



The Wisconsin Section  
Central States  
Water Environment Association

**Minutes of the Winter Board Meeting**  
**Wisconsin Section - Central States Water Environment**  
**Association**  
**February 28, 2007**  
**Marriott Madison West Hotel, Middleton, WI**

The winter board meeting of the Wisconsin Section of Central States Water Environment Association was called to order by Chair Tom Mulcahy at 2:05 p.m. on February 28, 2007 at the Marriott Madison West Hotel in Middleton, Wisconsin.

Board Members present:

- Tom Mulcahy, Chair
- Bill Marten, Vice Chair
- Randy Wirtz, Past Chair
- Rusty Schroedel, CSWEA Trustee
- Randy Thater, WWOA Liaison
- Dave Arnott, Secretary/Treasurer

In addition, the following were present: Jim Beier, Bill Desing, Steve Godfrey and Rachael Lee.

**Approval of November 8, 2006 Annual Business Meeting Minutes:** Randy Wirtz confirmed that the entire membership can vote at the Annual CSWEA Section meeting in May and at the Section Annual Business Meeting in November. Rusty Schroedel moved that the meeting minutes for the November 8, 2006 Annual Business Meeting be approved with the clarification. Second by Randy Thater. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dave Arnott presented the Treasurer's report, which showed a balance in the Section's accounts of \$26,952.84 as of February 21, 2006. Bill Marten moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Second by Randy Thater. Motion passed.

**CSWEA Trustee Report:** Trustee Rusty Schroedel presented a verbal summary of significant items in his written report, which is posted on the Wisconsin Section website, including discussion of CSWEA's overall financial condition, a WEF governance, WEF Group

Membership, changes to the CSWEA periodical, the 2006 WEFTEC Reception and the upcoming Annual Meeting in Madison, WI. Rusty will bring up the topic of moving the Midwest Water Expo two weeks earlier in the year to the CSWEA Executive Board.

**WWOA Liaison Report:** WWOA Liaison Randy Thater presented a verbal summary of key items from his written report, which is posted on the Wisconsin Section website, including highlights of the December 7 and 8 WWOA Board meeting in La Crosse, the status of the Clarifier, updates to the Regional Operator of the Year Award, ideas for changing the WWOA liaison roles in the future, and arrangements for the 2007 WWOA Conference and call for papers.

## Committee Reports

Committee reports can be viewed on the Wisconsin Section website. Noteworthy discussion items pertaining to each committee are summarized below.

**Collection Systems:** Chair Jim Beier had submitted a written report. The 2007 Collection Systems Seminar will be held June 7, 2007 in Watertown. This will be the 20<sup>th</sup> annual seminar. In 2008, a second Collection System Seminar will be held in Marshfield. The date has not been determined, but it will be sometime in August or September. Randy Thater noted that there are a lot of Regional WWOA meetings in late July.

After the June 2007 Collection System Seminar, Todd Stelmacher will become Chair and Andy Craven will become Vice Chair.

**Government Affairs:** Chair Bill Desing had submitted a written report. Jane Carlson will probably take over as Chair in the future. Bill Desing will confirm. Bill will review their Annual Plan and see if there are any changes needed. The committee is looking for a couple new members.

**Industrial Waste:** No report received and no oral report presented, as the Committee Chair was not at this meeting.

**Membership:** Chair Rob Szekeress had submitted a written report.

**Operations Committee:** Chair Troy Larson had submitted a written report. There was a short discussion about the WARN workshop. Dave Arnott will follow up with Troy and let him know that he should continue to coordinate with Dan Lynch.

**Management Seminar:** Chair Bill Marten had submitted a written report. The seminar planning committee is in the process of assessing survey results to determine whether any changes should be made to future seminars to increase attendance. A decision on whether there will be a 2007 Management Seminar is pending based on the assessment.

**Public Education and Awareness:** Chair Rich Knolke had submitted a written report. The Stockholm Junior Water Prize will be transferred to this committee.

**Safety:** Chair Jerry Hirt submitted a written report. The committee is gathering information on OSHA's top 10 most cited violations and how they pertain to water and wastewater projects for a presentation at the Collection System Seminar.

Rusty Schroedel talked to a couple people at the Water Expo that may have interest in joining the committee.

The committee is considering creating a newsletter. Members thought this was a good idea, but were concerned about liability issues. Gary Scott has previously written articles on safety in the WISILMANN. This publication, now known as Central States Water, may be the most appropriate place for safety updates.

**Watershed Management:** No report received and no oral report presented, as the Committee Chair was not at this meeting.

**Students & Young Professionals:** Rachael Lee gave an update of the committee's activities. The Student and Young Professionals Summit will take place the day before WEFMAX. The UW- Madison Chapter received its charter from WEF. A letter was sent out to universities in the three states soliciting involvement at the student paper competition to be held the day before the Education Seminar. For this competition, CSWEA will modify their review criteria to better match the national criteria. In this way, the CSWEA winner should be more competitive in the national competition.

## **Representatives Reports**

**Spring Biosolids Symposium:** Bill Marten had submitted a written report. The 2007 Symposium will be held March 21, 2007 in Stevens Point.

