

IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

November 19, 2021

The minutes of the Iowa Water Environment Association Executive Committee Meeting held at Fox Engineering in Ames on November 19, 2021.

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Patrick Brown, at 10:00 AM, with the following other Executive Committee members present: Bob Ranson, Dan Miers, Lyle Kreuger, Mike Tripp, Steve Hoambrecker, Grant Reimers, Curt Kampman, Drew Lammers, and Jim McElvogue. Other members present were Taylor Hopper, Greg Sindt, Mark Jones, Mike Roth, and Ted Payseur.

ITEM II: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Dan Miers, and seconded by Mike Tripp, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Grant Reimers, and seconded by Dan Miers, to approve the minutes of September 23, 2021. Motion carried.

ITEM IV: COMMITTEE ACTION/DIRECTION REQUESTS

A. Aims & Objectives

Nothing to report.

B. Annual Meeting

Jay Brady submitted a written report with the following comments:

1. 2021 Conference had good attendance all things considered with reasonable financials.
2. Bob Ranson, Program Chair, hosted an annual meeting recap to discuss tweaks and possible improvements to the annual conference based on 2021 observations and feedback. Let us know if the board has any input on possible improvements.
3. Program Committee met in Grinnell to discuss program topics and keynotes. Call for presentations has been sent out with abstracts accepted until January 10.
4. Jay Brady will be meeting with Dan Miers and City of Davenport to kickoff local arrangement planning. We will be trying for early-mid December but may slip until after the holidays depending on schedules. Alas it doesn't look like a A-Ball baseball game will be in the cards due to River Bandits schedule.
5. Jay Brady is working on 2023-2025 venue RFP.

C. Awards

No report.

D. Biosolids

Dan Miers reported that they will have a planning meeting on December 14th. Five of the six presentations have been confirmed. The conference will take place on March 16, 2022 at the FFA Center at DMACC in Ankeny.

E. Collection Systems

Curt Kampman reported that they will have a planning meeting on December 2nd. The conference will take place March 2-4, 2022 at the Best Western in Marshalltown. PACP training, the collection systems exam and the regular conference will all be offered.

F. Education

Patrick Brown mentioned that the Operators/Pretreatment Conference was planned for September, 2022 at DMACC in Newton.

G. Exhibitors

No report.

H. Financial Review

No report.

I. Government Affairs

Greg Sindt reported that the 4-state EPA meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2022, in Kansas City. IAWEA needs to supply two topics for discussion. Several suggestions were made, and Greg will bring these back to the committee for further evaluation. Ted Payseur talked about the new infrastructure bill and he predicted that most of the money available for water and wastewater would be funneled through the SRF program. While that would generally mean loans there are some provisions for forgivable loans for communities with a certain percentage of low and moderate income populations.

J. Historian

John Ringlestein submitted a written report as follows:

Piles of materials are beginning to appear in groups of similar topics. Also, some materials not pertinent to the Association have been disappearing! Next step is to organize the group in chronological order. Another project will be to determine what past officers' bios are still needed and start the process of bringing the info up to date. In the course of sifting through the materials, I discovered a detailed explanation of the duties for the Historian!

K. Industrial Pretreatment

No report.

L. Laboratory Practices

No report.

M. Maintenance

Bob Ranson reported that the committee met yesterday to discuss the 2022 conference. This conference is scheduled to be held in person however the specialized maintenance training has been dropped to avoid close contact among attendees.

N. Membership

No report.

O. Newsletter

No report.

P. Nominating

No report.

Q. Operator Certification

No report.

R. Public Relations/Public Education

No report.

S. Research

Mike Roth reported that four new people volunteered to serve on the committee after his presentation at the Annual Conference. The committee will meet early next year to discuss the RFP for the 2022 research grant program. Mike also received an inquiry from Ed Askew about funding a study on the accuracy and precision of the EPA method for PFAS. After considerable discussion it was the Board's consensus that PFAS is not currently a priority for IDNR and thus there wasn't a need for this study at this time. If IDNR indicates that PFAS rules are coming, then Dr. Askew should submit an application for a grant through the Research Committee.

T. Safety

No report.

U. Small Communities

No report.

V. Water for People

Taylor Hopper reported that about \$7,100 was raised at the IAWEA conference and \$7,600 at the IA-AWWA conference. This was slightly down from previous years and that was attributed to the time of year that the IAWEA conference was held.

W. Website

Mark Jones reported that he had dropped the Members Only section of the website per the discussion at the last Board meeting.

X. Young Professionals

Adam Smith submitted a written report as follows:

The only item I planned to discuss during my committee report was the 2022 Midwest Student Design Competition. I would ask that any IAWEA board or committee members with contacts at ISU and Iowa to please share the attached design competition information with them. The board has previously approved \$2,000 per team (up to \$4,000 total for two teams) to participate in the WEFTEC student design competition. The only requirement would be the submittal of an expense report for reimbursement.

