

IOWA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

September 20, 2024

The minutes of the Iowa Water Environment Association Executive Committee Meeting held at Strand Associates in Ames on September 20, 2024.

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Lauren Michael at 10:01 am, with the following Executive Committee members present: Curt Kampman (Zoom), Mike Roth, Jason Loots, Lindsay Beaman, Travis Hanson, Grant Reimers, Drew Lammers, Mark Jones, John Ringelestein, and Jim McElvogue. Other members present were Jay Brandy (Zoom), Matt Hawes (Zoom), Dan Miers, David Haugen, Jon Harger, Jon Koch (Zoom), Paul Ebert (Zoom), Tim Runde (Zoom), Taylor Hopper, and Jason Kenyon.

ITEM II: APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Mike Roth and seconded by John Ringelestein to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Mike Roth and seconded by Darin Jacobs to approve the minutes of June 6, 2024. Motion carried.

ITEM IV: TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer, John Ringelestein presented his report to the Board along with a preliminary draft budget for 2025. He noted in the draft budget that so far this year IAWEA is showing a deficit of \$48,546. He recommends increasing the rate for full registration to the Annual Meeting by \$20 and \$5 for one-day registrations. It was moved by Mark Jones and seconded by Darin Jacobs to accept the financial report. Motion carried.

ITEM V: COMMITTEE ACTION/DIRECTION REQUESTS

A. Aims & Objectives

No report.

B. Annual Meeting

Jay Brady reported that the first planning meeting for the 2025 Annual Meeting will be held in October. Jay is working on a guidebook that will have direction, schedule, and procedures to help future committee members. Jay is also looking into adding a "Diamond" sponsorship level to the vendor registration.

Curt Kampman added that he plans to have the program completed by March to be included in the spring newsletter.

C. Awards

No report.

D. Biosolids

Dan Miers reported that there is a committee meeting scheduled for October 15 at the DMACC FFA Enrichment Center. He also noted new members of the committee, Bryce Trpkosh from HDR and Ty Herrick from City of Indianola WRRF.

E. Collection Systems

David Haugen reported that the committee met on September 5 in Newton discussing the agenda and possible speakers for the conference. The committee decided to eliminate renting a bus to take a group out for a dinner at a nearby restaurant. They instead will use the savings from the bus rental to boost their social hour. The committee has reached out to a group that speaks on sewer cleaning who gave a proposal to speak at the conference at a cost of \$6,700. Tom Hay had recommended they seek vendor sponsorship for the talk.

F. DEI

No report.

G. Education

No report.

H. Exhibitors

No report.

I. Financial Review

No report.

J. Government Affairs

Jon Koch reported that they will be working with Iowa legislators to get ahead of any PFAS issues that may be coming up.

The following was emailed by Katie Greenstein to the Board Secretary, giving notes from the August 15 Government Affairs meeting:

- Attendees: Katie Greenstein, Jon Koch, Eric Evans, Keith Hobson, Greg Sindt, Aaron Burke, Eldon Schneider
- WEFTEC
 - Folks planning to attend: Keith, Greg, Jon, Eric
 - AWWA meeting in June - Keith sat in on Gov Affairs equivalent - had new EPA lead water person talk, and supposed to be at WEFTEC (if Oct. 1st federal shutdown avoided)
 - If able, following are recommended for committee members to attend:
 - Government Affairs Community - Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Focus Group Meeting
 - Sunday, Oct. 6th 3-5pm CT in Room 281, New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (900 Convention Center Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70130)
 - Government Affairs Community Meeting

