

# **IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

***September 22, 2023***

The minutes of the Iowa Water Environment Association Executive Committee Meeting held at Fox Strand in Ames on September 22, 2023.

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

The meeting was called to order by President Curt Kampman at 10:02am, with the following Executive Committee members present: Grant Reimers, John Ringelestein, Darin Jacobs, Dan Miers, Mike Roth, Eric Evans, Jon Koch, Lauren O'Neil (Teams), and Mark Jones. Other members present were Jason Loots, Jim Utter, Jim McElvogue, Taylor Hopper, Daria Dilparic, Jason Kenyon (Teams), and Katie Greenstein (Teams).

### **ITEM II: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Darin Jacobs and seconded by Dan Miers to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

### **ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by John Ringelestein and seconded by Dan Miers to approve the minutes of June 8, 2023. After discussion, adding corrections, motion carried.

### **ITEM IV: COMMITTEE ACTION/DIRECTION REQUESTS**

#### **A. Aims & Objectives**

No report.

#### **B. Annual Meeting**

Dan Miers is organizing a meeting for October 12, 2023, at 10:00am for program planning. Curt Kampman read an email from Jay Brady speaking to a proposed new format.

#### **C. Awards**

No report.

#### **D. Biosolids**

Dan Miers reported the next committee meeting is October 10, 2023, at 1:00pm at the DMACC FFA Enrichment Center.

#### **E. Collection Systems**

Curt Kampman reported that they had a committee meeting in September in conjunction with the Operator Conference. Planning to have the Collection System Conference at the Quality Inn & Suites in Ames. Dates for the next conference are March 6, 7, and 8, 2024.

**F. Education**

Patrick Brown emailed his report. Just had the Operator/Pretreatment Conference and it went well. We had about 100 in attendance, but do not have final numbers yet. Patrick is planning to step down as chair of the committee and Seth Lamb has agreed to take over as chair. Patrick will remain on the committee.

**G. Exhibitors**

No report.

**H. Financial Review**

No report.

**I. Government Affairs**

Eric Evans reported they are planning 4-States Government Affairs meeting at the EPA Region 7 office on October 24, 2023. Several topics on the agenda. Iowa will be discussing Executive Order #10, workforce development and funding. Katie Greenstein spoke about EO #10 updates from the State.

**J. Historian**

No report.

**K. Industrial Pretreatment**

No report.

**L. Laboratory Practices**

No report.

**M. Maintenance**

No report.

**N. Membership**

Jason Loots attended the League of Cities conference. It was IAWEA's first time having a booth there. He said Mason City sounded like they are going to sign up their employees as IAWEA members. Other cities showed interest, as well. Jason suggested designing a postcard-type flyer to hand out. He also discussed possibly making coins, stickers, bag clips, etc. to hand out as giveaways at conferences. Jason requested reimbursement for travel to the Iowa League of Cities conference. John Ringlestein moved to approve reimbursement to Jason Loots for the expenses. Dan Miers seconded the motion. After discussion, including that in the future reimbursement of this type can be justified as a committee expense, the motion carried.

**O. Newsletter**

Jon Koch requested material for the newsletter. He is going to have the extra issues sent to Ames WPC for storage at a more centralized location. Extra copies can be used at display booths at conferences, etc. Jon will send Mark (website) due dates for newsletter content to be added to the website calendar.

**P. Nominating**

No report.

**Q. Operator Certification**

No report.

**R. Public Relations/Public Education**

Mark Jones introduced Daria Dilparic to the Board as the incoming Committee Chair. She is working with Laurie Twitchell to learn more about the committee and set a direction. Everyone at the meeting introduced themselves to Daria, as well. She reported that they have a committee meeting scheduled for October 18, 2023. One topic of conversation will be the Children's Water Festival.

**S. Research**

Research grant awards were distributed for this past cycle. This is a two-year cycle, so the next grant will be awarded in 2025. John Ringelestein said he will set up a reserve account for Research so they can carry over \$10,000 from the next year to accommodate the \$20,000 grant amount the following year.

**T. Safety**

No report.

**U. Small Communities**

No report.

**V. Water for People**

During the IAWEA Annual Conference, about \$6,300 was raised for Water for People and \$3,400 for Xicotepec projects. Total of \$9,700 was up 20% from last years' efforts. Funds have been submitted to the respective groups. Bob Main will be going to Xicotepec, Mexico, October 22-28, 2023, and a spring trip is planned for March 9-17, 2024. There will be fundraising events at the upcoming AWWA Annual Conference and World Water Classic also.

