

**Massachusetts Water Pollution Control Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, June 13, 2007
Holyoke, MA**

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

Henry Albro, Michael Burke, John Connor, James Dostal (guest), Valerie Flaherty, Michael Foisy, Michael Moreau, Janice Moran (NEWEA), Bob Pariseau, Joe Pease, Charles Tyler, Gene Valliere, Tom Walsh (guest) and Joe Witts.

It was noted that there was a quorum.

Minutes:

- 1) **Minutes for the May 9, 2007 Board of Directors Meeting -**

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to accept the minutes of the May 9, 2007 Board of Directors Meeting.

Old Business:

- 1) **Tradeshaw/Vendor Updates** - No report at this time.
- 2) **Ops Challenge Training Day** - Jane Brooks reported that the Operation Challenge Training Day that typically takes place in April may not be located in Massachusetts next year. Jane Brooks also reported that Massachusetts may have a team to compete in the Operation Challenge Competition in 2008.
- 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) **Certification Board Letters** - Charlie Tyler reported that there are two letters regarding the Certification Board. The first letter is being written to the MA DEP Acting Commissioner, Arleen O'Donnell requesting a meeting to address MWPCA's concerns and opinions about the need for certified operators, adequate training and the shifting of training and certification away from DEP. The second letter is being written to the MA Governor Deval Patrick and Tom Bienkiewicz regarding MWPCA's recommendation for the open position on the board of certification of wastewater treatment plant operators. Both letters will be sent in July.
- 5) **NEWEA Director Position** - It was reported that the board needs to recommend a person to the NEWEA Nominating Committee ASAP.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to recommend Joe Witts for nomination for the NEWEA Director Position.

- 6) **NEWEA Awards** - Mike Burke announced that if anyone has nominations for the NEWEA Operator of the Year or the Al Peloquin Award to contact him prior to September.
- 7) **Awards Program Report/Update** - Valerie Flaherty reported that she has received two nominations for the Laboratory and Operator of Year awards. Valerie Flaherty is still looking for nominations for the Lifetime and John J. Hartley awards. Nominations need to be received by August 15th so that the board has enough time to review the nominations prior to the August BOD meeting. Nominations will be voted on at the August 22nd BOD meeting.

Plant Awards Update - Valerie Flaherty reported that to-date the MWPCA has received five applications for the plant awards. The deadline for submittals is August 1, 2007.
- 8) **Gillette Stadium Specialty Conference** - Joe Witts reported that he met with the Massachusetts Water Works Association (MWWA) to discuss MWWA's involvement in the conference as a co-sponsor. The conference ideas were well received and MWWA's only concern was the price. They also suggested that the conference should be open to New England Water Works members as well and to have speakers that address topics for both water and wastewater. Joe Witts will email Tom Azevedo regarding date availability for Gillette Stadium and will draft a timeline for discussion. Joe Witts will email the timeline to the board for review.

New Business:

- 1) **Vote for New Officers/Directors** - It was reported that elections were held at the June 13th meeting and 120 votes were tallied.

On a motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to elect Mike Moreau to the position of 2nd Vice President.

The 2007-2008 Board of Directors is as follows:

President: Charles Tyler

1st Vice President: Mike Foisy

2nd Vice President: Mike Moreau

Past President: Joe Witts

Secretary/Treasurer: John Connor

Education: Robert Pariseau

Meeting Management Coordinator: Tom Azevedo

NEWEA Representative: Mike Burke

Director: Henry Albro

Director: Jane Brooks

Director: Valerie Flaherty

Director: Joseph Pease

Director: Eugene Valliere

13th Director: Ray Willis

- 2) **Board of Certification/Jim Dostal's retirement** - Jim Dostal (guest) reported that he is retiring from the State of Massachusetts Board of Certification and he thanked the MWPCA board for allowing him to represent the association on the board for the past 36 years. Jim Dostal mentioned that the next Board of Certification meeting would take place in September and that the board meets every other month.

Charlie Tyler informed the board that the MWPCA must, by statute, recommend someone to fill the vacant position on the board of certification. The MWPCA board will need to submit a letter to MA Governor Deval Patrick and Tom Bienkiewicz regarding their recommendation by July 15th.

- 3) **Massachusetts Infrastructure Investment Coalition** - Tom Walsh (guest) and Charlie Tyler reported that the MA Infrastructure Investment Coalition is establishing a Water Infrastructure Finance Commission to study methods for financing water and wastewater infrastructure projects in the state of MA. Representative Sanchez, (Boston) is sponsoring a bill developed by the Collation. A hearing will be held on June 25th. Tom Walsh suggests that MWPCA draft a letter to the Massachusetts Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Agriculture stating MWPCA's support for the legislation. It was recommended that the letter be signed by the MWPCA president. Tom also suggests that members also get involved by sending a letter of support to their local representatives. Tom Walsh volunteered to work with Charlie Tyler to draft a letter and send it to Joe Witts for his signature.
- 4) **NEWEA Contract** - John Connor reported that MWPCA's contract with NEWEA needs to be reviewed. At the end of May, there were 60 surplus hours over the allotted hours. John Connor suggested that Charlie Tyler meet with Elizabeth Cutone, NEWEA Executive Committee to discuss contract renewal.

Bob Pariseau suggested a few projects that NEWEA could assist with in order to use up the surplus of hours.

- a) **MWPCA Directory** - Bob Pariseau would like to have a directory published. John Connor mentioned that the directory was still on hold due to the cost.
 - b) **Membership Drive** - John Connor reported that form letters have already been mailed in June, July to past members to increase membership numbers. A final membership renewal notice will be sent at the end of August by the NEWEA office.
 - c) **Salary Survey** - Bob Pariseau suggested doing a new operator salary survey. A survey form could be emailed out to membership. This will be discussed at the next BOD meeting in August.
- 5) **MWPCA Website** - Mike Foisy recommends that the MWPCA website needs to be updated. This will be discussed at the next BOD meeting in August.

- 6) **Newsletter Deadline** - Janice Moran, NEWEA announced that articles for the summer 2007 newsletter are due July 10th.
- 7) **Next Meeting** - It was reported that the next Board of Directors meeting would be held on August 22, 2007 at 2:00pm at the DEP Training Center in Millbury, MA

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