

IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
January 11, 2019

The minutes of the Iowa Water Environment Association Executive Committee Meeting, held at FOX Engineering, Ames, Iowa on January 11, 2019.

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Jon Koch, at 10:09 AM, with the following other Executive Committee members present: Matt Wildman, Bob Ranson, Eric Evans, Darin Jacobs, Jonathan Brown, Steve Hoambrecker, Lance Greazel, Drew Lammers, and Jim McElvogue. Also present were: Jason Loots, Greg Sindt, Ted Payseur, Keith Hobson, and Mark Jones.

ITEM II: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Darin Jacobs, and seconded by Steve Hoambrecker, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Once a couple of clarifications were made it was moved by Bob Ranson, and seconded by Darin Jacobs, to approve the minutes of November 9, 2018. Motion carried.

ITEM IV: OFFICERS' REPORTS

A. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer submitted a written report with balances as of January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018. The main difference was an increase of approximately \$32,000 in the Association Share account in order to comply with the new reserves policy. The Operations account is down \$19,660.92 due to the transfer to reserves. The Region checking balance is down slightly. The Annual Meeting netted about \$24,000, the Collection Systems Conference made almost \$16,000, and the Operators Conference netted over \$5,000. Revenue for the Operators Conference was down due to a heavy increase in fees by the venue. Maintenance and Biosolids both made around \$1,300. It was moved by Darin Jacobs, and seconded by Steve Hoambrecker, to accept the report of the Treasurer. Motion carried.

B. Secretary's Report

1. The Secretary reported that the expiration date for awarding the 5 free WEF memberships from the 2017 WEFTEC member drive was April 11, 2019. Keith Hobson pointed out that we should receive another 5 free memberships from the 2018 WEFTEC membership drive. Some ideas were discussed about the regions using these memberships so this discussion was tabled until after the region reports.
2. The Secretary requested permission to attend the WEF and MA Partnership Workshop on February 20-22, 2019. WEF will pay for lodging and meals during the workshop but the MA would be responsible for all other costs. It was moved by Jonathan Brown, and seconded by Eric Evans, to approve covering these other costs so the Secretary could attend. Motion carried.
3. The Secretary also wanted to read into the record that a vote by the Executive Board was conducted by email. A motion was made by Jim McElvogue, and seconded by Matt Wildman, to have IAWEA cosign a letter from WEF to Congress endorsing funding for water infrastructure needs. Motion carried.

C. Delegates' Report

Jonathan Brown reported that the WEF work group he has joined is MA Resources and they are going to focus on MA training and events, awards and ceremony, staffing, and financial planning. They have not met recently due to the holidays. Jon is of the opinion that IAWEA is one of the better situated MA's from the standpoint of financial stability and the training we provide. Keith Hobson provided details on the MA Grant program. WEF is offering a pool of money to assist MA's in financing projects or updates to MA service abilities. Some ideas WEF had in mind were purchasing a new computer, updating a website, or establishing an Operations Challenge program.

D: Regional Directors

Region 1: Steve Hoambrecker reported that the new Region Director in June will be Lyle Krueger of Cedar Falls.

Region 2: Darin Jacobs reported that the spring meeting will be held on April 11th at NIACC and this meeting will be focused on wastewater training.

Region 3: Region 3 will have a spring meeting on April 3rd in Sioux Center. They are considering awarding free memberships or registration to the Annual Conference.

Region 4: No report.

Region 5: Lance Greazel reported that the spring meeting will return to Newton and be held on March 27th. They have a planning meeting scheduled for next week.

Region 6: Drew Lammers reported that the region meeting will be held May 1st in Iowa City and they have a planning meeting scheduled soon as well. They will be awarding a free Annual Conference registration and a gift card for the WEF Bookstore. Drew also described the experience of the person who was awarded the free conference registration last year and noted that it was a very positive experience. It was moved by Matt Wildman, and seconded by Darin Jacobs, to offer one free Annual Conference registration to each region with the stipulation that it must go to a current member who does not regularly attend the conference. Motion carried.

E: Correspondence

Nothing to report.

ITEM V: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. 2019 Draft Budget

The proposed 2019 budget was reviewed. After discussion it was moved by Bob Ranson, and seconded by Steve Hoambrecker, to adopt the budget as presented. Motion carried.

B. WEFMAX Meetings

Several Board members indicated the meeting they planned to attend. Some have not made up their mind which one to attend or if they were going to be able to attend. It was moved by Eric Evans, and seconded by Matt Wildman, to authorize Jason Loots, Membership Committee Chair, to attend one of the meetings. Motion carried.

C. Washington, D.C. Fly-in

Both Jon Koch and Jay Brady expressed interest in attending the fly-in. It was moved by Steve Hoambrecker, and seconded by Eric Evans, to approve sending both to D.C. Motion carried.