- Monday, Oct. 7th 10-11:30 am CT in Room 279, New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (900 Convention Center Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70130)
 - Government Affairs Community MA Focus Group Meeting
 - Wednesday, Oct. 9th 9-11am CT in Room 279, New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (900 Convention Center Blvd, New Orleans, LA 70130)
 - WEF Awards, 4-6pm CT
 - Jim Young getting an award this year - being designated as a fellow (would be nice to show some support)
- Four States - Missouri hosting, no date yet (likely this winter)
- Executive Order 10 (EO10)
 - Sept. 24th 10 am and 1 pm - public hearings for regulatory analysis of water (including wastewater design standards, WWDS) chapters
 - December/January - formal public comment periods anticipated (post Notice of Intended Action by Environmental Protection Commission, anticipated December)
- Aluminum water quality standard - bioavailable method validation hopefully by end of calendar year
- PFAS
 - AWWA has sued EPA over drinking water rule
 - Any more data in WWTP effluent?
 - Some facilities/staff not excited about testing because worried will be used against them
 - Muscatine testing leachate
 - If water quality criteria - then need to treat? Can separate, but mostly transferring from one phase to another?
 - When MCLs finalized... impairments? What does that mean to WWTPs?
 - Reuse - not as predominant in Iowa, but in other areas, direct reuse - significant impact
- Alternative Delivery Methods
 - SRF status on process for CMAR delivery?
 - Sioux City - CMAR
 - Moving forward, should be on board in next couple months
 - Keith had a conversation w/ some DNR folks at annual meeting
 - Difficulty for DNR is not seeing the final design docs
- Last Dollar Scholarship
 - Water/wastewater programs had been left off the list - worked with DMACC and AWWA on initial recon., and the programs have since been reinstated as eligible for the scholarship
- Follow-up tasks:
 - Anyone going to WEFTEC - participate in Gov. Affairs events/meetings if able
 - Katie - DNR follow ups
 - Get updates on following topics:
 - cBOD letter/EO10
 - Triennial review
 - DNR's updated org chart
 - Any monitoring required before promulgation of EPA 1633?
 - Set up once a year DNR check in with Director Lyon and Ed Tormey

- Aaron - Provide contact re: CMAR who could give a brief presentation/talk about it
- PFAS workgroup (Katie contacting) - Summarizing technologies for treatment/destruction and any information hearing from WWTPs where info is available on PFAS discharge concentrations
- Group - start thinking about who we want on TAC for WWDS
 - Eric - Updated list sent out and shown below for discussion at next meeting

Suggestions for members on a workgroup or TAC for routine design standards review (based on updating previous list; for future discussion):

- Tim Ellis, Iowa State University
- Craig Just, University of Iowa
- Jon Harger, Vessco and/or Matt Streater, EESI
- Mike Kuntz, City of Cedar Rapids → Retired, maybe replace with Justin Schroeder?
- Roy Hesemann, City of Cedar Rapids
- Mark Jones, City of Nevada → Now at City of Ames
- ~~Joe Krebs, City of Ames~~
- Patrick Brown, Des Moines WRF
- Eric Evans, HDR
- Mike Roth, HR Green
- Greg Sindt, Bolton and Menk
- Small Community – Matt Wildman(?), Darin Jacobs(?), Seth Lamb(?)
- Conveyance – Dave Haugen(?)

K. Historian

No report.

L. Industrial Pretreatment

Paul Ebert reported on the Operations/Pretreatment Conference.

M. Laboratory Practices

No report. Lauren Michael said she spoke with Justin Schroeder, and they may be changing leadership of the committee to make it active again.

N. Maintenance

No report.

O. Membership

Jason Loots reported membership numbers are holding steady. He reminded Committee Chairs to turn in their slideshow presentations.

P. Newsletter

Jon Koch is asking for information for articles. Deadline for next issue is October 4.

Q. Nominating

No report.

R. Operator Certification

No report.

S. Operations Challenge

The following was emailed by Tim Runde to report:

We raised \$7500 for this year. We plan to hold majority of that for future funding. Committee will reimburse team for some expenses after WEFTEC, like registration, uniforms, and hard hats. We are very optimistic that there will be two or three teams next year and hope to expand Ops Challenge at other IAWEA events. We have the competition schedule for the Reclaimers and will send out the times so those attending WEFTEC can come cheer them on.

T. Public Relations/Public Education

No report.

U. Research

Mike Roth reported that the Committee will be meeting this quarter to start the process to get an RFP put together for the bi-annual award of \$20,000.

V. Safety

No report.

W. Small Communities

No report.

X. Water For People

Taylor Hopper reported that Bob Main will be going to Xicotepec, Mexico, October 20-26. The main trip is March 15-23, 2025.

Y. Website

No report.

Z. Young Professionals

Jason Kenyon reported that the Iowa State water professionals group reached out for information to do the student design competition at the Central States WEA next spring.

The committee is organizing a social event September 28, from noon-2 pm at Smash Park in West Des Moines. Noah Streeter is organizing that event.

Jason is looking for a Vice-chair to assist with the committee and eventually take over as Chair.

YP networking lunches are still happening in the Des Moines/Ames and Cedar Rapids/Iowa City areas.

