

Wisconsin Wastewater Operators' Association
BOD Meeting – Grand Geneva, Lake Geneva, WI
December 7 and 8, 2017

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL:** President, J. Bratz called the meeting to order at 10: 00 am on Thursday, December 7, 2017. Roll call was taken. All present.
2. **AGENDA CHANGES AND ADDITIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE:**
No changes were presented.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to accept minutes from the October 16, 2017 meeting with Sharon Thieszen's changes made by J. Smudde, Second by D. Lintner. Motion carried
4. **FINANCIALS:** Financials for September through November were reviewed. Motion to accept financials as is made by J. Simpson, Second by J. Smudde. Motion passed.
5. **2018 BUDGET:** K. Harter gave the Board spreadsheet showing the numbers from 2011 to date. The budget was table until after the committee reports were given. After much discussion (upon resumption of the 2018 budget discussion), motion to accept the 2018 Budget was made by D. Lintner, Second by J. Bratz. Motion carried.
6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - a. **Nominations:** S. Thieszen/No Report. K. Harter to get the website updated for the 2018 nomination forms.
 - b. **Promotional items:** J. Cramer reported on the inventory he had on hand. Jim Johnson turned over all the promotional items to Mr. Cramer at the end of the October Conference. Cramer advised that he needs to order more hats as possibly more shirts before the next conference in October of 2018.
 - c. **Membership:** K. Harter/No Report
 - d. **Scholarship:** S. Leith reviewed the scholarships that were given out at the 2017 Conference. She reported on the change in scholarship for Billie Komorowski from a WWOA scholarship to the NCL Scholarship. There was a discussion on how to improve the scholarship process, getting the word out to everyone and who is eligible for the scholarships. She also discussed the need to work with Mike Raynovic (NCL) to better promote his scholarship opportunity, the standards require and to develop a separate application form for the NCL Scholarship. K. Harter asked if it would be possible to also give each scholarship recipient a student WWOA membership. Everyone thought that was a good idea. A motion to accept was made by S. Thieszen, second by J. Smudde. Motion carried.
 - e. **Executive Meeting:** J. Bratz/No Report

- f. **Career Development:** R. Mealy reported that the purpose of the Career Development Committee was to promote a continuation of qualified operators that are available to fill the needs of wastewater facilities throughout Wisconsin. He went on to report that going back to 2014, there had only been two board reports submitted and they both referred to exhibiting at the Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) Open House that is held annually in February. Mealy went on to explain that there are other options for WWOA to promote Wastewater Career Development. These included the WI School Guidance Counselor Conference, the Walworth County Fair and the Wisconsin State Fair. It was also pointed out that there are many University Job Career Days held throughout the State. To do these, WWOA will need to develop handouts/brochures about the Association and the field. It was also brought up that a video talking about the wastewater industry would be beneficial in promoting the field and the Association. R. Mealy asked for any volunteers to expand the committee and make 2018 the Year for Our Career.
- g. **Awards:** J. Simpson/No Report.
- h. **Operator Training:** D. Linter/R. Hennessy reported that they were starting to look at different training opportunities for 2018. R. Hennessy put together a substantial list of possible topics along with potential presenters. Seventhwave has also started to plan their 2018 sessions and were interested in continuing our relationship with them. Although there is no financial gain for WWOA, it is an opportunity for our members to take advantage of the training that Seventhwave offers. They also discussed that WWOA needs to have more articles on the website from an educational aspect. The articles need to have a positive impact on the industry. D. Lintner also advised that the planning for the Midwest Water/Wastewater Operators' Expo will be held at the Kalahari on February 6th and 7th.
- i. **Directory:** K. Harter/No Report
- j. **Publicity:** J. Cramer advised that a few award winners from the annual conference filled out press releases which were all submitted to the local papers of their choice. Cramer reported that Kevin Freber's press release was in two different newspapers.
- k. **Regional Coordinator:** J. Simpson No report
- l. **Government Affairs:** J. Smudde/S. Thieszen reported that the Government Affairs Seminar will be held on Thursday, February 22, 2018 at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton, WI. The planning committee will be meeting on November 6th in Fond du Lac to plan the seminar for 2018. They are currently finalizing the agenda. To reduce costs, the Seminar brochure will not be printed and mailed this year. Seminar information and registration form will be sent out via email and posted on the CSWEA and WWOA websites. Save the Date and advance notices on the brochure change have been distributed through MEG, CSWEA, AND WWOA.
- m. **Biosolids Symposium** D. Lintner/R. Hennessy reported that the SBS committee are working on finalizing the 2018 agenda and speakers. Karen Harter will email the SBS agenda and registration form again this year. We will also do a small mailing to those that do NOT have an email address. The 2018 Spring Biosolids Symposium will be held on Tuesday, March 20th at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point, WI.