There are two levels of competition, Wastewater Design and Environmental Design, so I would encourage the board to allow the winning Iowa teams in each of those categories, regardless of which university, to represent IAWEA at the WEFTEC design competition. I believe the original intent was for ISU and Iowa to each send a team, but I would ask the board to support two teams from the same

university if they are the winning Iowa teams at the Midwest Student Design Competition. I am not sure if board action is required at this time, but if it makes sense, please ask the board to consider.

The Secretary stated that this decision could be made at the time it becomes necessary so no further action was taken.

ITEM V: OFFICERS' REPORTS

A. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer submitted a written report as follows:

Net income to date for the Association and Regions is \$-9,083.04. Some regions have held their fall conferences and spent funds to present them. Registration fees have not yet been deposited for those regions. Those registrations fees will help lower the deficit. Results for the various activities are self-explanatory. Interest on most accounts are non-existent!

The golf/motorcycle run funds have not yet been forwarded to the Xicotepec Project. There are still a few checks out there that we are trying to locate and complete the final tally. We hope to have everything resolved shortly.

Major expenses besides the annual meeting include \$3,785 for the 2020 Virtual Annual meeting which was not billed until January, 2021, Collection System Testing \$1,890, Research Project \$10,000, Water Festival \$1,000, WEFTEC 2021 \$3,454 and reimbursement for a WEF delegate for 3 years of attendance at WEFTEC which had not been reimbursed to the delegate's city in the amount of \$6,350.

Reimbursement had not been requested on a timely basis and was approved by the Executive Committee.

The transfer of funds to the Money Market Account has not yet been done. I am exploring ways to track the transfer from the various accounts and to allocate the interest generated back to the various accounts. It may end up being a manual effort at the end of every month!

I am also exploring the transfer of all Association funds to another financial institution which has more favorable results for the Association.

It was moved by Steve Hoambrecker, and seconded by Lyle Krueger, to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

B. Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported that he had made a mistake in Steve Hoambrecker's term as WEF Delegate, and he had another year to serve. The election held at September's Annual Business Meeting will be viewed as electing Eric Evans as WEF Delegate for next year. The Secretary also reported that WEF will be conducting online training on their new database on December 7th for IAWEA staff. It has not yet been determined when the database will be ready for actual use.

C. Delegates' Report

Steve Hoambrecker had nothing to report.

D: Regional Directors

Region 1: Lyle Kreuger reported that they held their fall meeting on October 27th.in Manchester. There were about 150 in attendance down just a little from the usual 170. Jim Cooper of Waukon was selected as their Operator of the Year. He was also elected as Vice President of the Region for next year.

Region 2: No report.

Region 3: No report.

Region 4: Mike Tripp reported they had their fall meeting on October 1st in Griswold. There were 51 in attendance with normally about 70-80 in attendance. Their spring meeting will be April 1st but the location has not been finalized as yet.

Region 5: Grant Reimers reported that Region 5 held their fall meeting on October 27th in Newton. There were about 40 in attendance. The spring meeting will be March 30th in Newton and the fall meeting will be October 26th in Indianola where they hope to have a tour of their new plant.

Region 6: Drew Lammers reported that Region 6 had 53 in attendance at their annual meeting in September. They plan to return to a spring meeting next year.

E: Correspondence

None.

ITEM VI: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Plant Optimization Program

The person who requested that this be placed on the agenda did not attend. No discussion and no action.

B. Other Items

Patrick Brown raised the subject of IAWEA having a team at the Operations Challenge at WEFTEC. There is a question of how to obtain training equipment. In order to train on the same equipment used at WEFTEC there is a need for \$40,000 to \$50,000 to purchase these materials. Consensus was that this was beyond the resources of IAWEA but the suggestion was made to approach vendors for sponsorships. President Patrick Brown formed an Ad Hoc committee consisting of himself and Dan Miers to work with Tim Runde of DMMWRA to try to work something out.

Ted Payseur reported that the WEF Government Affairs Committee has looked at how new committee members are recruited, added, and retained. IAWEA has some of the same problems with these issues and Ted suggested that our WEF Delegates check on this initiative and bring back any fruitful ideas.

Jim McElvogue mentioned that the Operator Certification Committee was down two members with Harris Seidel's retirement and the death of Joe Krebs of the City of Ames. He suggested that the President get together with Jim Utter to investigate adding another couple of people to the committee.

ITEM VII: CONCENSUS & ASSIGNMENTS

Ad Hoc committee and Operator Certification Committee members.

ITEM VIII: ADJOURNMENT

President Brown declared the meeting adjourned at 11:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McElvogue, IAWEA Secretary