D. Other Items

None.

ITEM VI: COMMITTEE ACTION/DIRECTION REQUESTS

A. Aims & Objectives

No report.

B. Annual Meeting

Eric Evans reported that another Program planning meeting will be held in Grinnell on January 23rd. Questions were raised about the site of the 2020 conference but no one present had any information about a venue. It was once again suggested that an RFP be sent out to IAWEA members so that a Local Arrangements group could be organized.

C. Awards

No report.

D. Biosolids

Planning for the 2019 conference has been completed. The conference will be held March 20, 2019 at the FFA Enrichment Center on the DMACC Ankeny campus. Topics include the Muscatine MARRVE project, Cedar Rapids Solids Master Plan, Lagoon Cleaning and Land Application, Endocrine Disruptors, and a panel discussion on Biosolids programs. There may be more soil testing needed on the research test plots.

E. Collection Systems

The Collection Systems Conference will be held March 6-8, 2019 in Marshalltown.

F. Education

There will be an initial planning meeting for the 2019 Operators Conference on February 4th. A new venue is still being sought with Newton being a possibility.

G. Exhibitors

No report.

H. Financial Review

No report.

I. Government Affairs

Ted Payseur reported that several members appeared before an IDNR study committee to discuss the impacts of government regulations on small communities. Subjects discussed included the Water Quality Standards and the Design Standards. It has been noted that there exists a significant difference in prices for treatment plants built in Iowa versus costs in states such as Missouri. The committee is discussing the idea of creating a fact sheet about some of these issues along with a list of state legislators so local people could know who to contact. The Iowa Environmental Council has submitted a request to the Iowa Environmental Protection Commission to establish numerical nutrient standards for Iowa lakes. We have received a letter from IAMU asking us to co-sign their asking the EPC to not grant IEC's request. It was moved by Steve Hoambrecker, and seconded by Darin Jacobs, that IAWEA not sign this letter but write one of our own that outlines our arguments for denying IEC's request. Motion carried.

J. Historian

No report.

K. Industrial Pretreatment

Paul Ebert submitted by email that the committee would be participating in the Operators Conference again this year.

L. Laboratory Practices

There could be a laboratory track at the Annual Conference this year.

M. Maintenance

Bob Ranson reported that this year's conference is scheduled for January 29-30, 2019. There will be a pump class with a minimal extra charge.

N. Membership

Jason Loots submitted a written report showing recent and current numbers of members. It was mentioned that WEF membership can vary considerably throughout the year.

O. Newsletter

Jon Koch put out another call for volunteers for the committee and for members to submit articles. The deadline for the spring issue is March 27th at which time all of the information for the Annual Conference should be complete for its inclusion in that issue.

P. Nominating

Eric Evans reported that the committee discussed possible candidates today.

Q. Operator Certification

Jim Utter had nothing to report.

R. Public Relations/Public Education

Laurie Twitchell reported that the Committee met and discussed several topics. They would like conference attendees to take pictures that could be posted on Facebook. They would like to put together a presentation on our industry to distribute to local high schools. The Committee is also requesting photographs or even video footage of treatment plants to use in promoting the association.

S. Research

Mike Roth submitted a written report. The Committee intends to reach out to the Annual Conference Committee to arrange a time for the 2018 grant recipients to report on their activities. They are also reviewing a draft of the 2019 RFP and will be bringing that to the March meeting for Board approval. The Committee has developed and is reviewing a formal evaluation form to use in evaluating the RFP's. The Committee requests \$10,000, the same amount as last year, to fund possible research projects in 2019. The Indianola project has provided updates with evidence of ongoing testing and results from their project. Nothing has been received from the University of Iowa project. The timing of these presentations was discussed but it was felt that we may have to complete a cycle or two to get a better handle on that.

T. Safety

Steve Hoambrecker reported that goals for the committee are to submit safety articles to the newsletter and to try to include at least one safety topic at each IAWEA conference and region meeting.

U. Small Communities

Matt Wildman reported that planning is nearly complete for next year's Small Community Workshops. The flyer will be ready in the next week or so and registration should open shortly after that. Dates and sites will be available on the website.

V. Water for People

Work continues on planning for the activities at the Annual Conference.

W. Website

Mark Jones reported that he is exploring having the website upgraded to new software. He will obtain pricing and get back to us if necessary.

X. Young Professionals

Drew Lammers reported that students at both Iowa and ISU have expressed interest in the GWS student design competition. Formal teams will be recruited after the spring semester begins. A joint AWWA and IAWEA event will

be held on February 15, 2019 at a Des Moines Bucs game.

ITEM VII: ADJOURNMENT

President Koch declared the meeting adjourned at 1:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McElvogue, IAWEA Secretary