**Water Wastewater Education Association:** Rusty Schroedel will work to get Tom Mulcahy transitioned in as the Chair.

The association has two meetings per year to discuss training opportunities. The meetings consist of a face-to-face meeting and a telephone conference call. Don Lythjohn from the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District is the Chair of the Association. All CSWEA members are encouraged to use and update, the training calendar hosted at the DNR website. Mary Wegner is the contact at the DNR that can add events to the calendar.

## **Old Business**

**Committee Annual Plan:** Tom Mulcahy encouraged all committees to submit and finalize their annual plans for May 2007 through May 2008. Many committees have already submitted their plans. The discussion then turned to Board members making their liaison contact at their respective committees.

**Update on Awards Nominations:** Randy Wirtz noted that there were no award updates. The Service award has been finalized.

## **New Business**

**Joint Water Expo CSWEA Support:** Tom Mulcahy expressed concern that more volunteers are needed from CSWEA to organize the event. The Expo is co-sponsored with the Wisconsin Water Association (WWA). Tom Mulcahy gets the impression that WWA feels that they do more than CSWEA. Dan Duchniak and Jill Duchniak did most of the work on WWA's part. Dan is doing the work as the representative for WWA. Tom Mulcahy thinks Jill is paid to do the work. Tom and his office assistant Kristi, also put in many hours coordinating the event. Next year, we will have to spread the CSWEA work out evenly. Tom brought the issue up so that members are aware of the situation.

The purpose of the Expo was discussed. The impetus for Expo was to have an event, without a lot of technical presentations, similar to WEFTC for the Midwest. The event was never designed to be a big revenue source.

**Committee Chair/Roster Changes:** Jane Carlson will likely take over for Bill Desing for the Government Affairs Committee. Todd Stelmacher will take over for Jim Beier for Collection System Committee in May.

**Support Request for Eric Habermeyer:** Eric Habermeyer is a recent graduate of UW-Madison and a WI Section CSWEA member working in India for a non-profit engineering company, e Mi<sup>2</sup>. He was wondering if the WI Section CSWEA would be interested in helping to support his living and office costs that he is responsible for himself. Bill Marten confirmed with a UW-Madison professor that this is a legitimate request at the he is working for this company. Most members felt that this was a noble cause. However, there was a concern of the “slippery slope” effect if WI Section CSWEA would help financially to him personally or his company. It was decided that it would be better to put an article about his work in the next edition Central States Water. The new publication is looking for more of these types of articles. Bill Marten will follow up on this issue.

**CDs For Excess WI Section CSWEA Funds:** Dave Arnott presented options for getting a higher interest rate on our excess funds in our savings account. An 8-month CD will pay an annual percentage yield of 5.05 percent. A 14-month CD will pay an annual percentage yield of 4.9 percent. Presently we are earning an annual percentage yield of about 0.5 percent. Dave presented the idea to put \$10,000 in the 14 month CD and \$5,000 in the 8 month CD. Dave assured members that he reduction in our savings account of \$15,000 would not be a problem and that we would still have necessary reserves. After some discussion, it was decided to put \$10,000 in the 8 month CD and \$5,000 in the 14 month CD. Dave Arnott was to follow through with US Bank. Tom Mulcahy motioned for the CD purchase. Rusty Schroedel and Randy Thater seconded. Motion passed.

**Collection System Award Policy:** Jim Beier expressed concern that it was hard to find candidates for the Collection System award because of the requirement that the candidates must be members of CSWEA. The only CSWEA award that has this exception is the Industrial Waste Award. Many people that are involved with collection systems are part of WWOA, but not CSWEA. WWOA has no collection system award. Jim brought up the idea to waive the CSWEA member requirement for the Collection System award. Rusty Schroedel was going to follow up at the CSWEA level.

**Potential Changes to Management Seminar:** Bill Marten explained that the Management Seminar committee was considering ways to increase attendance. A survey was done at the Joint Water Expo and a follow up survey was sent out via e-mail a few days ago dealing with changing the time of the year the seminar is held.

The consensus of the members was that the seminar date should remain in August. However, to increase attendance and get different people to the seminar, the seminar committee should consider having the seminar at a different location.

**Young Professionals Summit Funding:** Rachael Lee and Trevor Ghylin were each approved for up to \$500 in reimbursement for Student and Young Professionals expenses. Motion by Tom Mulcahy. Seconded by Rusty Schroedel. Motion passed.

## **Upcoming Events**

The following upcoming CSWEA/Wisconsin Section sponsored events were noted:

- Student and Young Professionals Summit – April 19, 2007
- Central States Annual Meeting – May 22 through May 25, 2007
- Collection System Seminar – June 7, 2007

## **Next Meeting**

The next Board Meeting will be held during the CSWEA Annual Meeting, specifically on the morning of Thursday, May 24, 2007 in the Concourse Hotel.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further new business Rusty Schroedel moved that the meeting be adjourned. Second by Randy Wirtz. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

David W. Arnott  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Wisconsin Section - CSWEA