- n. **Central States Liaison:** J. Cramer reported that the CSWEA, WI Section held their Annual Business meeting on November 9, 2017 at the Global Water Center in Milwaukee. Highlights from the meeting included the Treasurers report and their discussion on re-tooling the annual meeting. Their total balance as of November 9, 2017 was \$27,483.27. Young Professionals Committee advised that they would be holding multiple events in 2018. They also discussed attendance to YP Summit in San Antonio (2/18) and they are evaluating approaches to maintain an effective email contact list. Cramer also advised that they discussed the 2018 Government Affairs Seminar and the 2018 Spring Biosolids Symposium.
- o. **Web-Site:** J. Bratz reported the website was running smoothly and had very few issues with conference registrations this year. Karen Harter and Jeff Bratz will be meeting with Webfitters in December sometime to review any website issues along with any updates that may need to be made for 2018.
- p. **Technical Program:** J. Smudde reported that efforts for the Technical Committee are well underway. A letter has been sent to 20 individuals inviting them to participate in the 2018 Technical Committee planning meeting to be held on February 8, 2018 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. The Call for Papers has been mailed and emailed. These went out on November 28, 2017. Smudde reported that he has received 7 abstracts so far. He also advised that there was one minor change to the call for papers that allowed for the submitter to indicate which subject category the abstract fits into. He also advised that he was working on a potential keynote speaker for 2018 and will be looking into possible options for the entertainment and the Friday breakfast speaker.
- q. **Local Arrangements:** R. Hennessy/No Report
- r. **Operators Competition:** R. Mealy advised that 2017 was a huge success with six teams competing. He also thanked all the competitors and the judges for taking their time to participate in the 2017 Operators' Competition. Mealy also thanked the sponsors for the supplies and equipment and Jeff Bratz and Karen Harter for prompting him when needed. The 2017 Operators Competition winner was "Stinks Like Team Spirit" team from the Lake Michigan District. Second place went to the Lake Michigan Defenders, also from the Lake Michigan District, with Third place going to the "Rag Babies" from the Southeast District.
- s. **Golf Outing:** R. Herwig/No Report
- t. **Sporting Clays:** J. Smudde/J. Thalke J. Smudde advised that the event was a great success.
- u. **Bicycle Outing:** T. Crouse/No Report
- v. **Clarifier:** J. Butt/No Report
- w. **Exhibitor Committee and M&C:** T. Mulcahy/C. Strackbein K. Harter advised the 2018 Exhibitor Application for booth space was handed out to all the exhibitors at the 2017 Conference. It has also been sent to others via email. She also advised that she has already received paid booth registrations for the 2018 Conference in Lake Geneva, WI.

- x. **Permanent Arrangements:** K. Freber/No Report
- y. **Resolutions and Bylaws:** D. Falkner/No Report
- z. **Historical:** T. Crouse/L. Lutz/S. Thieszen/No Report
- aa. **Others** - No Report

A motion was made by J. Simpson and second by D. Lintner to accept the Committee Reports as presented. Motion Carried.

7. **OLD BUSINESS:**
a. **Mission Statement**

At the October Board of Directors meeting, R. Mealy thought that this whole issue of the name change was putting the horse before the cart. Mealy felt that the issue of not understanding what it is we all do for a living, while true, wasn't going to be fixed with just a name change. He felt that more education of the public and the membership was more important now. Mealy brought up the need for Mission Statement that would clarify what the Association was about and what it was we did and all the different aspects of the membership.

R. Mealy presented what he felt was a working Mission Statement for the WWOA. It was decided after much discussion to continue to work on a Mission Statement for the WWOA and to discuss again at the April 2018 Board of Directors meeting.

It was also brought up under Old Business that the BODs should have a copy of the Roberts Rules of Order at all BOD meetings, especially the Annual Business Meeting each October. K. Harter advised that she has a copy of this book. She will advise the cost for buying a copy for the entire BOD and advise at the April meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

b. **Rental of the Nimloc Unit (the Historical Boards Unit)**

K. Harter advised that the Wisconsin Wetlands Association was wondering if they could possibly rent and use the WWOA Historical Boards Unit for their upcoming Annual conference. They advised that Nimloc no longer made a unit like this, Harter also confirmed that this was the case. After much discussion, the BOD agreed to this for a cost of \$150.00 and that they will have to pick it up and return to Karen Harter in Baraboo. K. Harter will let the Wisconsin Wetlands Association know.

Adjournment Motion to adjourn made by J. Simpson, second by J. Cramer. Meeting adjourned.

April Board of Directors Meeting will be held on, Tuesday, April 17 and Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at the Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva, WI.