ITEM VI: OFFICERS' REPORTS

A. Secretary's Report

No report.

B. Delegates' Reports

Jim McElvogue reported that they are about to the end of the year for Delegates. He was involved in two workgroups during the year. The House of Delegates meeting at WEFTEC will be held Saturday, October 5, and he will be in attendance.

C. Regional Directors

- i. **Region 1:** Lindsay Beaman reported the Region 1 meeting is scheduled for October 30.
- ii. **Region 2:** Darin Jacobs reported that the Region 2 meeting is scheduled for October 10, at NIACC in Mason City. This meeting is geared more towards the AWWA side of the industry.
- iii. **Region 3:** No report.
- iv. **Region 4:** Travis Hanson reported that the Region 4 meeting is scheduled for October 4 in Griswold.
- v. **Region 5:** Grant Reimers reported that the Region 5 meeting is scheduled for October 30, at the Iowa Rural Water building in Newton.
- vi. **Region 6:** Drew Lammers reported there is no fall meeting for Region 6. The CEUs for the spring meeting were just posted to the IDNR website, noting they are backed up in their process.

D. Correspondence

None this meeting.

ITEM VII: DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Proposed ad hoc committee to develop recommendations for educational contributions.

Jim McElvogue is proposing an ad hoc committee be formed to come up with a way to evaluate monetary donation requests, suggesting possibly an application process. This ad hoc committee would ascertain what IAWEA's goals are and what type of education efforts to support. With this information, then a budget could be determined to allow for a limit to the amount of money given. President Lauren Michael established the committee and Jim McElvogue volunteered to participate.

B. Discussion of contributions to DMACC Foundation.

This item was tabled until the November when there would be information showing whether or not the DMACC student chapter utilized their \$1,500 for this year's funding plus their one-time allotment of \$2,500 to attend the 2024 WEFTEC.

C. Discussion of Mission, Vision, Values/Goals Update.

President Lauren Michael established an ad hoc committee to refine IAWEA's current mission, vision, and values.

D. Discussion on Continuity of Leadership and Succession Planning.

President Lauren Michael would like to develop a more structured program of onboarding new officers. President Lauren Michael established an ad hoc committee and Jay Brady, Dan Miers, and Mike Roth volunteered to help lead the ad hoc committee to work on this program.

E. Discuss Public Outreach and Marketing.

Lauren Michael has enlisted the help of Katie Greenstein and Daria Dilparic to assist in making a short video along with IA-AWWA to show a "Day in the Life Of..." in different aspects of the industry.

She is hoping it could be of more interest to younger career-seekers to have a YouTube channel promoting IAWEA and its benefits within the industry. Any ideas should be directed to Daria Dilparic.

F. Presentation and Discussion of Committee Slideshow Presentation.

The Membership Committee has come up with a slide presentation to show what the IAWEA committees do and what it would look like to be involved and who to contact for each committee. This would be shared on the website and possible doing a spotlight in each issue of the newsletter. There are still several committees that have not provided a slide yet.

ITEM VIII: OTHER

A. Potential Changes to the Annual Conference Program

President Lauren Michael and President-Elect Mike Roth are going to work with Past President Curt Kampman on making some adjustments to the Annual Conference program to make it more efficient and inclusive.

B. Request for Funding for the Iowa Tour of Wastewater Plants with Grant Weaver.

President-Elect Mike Roth reminded the Board of the potential of a contribution request for the next tour of wastewater treatment plants with Grant Weaver organized through Craig Just of the University of Iowa and the IDNR. IDNR funded it this year, but they will be looking to IAWEA again for support in the future.

ITEM IX: CONCENSUS & ASSIGNMENTS

- A.** President Lauren Michael established an ad hoc Contribution Process Committee with herself as Chair and will form the committee.
- B.** President Lauren Michael will talk with Bob Watson and Craig Hennager and give them an update on how IAWEA is planning to move forward with donations.
- C.** President Lauren Michael established an ad hoc committee to refine IAWEA's current mission, vision, and values with herself as Chair and will form the committee.
- D.** President Lauren Michael established an ad hoc Leadership and Succession Plan Committee. Jay Brady will be Chair. Dan Miers and Mike Roth volunteered to participate.
- E.** Follow up on progress to find a replacement Treasurer.

ITEM X: ADJOURNMENT

President Lauren Michael adjourned the meeting at 12:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark C. Jones, IAWEA Secretary