

IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

June 6, 2024

The minutes of the Iowa Water Environment Association Executive Committee Meeting held at Poindexter Coffee in Iowa City on June 6, 2024.

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Lauren Michael at 3:48 pm, with the following Executive Committee members present were Lindsay Beaman, Drew Lammers, Jim McElvogue, Curtis Kampman, Mike Roth, Darin Jacobs, Jason Loots, Eric Evans, and John Ringelestein (Teams). Other members present were Dave Haugen, Taylor Hopper, Seth Lamb, Jay Brady, Adib Amini, Katie Greenstein, Ifetayo Venner, and Keith Hobson.

ITEM II: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Jim McElvogue and seconded by Mike Roth to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Jim McElvogue and seconded by Lindsay Beaman to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2024. Motion carried.

ITEM IV: COMMITTEE ACTION/DIRECTION REQUESTS

A. Aims & Objectives

Jim McElvogue reported that there are changes currently on the ballot for changes to the Constitution and Bylaws allowing online voting of the IAWEA membership along with other minor changes.

B. Annual Meeting

Aside from a few glitches, Jay Brady felt the 2024 Annual Meeting was well attended. We will continue to improve and plan for next year.

ITEM VI: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

(*NOTE – This item was moved forward in the agenda)

C. Discussion and action of UI student chapter request for 2024 WEFTEC funding assistance

Sarah Onysio of the UI WEF Student Chapter spoke to the Board regarding attending WEFTEC asking for funding to attend WEFTEC 2024 in New Orleans, LA. Their goal is to collect \$10,000 to allow nine members to attend.

After discussion, Jason Loots moved, and Lindsay Beaman seconded the motion to match funding for University of Iowa with the other WEF student chapters of \$1,500 annually and add a one-time

funding of \$2,500 for any of Iowa's three student chapter requesting funding strictly for WEFTEC this year. Motion passed.

ITEM IV: COMMITTEE ACTION/DIRECTION REQUESTS (CONT.)

C. Education

Seth Lamb reported that the Operator Conference will be September 4-5, 2024. Preparation is still underway.

D. Awards

No report.

E. Biosolids

No report.

F. Collection Systems

Dave Haugen reported the March 2024 Collection Systems Conference was a success. Planning is underway for the 2025 conference.

G. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI)

Adib Amini recapped the DEI and YP events from the Annual Conference. He would like to see the YP trivia event incorporated into the welcome reception with more people taking part and it being hosted by the YP. He shared how the DEI Committee has organized bi-monthly lunches in three different areas of the state for Women in Water. Planning is also underway for this summer's FRESHwater program.

H. Exhibitors

No report.

I. Financial Review

Keith Hobson reported that the Financial Review Committee reviewed the Treasurer's report for 2023 and provided the following recommendations: 1) The reserve accounts continue to be monitored throughout the year to maintain the 50% reserve requirement. 2) Monitor the Education Program revenues and expenses to maintain adequate income, especially with the newer Fall Operator Conference. 3) The association leadership is commended for the rather large donations in 2023 to the various supported scholarship funds and encourages a regular practice of reasonable donations. 4) Continue to investigate obtaining an outside accounting firm to assist with some ongoing Treasurer duties.

J. Government Affairs

Eric Evans passed his position of co-chair of the Government Affairs committee onto Katie Greenstein. President Lauren Michael appointed Katie Greenstein as the new co-chair of the Government Affairs committee. Eric sent the Secretary a written annual report.

K. Historian

No report.

L. Industrial Pretreatment

No report.

M. Laboratory Practices

No report.

N. Maintenance

No report.

O. Membership

Jason Loots reported that as of mid-May, the association had a total of 690 memberships; 413 WEF memberships and 277 Iowa Only. These numbers are down a little bit from 715 in 2023. Jason attended some Region meetings this spring to promote membership. He also attended WEFMAX in Utah and described his experience and the purpose of this year's exchange. The committee would like to start showing what the committees do including showing a committee spotlight in the Clean Waters newsletter. Just more "marketing" in general for IAWEA.

