal with topics concerning the Atlantic plant and they will be

conducting a tour of that facility as the concluding session that day.

**Region 5**: Rick Graves reported their region meeting would be held Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> in Newton.

**Region 6**: Jon Koch reported that the Region 6 meeting was held on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Kam Reeves added that Region 6 will be contributing \$1,000 to Shrimp Bingo.

### E. Correspondence

None.

## ITEM V: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

#### A. Members Survey

Kam Reeves distributed copies of the results from a member survey that was solicited from three region meetings.

#### **B.** 2016 Annual Conference Review

Jay Brady reported that some things went well and some things could be improved upon. There was some confusion on speaker information forms that will be handled differently next year. Laptops were purchased this year to avoid software issues we always seem to run into with different versions. Cables and cable adapters will be purchased before the Operators Conference. Jim McElvogue reported that while numbers were down from last year in Ames this conference met expectations for attendance at a site located at the edge of Iowa.

### C. 2016 Operators Conference Update

Eric Evans reported that the 2016 Operators Conference would be held September 7-8, 2016 in Marshalltown. New this year will be an opportunity for vendors to rent a booth to exhibit products or discuss their services. This will be very similar to the exhibits at the Collection Systems Conference with modest fees to cover the extra expenses.

### D. 2017 Annual Conference Location Decision

Jay Brady reported that Dubuque would not be available for our dates next June. He has yet to nail down another location. Kam Reeves once again brought up Ottumwa as a possibility. While the Ottumwa venue itself offers some attractive options there was concern expressed about there not being a hotel adjacent to it. Kam will report back next week on several other concerns. Jay will solicit RFP's from several eastern Iowa sites and also check with Prairie Meadows. Jay will have that information available by mid July.

#### E. IAWEA Booth at Iowa League of Cities – 9/14-16/16

Kam Reeves brought up the question of whether IAWEA should have a booth at this conference. We have exhibited at this conference in the past but have not lately. Kam will check on costs and contact Carla Schumacher about her experiences when IAWEA used to attend.

## F. Operator Award Application Discussion – Possible ad hoc committee

A discussion took place concerning the application for the Operator Advancement Awards. The application seems unnecessarily long and complicated and there also appears to be some confusion over who qualifies for the award and when. President Reeves established an ad hoc committee consisting of Allison Manz, Mark McGuire, Adam Smith, Todd Penisten, and Bob Milroy to study the issue and bring recommendations back to the Board. Mark will serve as Chair of the committee and Kam will contact Kelsey Hurst at WEF to see if she has information on similar awards at other MA's

#### G. IAWEA Logo and Slogan Use

Kam expressed his desire that all communication from IAWEA employ the official logo and also use the slogan we adopted.

### H. Water and Wastewater Workers of Iowa Week - 7/17-23/16

Kam would like everyone to try to spread the word about this proclamation and urged other members to ask their local

councils or boards to duplicate the proclamation.

#### I. Other Items

Mark McGuire related the news that he will be assisting with the 2017 WEF Collection Systems Conference in Omaha next year. IAWEA will be allowed to select two presentations for the conference. President Reeves established an ad hoc committee and Eric Evans, Jon Koch, and Laurie Twitchell volunteered to assist Mark. Jay Brady stated that he would send the name of someone from Stanley to help.

### ITEM VI: COMMITTEE ACTION/DIRECTION REQUESTS

With all of the committee reports just being given at the earlier Business Meeting all committee reports were dispensed with.

#### ITEM VII: ADJOURNMENT

President Reeves declared the meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM.

#### **CONSENSUS & ASSIGNMENTS**

#### A. 2017 Annual Conference

Kam Reeves will investigate the questions brought up about the Ottumwa venue and report back to everyone next week.

Jay Brady will solicit RFP's from several eastern Iowa venues and also Prairie Meadows and send info on availability and pricing to everyone by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

### B. IAWEA Booth at Iowa League of Cities – 9/14-16/16

Kam Reeves will check on costs and consult with Carla Schumacher about her experiences exhibiting at this conference.

## C. Operator Award Application Discussion – Possible ad hoc committee

Mark McGuire, Allison Manz, Adam Smith, Todd Penisten, and Bob Milroy have been assigned to an ad hoc committee to study IAWEA's Operator Advancement Award to streamline the application and possibly make recommendations as to the structure of the award. Mark will serve as Chair.

Kam Reeves will contact Kelsey Hurst at WEF to see if she has information on similar awards at other MA's.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McElvogue, Secretary