

**Massachusetts Water Pollution Control Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, May 9, 2007
Millbury, MA**

MWPCA President Joe Witts called the meeting to order. The following were in attendance:

Henry Albro, Thomas Azevedo, Michael Burke, John Connor, Valerie Flaherty, Michael Foisy, Michael Moreau, Janice Moran (NEWEA), Charles Tyler, and Joe Witts.

It was noted that there was a quorum.

Minutes:

- 1) **Minutes for the March 21, 2007 Board of Directors Meeting - on motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to accept the minutes of the March 21, 2007 Board of Directors Meeting.**

Old Business:

- 1) **Tradeshaw / Vendor Updates** - At the March 21, 2007 Board of Directors meeting, Henry Albro and Mike Moreau had volunteered to develop a list of potential exhibitors who did not attend the MWPCA Fall 2006 tradeshow and are not on the existing vendor list. Henry Albro reported that as of today this vendor list has not yet been developed. Mike Moreau mentioned that he has two companies interested in receiving information on exhibiting at the MWPCA Fall 2007 Tradeshow. Mike Moreau will send these two companies the Fall 2007 Tradeshow exhibitor registration form next week.

Charlie Tyler mentioned that the Fall 2007 Tradeshow will be the first meeting held with the new registration fee taking affect. The registration fee will be \$15.00. Formerly, registration for attendees was free. In addition, Charlie Tyler suggested that this may decrease attendance levels.

John Connor reported to-date that 9 companies had signed up to exhibit at the Fall 2007 Tradeshow in Westford, MA. It was recommended that NEWEA send out a 2nd exhibitor prospectus mailing to vendors to solicit interest. Joe Witts volunteered to look at the vendor list and update with email addresses so that email reminders can be sent to the vendors. John Connor will forward Joe Witts the current exhibit list for updating.

- 2) **Ops Challenge Training Day Updates** - President Joe Witts gave a review of MWPCA sponsorship of the regional Operation Challenge Day as it was discussed at the last Board Meeting on March 21st. Discussion included the lack of participation from Massachusetts operators, as it has been several years since Massachusetts has had an Operations Challenge Team. In spite of the lack of local team participation, MWPCA has fully hosted this event for the past two consecutive years and alternately before then, and that has had a noticeable effect on the MWPCA budget with limited member benefit.

After further discussion, it was agreed that a vote of the board would be necessary well in advance of MWPCA's sponsorship of any future regional Operations Challenge training events, and that MWPCA should inform the NEWEA Ops Challenge Committee that, especially with continued lack of Massachusetts team participation, MWPCA may not be able to bear the cost of hosting future training days. It was also noted that, continuing her tradition, Director Jane Brooks had sent a large supply of her famous jerk chicken to this year's training day in Franklin, NH, greatly appreciated by all who attended; the Board expressed its thanks to Jane for her continued dedication.

- 3) **Operator Exchange Update** - Mike Foisy reported that the 2007 operator exchange with Connecticut has not occurred yet. Mike Foisy has been in contact with CT and he will keep the board updated as to when the exchange will happen.
- 4) **Commissioner Board Letter** - Charlie Tyler handout out a draft letter written to the MA DEP Commissioner, Arleen O'Donnell requesting a meeting. MWPCA would like a meeting with the MA DEP Commissioner to address their concerns and opinions about the need for certified operators, adequate training and the shifting of training and certification away from DEP. Charlie Tyler asked that the board review the draft letter and to let him know of any changes or comments by the next board meeting.
- 5) **NEWEA Director** - It was reported that Joe Witts has submitted his name for consideration.

- 6) **Awards Program Report/Update** - Valerie Flaherty reported that she is still looking for nominations for the following individual awards: Operator of Year, Lifetime and John J. Hartley. Valerie Flaherty also mentioned that the award nomination form on the website is out-of-date and needs to be updated. Valerie will work on updating the form and submit to Mickey Nowak for posting on the MWPCA website.

Plant Awards Update - Valerie Flaherty reported that the applications for Plant awards have been sent out to all Massachusetts Treatment Plants and that the deadline for submittal is August 1, 2007. Valerie will also handle ordering the award plaques.

