

**Massachusetts Water Pollution Control Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, March 21, 2007
Westford, MA**

MWPCA 1st Vice President Charles Tyler called the meeting to order. The following were in attendance:

Henry Albro, Thomas Azevedo, Michael Burke, John Connor, Valerie Flaherty, Michael Foisy, Mike Moreau, Janice Moran (NEWEA), Charlie Tyler, Eugene Valliere, and Ray Willis

MWPCA 1st Vice President Charles Tyler noted that there was a quorum.

Minutes:

- 1) **Minutes from February 7, 2007 Board of Directors Meeting** - On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to accept the minutes of the February 7, 2007 Board of Directors Meeting.

Old Business:

- 1) **Tradeshaw Planning/Progress** - Charlie Tyler reported that he will work on developing a one-page vendor flyer as previously agreed upon at the December 6, 2006 Board Meeting. The flyer will highlight exhibit opportunities and survey results from the 2006 Fall Tradeshaw in Westford, MA. The flyer will be distributed to vendors in an attempt to solicit more responses for the fall 2007 tradeshaw.

Henry Albro mentioned that he and Mike Moreau were going to work on developing a list of potential exhibitors who did not attend the Fall 2006 tradeshaw. He also mentioned that the vendor applications for the fall 2007 tradeshaw will be mailed in early April.

- 2) **Budget Committee Report and Recommendations** – Henry Albro reported that the budget committee had recently met to discuss the current MWPCA budget and recommends increasing membership dues from \$30 to \$40 for the next fiscal year (July 1st - June 30th).

Tom Azevedo mentioned putting an article in the next newsletter informing membership rates will be increasing as of July 1st.

Further discussion was held regarding the budget committee meeting. John Connor stated that meetings have been running at a loss due to subsidized

meeting registrations and rising costs. He made the following suggestions for consideration:

- a) Quarterly Meetings
 - Raising registration fees to offset rising meeting costs
 - No longer offering a cash bar at the quarterly meetings (ex. bartender fees)
 - Increase Training Contact Hours (TCHs) from 2 to 3 hours for attendees by increasing number of presentations given.
- b) Tradeshow
 - Offering only a coffee station at the September Tradeshow rather than a continental breakfast for vendors.
- c) Other
 - Review NEWEA contract and maybe reduce the number of hours needed.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to raise MWPCA individual membership dues from \$30.00 to \$40.00 as of July 1, 2007.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to increase the tradeshow vendor registration fees by \$25.00. Early bird vendor registration will increase from \$250.00 to \$275.00. Regular vendor registration will increase from \$300.00 to \$325.00.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to increase registration fees for the Quarterly Meetings in accordance with the following schedule:

Registration Type			Old	New
Pre-Registration	Meeting Only	Member	\$5.00	\$15.00
Pre-Registration	Meeting Only	Non-Member	\$10.00	\$20.00
Onsite	Meeting Only	Member	\$10.00	\$20.00
Onsite	Meeting Only	Non-Member	\$15.00	\$25.00

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to increase registration fees that include lunch by an additional \$15.00 in accordance with the following schedule:

Registration Type			Old	New
Pre-Registration	Meeting w/lunch	Member	\$15.00	\$30.00
Pre-Registration	Meeting w/lunch	Non-Member	\$20.00	\$35.00
Onsite	Meeting w/lunch	Member	\$20.00	\$35.00
Onsite	Meeting w/lunch	Non-Member	\$25.00	\$40.00

NOTE: by email vote initiated 4/13/07, the Board voted to alter the above such that all quoted "New" non-member rates are increased to \$10 per registration above member rates, in order to increase the incentive to join.

- 3) **Ops Challenge Training Day** – John Connor reported that MWPCA pays for the ops challenge training day when it is held in Massachusetts. The training day has been held in Massachusetts for the past several years. He suggested that other state associations host the training day and have it rotate to different states.
- 4) **Operator Exchange Update** – John Connor reported that the cost to offer the operator exchange program has been increasing over the years. He suggested that a limit be placed on how much to spend per participant. Typically the state hosting the program should pay for the participants' hotel, lunch and dinner costs. The operator is responsible for paying for his breakfast and travel to the host state.

Henry Albro will suggest to the budget committee that the Operator Exchange Program expenses be reviewed and make a recommendation.

Mike Foisy reported that he has a candidate to participate in the 2007 Operator Exchange Program with Connecticut. Mr. Charlie Pires, Chief Operator, Town of Falmouth has volunteered. He will attend the Connecticut Water Pollution Control Association's Spring Meeting on April 24, 2007.

