

WWOA Regional Meeting Archive
LMD Region – March 2006/Hilbert



Ron Austreng, (Chair) presents Past Chairperson Plaque to Kevin Skogman



Kay Marshall and Ron Austreng



Kay Marshall (SEH Inc.) talking about nitrogen removal



Jeff Smith (Aero-Mod) talks about dewatering solutions for small communities

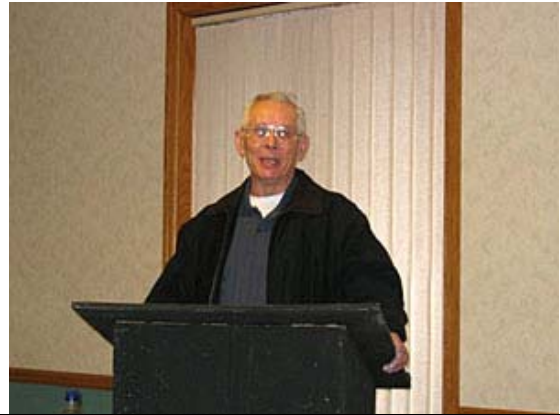


Ken Boville (Hilbert WWTP)





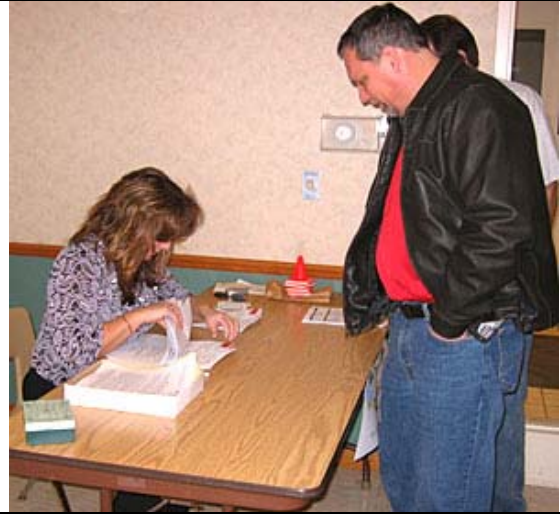
Jack Saltes (WDNR) talks on eCMAR



Al Fochs (Village President) welcomes group



Dean Zanon (Robert E. Lee Associates) gives the plant introduction



Dawn Jandrey (LMD Sec/Treasurer) handing out registration info

Lake Michigan District Meeting March 9, 2006

By Dawn Jandrey

On March 9, 2006 LMD held its first meeting of the year in Hilbert. The meeting was originally scheduled for February 16, 2006 but had to be postponed at the last minute due to a snowstorm. We had an excellent turnout with 103 gathering at the Hilbert Community Center. Thank you again to those who helped spread the word of the February cancellation. We were glad to see that most of you were able to adjust your schedules and attend the March 9th meeting.

Ron Austreng, LMD Chairperson, called the meeting to order. Ron thanked Robert E. Lee & Associates for providing the break refreshments, Charlie Fochs for hosting the meeting, and a special thank you to the speakers and LMD members for their cooperation on the rescheduling of the meeting.

After a review of the minutes from the November 2005 meeting and the Treasurer's report, there was a motion to accept both items as presented. Ron then presented Kevin Skogman with a plaque in recognition of his services as LMD Vice Chair/Chairperson for 2004/2005. Ron also introduced Jeff Mayou who is taking the position of Vice Chair.

Ron reminded everyone that nominations are being accepted for the Operator of the Year Award and the LMD is also looking for participants for the Operators Competition. The WWOA State Conference will be held in Wisconsin Dells on October 3 – 6.

Other available awards include Koby Crabtree, George Bernauer, and the Service Award; nomination forms are available on the WWOA website.

Ron noted that the next LMD meeting will be held on May 17th in Port Washington. This is a joint meeting with the Southeast District. Tentatively the August meeting will be held in Egg Harbor and the November meeting will be in Oconto. Anyone interested in hosting a meeting for 2007 should contact one of the LMD officers.