P. Newsletter

No report.

Q. Nominating

No report.

R. Operations Challenge

Eric Evans reported the committee had a meeting May 2, where they established the committee's mission, goals, and adopted a charter. They also discussed the sponsorship letter. Tim Runde has been seeking out sponsors and established rules for receiving sponsorship funds. The team had a demo at this year's Annual Conference and Eric felt it was successful.

S. Operator Certification

No report.

T. Public Relations/Public Education

No report.

U. Research

Mike Roth reported on the committee meeting held this morning at the breakfast. The next research grant program will be in 2025 and the RFP will be coming out around January 2025 then will be reviewed and presented to the Board in June. They are also working on formalization of the application/nomination process for two WEF awards: the Borgan Organizational Award and Camp Applied Research Award.

V. Safety

No report.

W. Small Communities

No report.

X. Water for People

Taylor Hopper reported that over \$10,00 was raised this year.

Y. Website

No report.

Z. Young Professionals

No report.

ITEM V: OFFICERS' REPORTS

A. Treasurer's Report

John Ringlestein was present on the phone, but Mark Jones read the written Treasurer's report. The Board was given copies of the report before the meeting. It was moved by Darin Jacobs and seconded by Eric Evans to accept the report. Motion carried.

B. Secretary's Report

Mark Jones thanked Curt Kampman and the rest of the Board for their assistance and patience during his first year as Secretary.

C. Delegates' Reports

Eric Evans and Jim McElvogue said they did not have more to report than what was given at the Business Meeting.

D. Regional Directors

- i. **Region 1:** Lindsay Beaman reported that planning is underway for the Region 1 Fall Meeting.
- ii. **Region 2:** Darin Jacobs reported that planning is underway for the Region 2 Fall Meeting.
- iii. **Region 3:** Curt Kampman reported that Tom Pingel of Sioux City has taken over as Region 3 Director.
- iv. **Region 4:** Jason Loots reported that Travis Hanson from Atlantic has taken over as Region 4 Director.
- v. **Region 5:** No report.
- vi. **Region 6:** Drew Lammers reported that they had the Region 6 Annual Meeting May 1 in Iowa City with 66 paid attendees.

E. Correspondence

None.

ITEM VI: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Discussion and action of letter drafted to IDNR from IAWEA RE: CBOD.

Katie Greenstein summarized the purpose of the letter. With a few minor changes noting the current committee chair and President, the final draft will be prepared and given to Lauren Michael to sign then sent to IDNR.

Jim McElvogue moved, and Mike Roth seconded the motion to approve the letter. Motion carried.

B. Discussion and action to response to email from Steve Falck of Environmental Law & Policy Center.

It was discussed that to get a well-rounded perspective of the conversation to be had with Mr. Falck, Government Affairs, President Michael volunteered to take part as did Jay Brady.

D. Discuss clarification of \$5 Women in Water fee and possible sponsorship of this event. Lindsay Beaman inquired about the Women in Water event registration. It was discussed to look at a different way of organizing the event in the future, including the possibility of a sponsor.

ITEM VII: Other

A. Discussion of Craig Just's request for a donation of up to \$15,000 to support funding for Grant Weaver to come to Iowa for a week-long wastewater tour in October.

After discussing several points, it was decided to appoint the Research Committee to discuss with Craig Just the program and set some expectations that IAWEA would like to see from the program. The committee would then bring the information to the Board and offer direction for a final vote.

B. Katie Greenstein reported that Polk County had reached out regarding their source water study and view IAWEA as a stakeholder in the water quality conversation for the Des Moines and Raccoon rivers and offered for some of their team to share results of the study. A small group was determined that would join the Zoom meeting with Polk County's researchers.

ITEM VII: CONCENSUS & ASSIGNMENTS

None this meeting.

ITEM VIII: ADJOURNMENT

President-elect Mike Roth adjourned the meeting at 5:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark C. Jones, IAWEA Secretary