- 5) **Association Directory** – It was reported that at the last board meeting held on February 7, 2007 in Millbury, MA, the board decided to put the production of the directory on hold.
- 6) **Certification Board/NEIWPC/ Commissioner** – Charlie Tyler reported that he will write a letter to the certification board and set up a meeting with the MASSDEP Acting Commissioner, Arleen O'Donnell to express concerns and opinions about the need for certified operators, adequate training and the shifting of training and certification away from DEP.
- 7) **Mass Water Investment Coalition** - Charlie Tyler reported that the Mass Water Investment Coalition has proposed new legislation and many interest groups are listed as sponsors. The bill that has been filed proposes to have the government appoint a broad-based commission to investigate methods for funding, infrastructure maintenance and replacement needs. The coalition has asked if MWPCA would like to be listed as an interest group. The board agreed that this would be a good idea.
- 8) **Membership Renewal Form Format** – It was reported that the membership renewal notices would be mailed out in early April. John Connor mentioned that he would be sending the datafile to NEWEA this upcoming week. NEWEA was requested to format the renewal notices so each renewal notice is personalized. The information will include members name, address, phone, email address, membership ID# and certification number.

9) **NEWEA Director** - It was reported that this will be Mike Burke's last year as NEWEA Director. Joe Witts has submitted his name for consideration. If anyone else is interested, please let the board know at the next meeting.

10) **Awards Program Report** – Valerie Flaherty reported that she will submit an article for the Spring 07 newsletter and that she will be talking to Joe Shepherd, MA DEP for suggestions for award nominations.

Tom Azevedo mentioned that Rhode Island does a plant award and it is a very easy process. Plants fill out a form and submit monthly averages for TSS, BOD, etc. The plant with the lowest average wins an award. The program is voluntary. It was discussed if MWPCA should consider such an award. MWPCA could get company sponsorship for the awards. Valerie Flaherty will look into it and report back at a future meeting.

11) **Newsletter** – It was reported that the deadline for the Spring 07 newsletter is April 10th. Please submit articles to Janice Moran, NEWEA.

12) **Elections** – It was reported that the following board members were up for re-election and nominated at the March Quarterly Meeting. Tom Azevedo, Michael Burke, Michael Moreau and Bob Pariseau will run again for directors positions. It was also mentioned that Ray Willis was nominated at the March Quarterly Meeting. Ray Willis will also run for a director's position.

a) **Nominations for 13th Director** – Valerie Flaherty reported that Phil Ryan of Haverhill, MA may be interested in being nominated for the 13th director.

b) **2nd Vice President** – Charlie Tyler announced that the 2nd Vice President position is open. Candidates need to let the board know before June.

Elections will take place at the June Quarterly Meeting on June 13, 2007 at the Delaney House.

13) **Tee Shirts** – It was announced that new tee shirts are needed for the September tradeshow. Tom Azevedo volunteered to contact Norton True to see if Norton has the artwork as a jpeg file. Mike Foisy volunteered to call a printing company in Worcester, MA to get an estimate for printing.

New Business:

- 1) **NEWEA Residuals Mgmt. Conference/Co-Sponsorship** – Mike Burke reported that the NEWEA Residuals Mgmt. Committee has asked if MWPCA would like to be listed as a co-sponsor for their December Conference in Springfield, MA. Co-sponsorship would include sharing of mailing list and including MWPCA logo on the registration flyer. There would be no cost associated with co-sponsorship. The board agreed that this would be a good idea. Charlie Tyler volunteered to contact Tom Schwartz, NEWEA Residuals Committee Chair to let him know the board's decision.
- 2) **NEWEA Awards** – Mike Burke announced that he was looking for suggestions for the NEWEA Al Peloquin Award and the Operator Award. If you have any award nominations, please contact Mike Burke.
- 3) **TCH Hours** – John Connor mentioned that he has received a letter requesting a TCH certificate from the May 24, 2006 Stockbridge Seminar from Dennis Pipczynski. Henry Albro vouched that Dennis did attend the meeting and that he replaced another individual who was registered. It was agreed that John send Dennis his TCH certificate.
- 4) **June Quarterly Meeting** – Tom Azevedo announced that he is looking for speakers and/or suggestions for the June Quarterly Meeting. He also mentioned that the meeting will be held at the Delaney House on June 13, 2007.
- 5) **Next Meeting** - It was reported that the next meeting would be held on April 25, 2007 at 2:00pm in Millbury, MA.

There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.