Ron asked for input regarding the purchase of a digital camera. A motion was made and seconded to approve the purchase of a digital camera for the Lake Michigan District.

Some upcoming dates of future meetings include the 24th Annual Spring Biosolids Symposium on March 21st in Stevens Point; Advanced BOD Training Session on April 25th at the GBMSD - sponsored by the State Lab of Hygiene; the 19th Annual Collection System Seminar on June 8th in Watertown; and the Annual WWOA Golf Outing on June 19th in New London.

After adjourning the business meeting, Ron introduced Alfred Fochs, Village President, who welcomed the group to Hilbert. Next, Ken Boville, Hilbert WWTP Operator, entertained the group with a juggling act, incorporating his juggling techniques with the wastewater treatment field. It was a great way to start the day – thanks Ken!

The first speaker was Jeff Smith, National Sales Manager for Aero-Mod Inc. Jeff spoke on the topic of "Operator Friendly Dewatering Solutions for Small

Communities”. He addressed three main areas: 1) operator friendliness and what contributes to a dewatering solution being “operator friendly”, 2) what constitutes a “solution” within the realm of dewatering technologies, and 3) what fits the “small community” definition.

An operator friendly dewatering solution should have the following characteristics: it should be correctly sized for the application, require minimal maintenance, utilize simple and “friendly” control systems, made of long-life materials, and have a basic level of automation.

Secondly, Jeff referred to the need to provide a dewatering “solution” and not a dewatering “problem” when designing & implementing a system. In order to be a “solution”, a dewatering system should fit the operator’s needs and schedule, it should be an integrated package, be sized correctly so that it handles the needs of the community, and should have a simple design so that maintenance is not burdensome.

Lastly, Jeff said the definition of a small community is arbitrary. Aero-Mod provides dewatering solutions for communities that fall within a plant size of 3 mgd and below. Aero-Mod manufactures dewatering systems that are appropriate for “small communities” and they focus solely on this niche.

The next speaker was Kay Marshall, Wastewater Operations Specialist at SEH Inc., and current WWOA President-Elect. Kay’s topic was called Nitrification/De-nitrification: What Is It and How Does It Work? She spoke on the Nitrification/De-nitrification processes as they relate to wastewater

treatment; the sources, forms of nitrogen, the nitrogen cycle, troubleshooting nitrification problems, laboratory testing, and treatment modes to remove it. Kay also spoke on the draft changes to NR149, the laboratory certification code. The new revision was just completed. Copies of a MEG Alert were distributed which included details on the March and April Public Hearings by DNR for those rules. Public comments are being accepted until April 14, 2006.

Next up, Jack Saltes from the DNR provided a status report and update on eCMAR, the electronic compliance maintenance annual reporting system. But first he shared some tips on computer maintenance. Everybody survived the first year of electronic CMAR reporting. There were a few problems, but the DNR is working to fix those. Next year, eCMAR’s are required for “satellite” collection systems. These are the towns, villages and cities that have sanitary sewer systems connected to a regional treatment plant. Training sessions for collection system owners and operators are in the works.

The delicious odors emanating from the adjacent room forced Jack to stay on schedule for a lunch break. A buffet prepared and catered by the Hearthstone Restaurant in Hilbert satisfied the hearty appetites of the group.

After lunch, Jack continued with more discussion about collections system O & M, and development of a “Capacity, Management, Operation and Maintenance” (CMOM) program. Of particular interest, Jack provided a list of recommended references among several colorful handouts.

Ron concluded the meeting by again thanking Charlie Fochs and Robert E. Lee for hosting this meeting. Before attendees left to tour the Hilbert WWTP, Dean Zanon of Robert E. Lee gave a plant introduction and overview. The meeting adjourned and DNR credit slips were distributed.