

WVOA LMD Meeting
Clintonville, WI – February 22, 2007

By George Kemmeter

On February 22, 2007 the Lake Michigan District held its first meeting for 2007, at Clintonville Lanes & Banquet Hall in Clintonville, Wisconsin. There were a total of 86 attendees.

Jeff Mayou, LMD Chairperson called the meeting to order. Jeff asked if there were any comments or corrections from the minutes of the November 9th meeting held in Oconto. The minutes were posted on the WVOA website and there were copies on the tables. No comments or corrections were mentioned. Jeff thanked Steve Woodworth and the rest of the staff at Oconto for hosting the November meeting.

After review of the minutes and treasurer's report, read by LMD Secretary/Treasurer, George Kemmeter, there was a motion to accept both items as presented.

Brad Rokus, Clintonville Wastewater utility manager, was introduced to the audience and Jeff presented Brad with a plaque in recognition to the City of Clintonville for hosting the 2007 LMD's winter meeting. He thanked Brad for his time and effort in helping put this meeting together. Jeff also thanked both Morton Safety and Foth & Van Dyke for providing the break refreshments and the speakers for their time.

Ron Austreng, the outgoing chairperson was introduced and awarded a plaque of recognition for his services as Vice Chair Person for 2005-2006, and Jeff thanked Ron for all his services.

The Upcoming events are: Government Affairs Seminar, March 1, in Middleton; Spring Bio-Solids Symposium, March 21 in Stevens Point; Central States WEA Annual Conference May 22-25th at Monona Terrace in Madison; Operators Golf Outing June 18th at Mayville Public Golf Course; WVOA Annual conference Oct 23-26th in LaCrosse; Upcoming Operator Cert. Exam will be held May 22; FET Environment 2007 Conference will be held March 12-14 at Four Points Sheraton-Milwaukee Airport, in Milwaukee; rural Water Association 19th Annual Technical Conference on March 27-30 at Green Bay Regency Suites & KI Center; Central States WEA Management Seminar in August were announced.

Bruce Bartel, WVOA board member informed attendees of scholarships available through WVOA. These scholarships regularly go unclaimed. There are \$500 & \$1,000 scholarships that are awarded each year for both associated and four-year degrees. August 1st is the nomination deadline. Applications were available at the registration table. Bruce also urged the attendees to submit their Regional Operator of the Year nominations by August 1st. Nominations go directly to Vice Chair-Brian Helminger. Nomination for the Bernhauer, Crabtree, and Service Award may be submitted to Jim Thalke or passed on through the Regional Officers. Deadline is August 1st. Bruce also reminded the attendees of the Operators Competition and if you're interested in entering a team of three, contact Brian Helminger.

After adjourning the business meeting, Jeff introduced Richard K. Boggs, Mayor of Clintonville, who welcomed the group to Clintonville.

The first presentation was given by Marshall Bloomquist, P.E. Lakeside Equipment Corp. Wisconsin DNR standards require phosphorous removal from wastewater treatment plants across the state.

Marshall reviewed the ability to remove phosphorous via chemical addition or by biological nutrient removal process. He also discussed how biological nutrient removal could provide cost effective treatment by eliminating chemical usage and improving overall process performance.

Next up, Allen Bergies of Morton Safety gave a presentation on, “ What OSHA and Dept. of Commerce Inspectors Look For “. Allen reviewed safety regulations of Doc Comm 32 and OSHA 29 CFR 1910 for wastewater treatment plants in Wisconsin. He then covered “ Highest Fatalities by Event,” and “ Fatalities by Gender”.

Allen noted that the main areas of interest for Doc 2006 that they look for are:

- 1) Written Safety Policies and Procedures – Comm 32.11
- 2) Process Safety Management
- 3) Hazard communications
- 4) Confined Space
- 5) Fall Protection

He also stressed that policies and training need to be up to date and documented.

Toni Glymph, Environmental Toxicologist-WDNR, spoke on “ Bacteria and Disinfection Standards Updates”. Toni provided the background of bacteria standards. She reviewed the criteria for bacteria found in our water. The criteria do not replace our existing fecal Coliform, but is in addition to our existing criteria. She touched on issues with Proposed Bacteria Indicator: Enterococci using QPCR. Several independent epidemiological studies have concluded that there was no relationship between illness and enterococci levels. Toni indicated it would be several years before EPA develops actual criteria for enterococci using OPCR (If at all).

After a buffet lunch, Sacha Tetslaff of Strand & Associates started off the afternoon with a presentation focused on the need to pay attention to our wastewater infrastructure. A brief overview and history of the Capacity, Management, Operations, and Maintenance (CMOM Regulations were provided. The primary objectives and reasons for requiring a CMOM program are:

- Ensure adequate wastewater collection system capacity
- Improve and maintain operation and performance of the collection system
- Provide effective public notification of overflow occurrences

Next he discussed the major contributing factors to SSOs and focused primarily on the issue of infiltration and inflow. This was followed by explanations and some key considerations for some of the more common I/I investigation methods. The final part explained many of the common techniques used to fix the problems contributing to I / I in the collection system. In summary, the CMOM rule is expected to become a part of the Wisconsin Admin. Code, requiring utilities to implement a comprehensive CMOM program.

Jeff Mayou concluded the meeting by again thanking Brad and the city of Clintonville. Before the attendees left to tour the Clintonville WWTP, Brad Rokus, Clintonville WWTP operator gave a plant introduction and overview. The meeting adjourned and DNR slips were distributed.