**W. Website**

Mark Jones reported that all is going well. Curt Kampman reminded everyone to send a PDF to be posted on the website for events.

**X. Young Professionals**

Jason Kenyon reported that they had a networking lunch with YP from Ames and Des Moines, discussing outreach to the university groups, outreach to K-12 schools, and a PE exam prep for younger engineers. Planning another lunch in Cedar Rapids/Iowa City area. University of Iowa group emailed stating that they are set up and able to accept funding from IAWEA. John Ringelestein confirmed that the check has been sent.

**ITEM V: OFFICERS' REPORTS**

**Region 5:** Grant Reimers reported early. The spring meeting had 38 attending. The fall meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2023, in Huxley. There will be a tour of the Slater facility.

**A. Treasurer's Report**

John Ringelestein reported that he transferred money from the operations account to the money market account to gain 1.69% interest on the funds equaling approximately \$87 a month. The

annual conference had a net income of \$17,850.21 and the Operator Conference had a net income of \$13,196.71.

It was moved by Dan Miers and seconded by Darin Jacobs to accept the report. Motion carried.

#### **B. Delegates' Report**

Mark Jones was not ready for the report, so the Delegates' report was given at this time. Jon Koch is going to be receiving the WEF Innovative Project Award. Eric Evans added that at the HOD business meeting they approved two new HOD committees: a communications committee and a water advocacy committee. Keith Hobson was nominated for WEF Vice-President.

#### **C. Secretary's Report**

Mark Jones reported that Kelsey Hurst is IAWEA's WEF liaison and Ifetayo Venner will be our WEF representative at the 2024 IAWEA Annual Conference. Mark also reported on two email votes:

- i. June 14, 2023 – A motion was made by John Ringelestein and seconded by Drew Lammers to approve paying reimbursement to Jon Koch for WEFMAX attendance with expenses going over the authorized amount by \$75.81. Motion passed unanimously with the following members voting:
  1. Lauren O'Neil
  2. Tim Gessert
  3. Darin Jacobs
  4. Drew Lammers
  5. Eric Evans
  6. Mike Roth
  7. John Ringelestein
  8. Lindsay Beaman
  9. Mark Jones
- ii. September 01, 2023 – A motion was made by Lauren O'Neil and seconded by Lindsay Beaman to allow the Iowa League of Cities a comped booth at our Annual Conference in exchange for them allowing us one at their respective conference. Motion passed unanimously with the following members voting:
  1. Lauren O'Neil
  2. Lindsay Beaman
  3. Dan Miers
  4. Jon Koch
  5. Drew Lammers
  6. Grant Reimers
  7. John Ringelestein
  8. Eric Evans
  9. Mike Roth
  10. Mark Jones

**D. Regional Directors**

- i. **Region 1:** No report.
- ii. **Region 2:** Darin Jacobs reported that the Region 2 fall meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2023, at NIACC in Mason City.
- iii. **Region 3:** No report.
- iv. **Region 4:** No report.
- v. **Region 6:** No report.

**E. Correspondence**

Mark Jones shared an email from Craig Hennager thanking IAWEA for their generous donation of \$30,000 for Shrimp & Bingo. John Ringelestein also received a thank you from the DMACC Foundation for IAWEA's earlier contribution of \$2,000 plus one from the DMACC president giving thanks for the \$30,000 donation.

**ITEM VI: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Treasurer Duties and Replacement Ad hoc Committee Report**

Patrick Brown sent an email report stating John Ringelestein had sent him a few edits and the final version is ready to be sent out. John and Keith Hobson have a list of firms to send the RFP to.

**B. DEI Ad hoc Committee**

No report on progress.

**C. Review and Approval of Letter to Governor Regarding IAWEA's Support of Exempting Chapter 61 from E.O. 10**

Eric Evans and Katie Greenstein reported on the process of gathering information for the letter. After some discussion, Darin Jacobs moved, and John Ringelestein seconded the motion to approve President Curt Kampman signing and sending the letter to the Governor's office. Motion carried.

**D. Approve request of \$1,000 from the ISU Student Chapter to Attend WEFTEC and Compete in the Student Design Competition**

Treasurer John Ringelestein said there is a standing amount of \$2,000 which has already been approved for the ISU Student Chapter. John said he will add it into the budget.  
No action needs to be taken.

**ITEM VII: CONCENSUS & ASSIGNMENTS**

**ITEM VIII: ADJOURNMENT**

President Kampman adjourned the meeting at 11:33am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark C. Jones, IAWEA Secretary