

IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

March 25, 2022

The minutes of the Iowa Water Environment Association Executive Committee Meeting held at RiverCenter in Davenport on March 25, 2022.

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Patrick Brown, at 10:06 AM, with the following other Executive Committee members present: Bob Ranson, Dan Miers, Curt Kampman, Darin Jacobs, Grant Reimers, Jon Koch, and Jim McElvogue. Other members present were Taylor Hopper, Greg Sindt, Mark Jones, Jason Loots, Paul Ebert, Jay Brady, Mike Roth, and Matt Hawes.

(Due to the timing of the tour of the RiverCenter and the attendance of some Board members, certain reports and votes occurred at a different time during the meeting. For the purpose of clear and concise minutes the events have been recorded in the order that they occurred on the agenda.)

ITEM II: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Darin Jacobs, and seconded by Bob Ranson, to approve the minutes of January 7, 2022. Motion carried.

ITEM IV: COMMITTEE ACTION/DIRECTION REQUESTS

A. Aims & Objectives

Jim McElvogue stated that he had nothing to report at this time but there were items to discuss later on the agenda.

B. Annual Meeting

Jay Brady reported that there will be an additional charge for the additional electric in the Exhibit Hall. The Awards Banquet will be held on the *Celebration Belle* riverboat with buses providing transportation to the dock. The Secretary had a list of information that was needed before registration could open and that info was being put together.

C. Awards

Matt Hawes reported that he has contacted the Awards subcommittees and they are proceeding with selecting nominees for the respective awards. When he has that information, he will submit the names of the nominations for the WEF awards to WEF.

D. Biosolids

Dan Miers reported that they had 76 in attendance at the Biosolids Conference on March 16th. Everything went smoothly and they will have the next committee meeting on April 12th.

E. Collection Systems

Curt Kampman reported that the Collection Systems Conference was held March 2-4, 2022, at the Best Western in Marshalltown. There were 200 people in attendance and planning for next year's conference will start next month.

F. Education

Patrick Brown reported that a planning meeting for the Operators/Pretreatment Conference in September 2022 was held recently. General topics have been identified and speakers are being sought.

G. Exhibitors

No report.

H. Financial Review

Patrick Brown reported that he had received some information on the process to ease the burden of or replace the Treasurer. Keith Hobson has contacted a few other MA's to find out how they handle the financial duties. He was unable to attend today, nor did he have sufficient time to write a report. Patrick suggested that an Ad hoc committee be established to aid in the process. President Brown established the committee with the following members: Keith Hobson, Jim McElvogue, John Ringlestein, and Patrick Brown.

I. Government Affairs

Greg Sindt reported that the committee had been approached by a new group calling itself the Iowa Nutrient Collaborative for Public Water Supplies. Their objective is to develop and implement an innovative model, an informal "nutrient collaborative", that will build a sense of community among Iowa's rural and urban PWS which are particularly challenged by management and treatment of nitrogen and phosphorous in source water. They have invited IAWEA to join the group as members. The committee recommended that IAWEA attend meetings for now and decide later whether to become members. It was moved by Jim McElvogue, and seconded by Dan Miers, to adopt this recommendation as our involvement with this group. Motion carried.

The 4-state EPA meeting is scheduled for May 3, 2022, in Kansas City. Greg provided an outline of the agenda and identified Item #2, Funding Opportunities, as probably the most important topic to discuss. He also advised there was plenty of room if others want to attend. PFAS is also on the agenda but the IAWEA research project on PFAS has been discontinued because the student conducting the research has quit.

J. Historian

No report.

K. Industrial Pretreatment

Paul Ebert reported that they participated in the planning meeting for the Operators/Pretreatment Conference and gathered some good ideas for topics.

L. Laboratory Practices

No report.

M. Maintenance

No report.

N. Membership

No report.

O. Newsletter

Jon Koch reported that the next issue would contain the conference program but there was still room for other articles if anyone had something.

P. Nominating

Bob Ranson reported that the committee has identified Lauren O'Neil as a candidate for Vice President.

Q. Operator Certification

No report.

R. Public Relations/Public Education

No report.

S. Research

Mike Roth submitted a written report and summarized it at the meeting.

1. Current Activities
 - a. 2022 Research Grant Program
 - i. RFP is out on the street
 - ii. Proposals are due to IAWEA Research Committee Chair Mike Roth at mroth@hrgreen.com by 11:00 AM on May 27, 2022
 - iii. Committee will make recommendations for award at June Board meeting
2. Future Activities
 - a. WEF Morgan Operational Solutions Award Nomination Recommendation
 - i. Nominations can be made by MA or individual WEF members
 - ii. Requesting Executive Committee's support of nominations for this year's award
 - iii. Nominations are due April 1, 2022
 - iv. 2 categories
 1. Under 5000 population served – Kevin Shoup, City of Walker, Iowa
 2. Over 5000 population served – Jon Koch, City of Muscatine, Iowa
 - v. Research Committee can fill out application forms

It was moved by Jim McElvogue, and seconded by Dan Miers, to support the above nominations. Motion carried.