As suggested by Tom Azevedo, it was agreed that each plant award could be sponsored by a vendor. This would cover the production cost of the award plaques. Vendors could present the plant awards at the Fall 2007 Tradeshow and a newsletter article/photo could be placed in the winter newsletter. Valerie Flaherty will develop a letter to the vendors with a list of awards that can be sponsored and she will coordinate the mailing with the NEWEA office.

- 7) **Elections** - It was reported that the nomination for the MWPCA 2nd Vice President position is still open. Interested candidates need to let the board know before June.
- 8) **Tee Shirts** - Mike Foisy reported that he has contacted a company in Worcester, MA regarding printing tee shirts for availability at the June Meeting. Mike Foisy mentioned that he was interested in ordering 50/50 blend pocket tee shirt in safety colors (bright yellow, orange) with the MWPCA logo on the front pocket and a full picture on the back (Norton). Mike Foisy will contact the company again to get a quote for printing 200 tee shirts and will email the board the information when it is available.

New Business:

- 1) **Gillette Stadium Specialty Conference** - A discussion was held regarding having the December Quarterly Meeting at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, MA or to hold a specialty seminar at this location later in the year. A proposed budget was handed out for discussion purposes.

After discussion and review of the budget, it was suggested that the meeting at Gillette Stadium would be a stand alone specialty conference and would focus on water reuse/membranes topics and offer a plant tour. Joe Witts suggested having the meeting co-sponsored with Mass Water Works and/or NEWEA. He will contact Mass Water Works to see if they are interested. Tom Azevedo will contact Gillette Stadium regarding the possibility of having vendor displays and the additional costs.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to have the board pursue holding a specialty conference to be held at Gillette Stadium at a convenient time next year and to request co-sponsorship from Mass Water Works and/or NEWEA. It was further voted that an electronic survey be sent to the membership to gauge interest and possible participation in a seminar on water reuse/membranes at Gillette Stadium.

Joe Witts appointed Tom Azevedo to take the lead on the specialty conference at Gillette Stadium, Foxborough, MA.

- 2) **Corporate Membership - On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to abolish the corporate membership category.**
- 3) **Annual Meeting Update** - Tom Azevedo reported that the details and planning for the June 13th quarterly meeting at the Delaney House in Holyoke, MA are completed.
- 4) **Membership Renewals** - John Connor informed the board that he has received a number of membership renewals and that the new renewal form with personalized fields is working well. He mentioned that a 2nd renewal notice would be sent out July 1st and a 3rd renewal notice sent on September 1st. Based on John Connor's recommendation, it was agreed that NEWEA would send out the 2nd and 3rd personalized renewal notices. John Connor will send NEWEA an updated membership datafile prior to the mailings.

- 5) **Newsletter Advertising Contract** - Charlie Tyler reported that the newsletter advertising contract currently offers advertisers a special full year rate. The special full year rate allows vendors to advertise in all four issues for the price of three issues. This is difficult to track because advertisers may join at any time during the year. He suggested changing the advertising contract to reflect the MWPCA fiscal year, starting with the summer newsletter.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted that the newsletter advertising rates be set on a per issue basis based on the MWPCA fiscal year. Vendors requesting to advertise for the entire year, can purchase the special full year rate by advertising in all four issues for the price of three. The special full year rate must be purchased at the beginning of the MWPCA fiscal year; starting with the each year's summer newsletter.

- 6) **Lab Committee Chair Appointment** - Valerie Flaherty requested to be removed as chair of the Lab Committee as she is also chair for the Awards Committee. She recommended Ann Mastroianni, Barnstable Water Pollution Control to take her place as chair of the Lab Committee. Joe Witts approved Valerie Flaherty's removal and appointed Ann Mastroianni as chair of the Lab Committee. Joe Witts will send Ann Mastroianni a welcome letter and Valerie Flaherty will send Joe Witts Ann Mastroianni's address.
- 7) **Next Meeting** - It was reported that the next Board of Directors meeting would be held at the June Quarterly Meeting on June 13, 2007 at the Delaney House in Holyoke, MA

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