- b. WEF Camp Applied Research Award Nomination Recommendation
 - i. Nominations can be made by MA or individual WEF members
 - ii. Requesting Executive Committee's support of nominations for future award nominations
 - iii. Nominations are due April 1, 2022
 1. No nominations recommendations for this year
 - iv. Research Committee can fill out application forms
 - c. Need to amend IAWEA bylaws to include these 2 awards
 - d. Develop framework for recognizing nominees at the state level
 - e. Promote awareness of awards and future calls for nominations

T. Safety

No report.

U. Small Communities

No report.

V. Water for People

Taylor Hopper reported that the arrangements for the Silent Auction were complete, and the event is ready to go. He also relayed that Water for People's next virtual tour of water and sanitation projects in Nicaragua on April 27th and 28th.

W. Website

Mark Jones reported that he would like every Committee Chair to review their respective pages to clear out old information and update what was needed.

X. Young Professionals

Taylor Hopper reported that Project Aware was scheduled to be held in Region 3 this summer and YP members were being encouraged to participate.

ITEM V: OFFICERS' REPORTS

A. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer submitted a written report. Most of the accounts have not changed since January 1, 2022. The Library, Newsletter and IAWEA Water Projects accounts are dormant at this time. The other accounts that show a 0 increase do not receive any interest. The Money Market and Special Projects Reserve are up due to interest. Region checking is down a small amount, several regions are planning spring meetings. Operations account is up a significant amount due to the Maintenance, Collection Systems and Biosolids Conferences. The Conference results are self-explanatory. The income for the calendar is late payments for the 2021-2022 calendar. Work is progressing on the 2021 Financial Report and hope to have it completed in a few weeks. It was moved by Jim McElvogue, and seconded by Darin Jacobs, to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

B. Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported that WEF had scheduled another training session on the new member database for today, but they had neglected to include me on the meeting invite. Oklahoma couldn't meet today either so now the meeting is scheduled for next Friday.

C. Delegates' Report

Jon Koch distributed a written report outlining recent initiatives by the House of Delegates. Updates were given on the Budget, Nominating, DEI, WEFMAX, and Steering committees. The recent efforts of the Emerging Leaders Transitions, Water Communications, and Federal Advocacy workgroups were also detailed. Round 1 of the MA Grant Program has concluded with a deadline of June 24, 2022 for Round 2.

D: Regional Directors

Region 1: No report.

Region 2: Darin Jacobs reported that their wastewater conference would be held at NIACC on April 14th.

Region 3: No report.

Region 4: No report.

Region 5: No report.

Region 6: No report.

E: Correspondence

None.

ITEM VI: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Complimentary WEF Memberships

The Secretary reported that IAWEA is eligible for 3 WEF memberships this year. These WEF memberships would include an IAWEA membership as well. These could be offered at region meetings following the schedule previously approved by the Board. Even numbered regions would award memberships in even years and odd numbered regions would offer them in odd years. The one caveat would be that the WEF memberships could only be awarded to someone who has never been a WEF member before.

B. Golden Manhole Award

The Collection Systems Committee has proposed new language for the committee in the Manual of Policies and Procedures. The language would adopt a new name for the Golden Manhole Award in honor of Mark McGuire. Mark was a very active Chair of the CSC and initiated many of the activities conducted today by the committee. It was moved by Jim McElvogue, and seconded by Darin Jacobs, to adopt the new language. Motion carried.

C. Tour of RiverCenter

The Board toured the site of the Welcome Reception and both buildings of the RiverCenter. It was discovered that the venue had not planned to provide electricity to all of the booths. A plan was formed to correct this. The General Session and the meals will be held in the south building. The Exhibit Hall and breakout sessions will be held in the north building.

D. MA Code of Conduct

The Secretary reported that WEF has established a Code of Conduct for WEF members and is requiring MA's to adopt such a code for MA only members. After much discussion the A&O Committee was directed to suggest some language for this requirement.

E. Constitution & Bylaws Amendments

The A&O Committee Chair questioned the Board if there was a desire to amend the Constitution & Bylaws to allow for easier passage of amendments. Currently a vote of the membership must be held on any amendments to these documents. WEF has edited their C&B to allow the House of Delegates to amend such. The Committee Chair was directed to suggest some language for these changes as well. The Chair advised the Board that both endeavors would take quite some time to complete.

F. Other

The Ad hoc Stockholm Junior Water Prize Committee is no longer necessary as WEF no longer accepts bids from MA's to host the national competition. President Brown officially dissolved this committee.

ITEM VII: CONCENSUS & ASSIGNMENTS

Patrick Brown will contact Keith Hobson about getting the new Ad hoc committee to meet to discuss Treasurer options.

ITEM VIII: ADJOURNMENT

President Brown declared the meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim McElvogue, IAWEA Secretary