



**The Wisconsin Section
Central States
Water Environment Association**

Minutes of the Spring Business Meeting

Wisconsin Section - Central States Water Environment Association

May 18, 2000

Pheasant Run, St. Charles, Illinois

A general business meeting of the Wisconsin Section of Central States Water Environment Association was called to order by Chair Carol Strackbein at 7:35 a.m. on May 18, 2000 at the Pheasant Run Convention Center in St. Charles, IL.

Approximately 32 members attended the meeting.

Board Members present:

- Carol Strackbein, Chair
- Ken Sedmak, Vice Chair
- Paul Nehm, Past Chair
- Dan Lynch, CSWEA Trustee
- Tom Sigmund, Secretary/Treasurer

Absent was Tom Steinbach, WWOA Liaison .

Chair Strackbein introduced the Wisconsin Section Board members for 2000 – 2001.

Ken Sedmak moved the previously distributed meeting minutes for the February 23, 2000 Board meeting be approved as submitted. Second by Paul Nehm. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Tom Sigmund reported that there was a balance in the Section's accounts of \$10,311.46 as of May 10, 2000. It was noted that there are bills expected for the 2000 Government Affairs Seminar of approximately \$4,000 that are not accounted for in the Treasurer's Report. Mike Doran moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Second by Joe Mandala. Motion carried. Tom Sigmund also presented to the membership the year 2000 budget for the Section that was approved by the Board at the February 23, 2000 Board meeting.

Audit Committee Report: Auditor Jeff Brochtrup reported that he and Paul Nehm had audited the Treasurer's books for 1999. He submitted a written report that stated all items were in order and that the financial statement was correct.

CSWEA Trustee Report: Jim Nemke presented an oral report for Trustee Dan Lynch. Membership is dropping at the national level of WEF and there are potential financial problems anticipated in the future at WEF due to dropping advertising revenue (transition

of print advertising to web based). WEF is working together with AWWA on joint sponsorship of seminars and other activities.

WWOA Liaison Report: Dan Busch presented a written report prepared by WWOA Liaison Tom Steinbach. WWOA is creating a student member classification. WWOA is sponsoring several operator training seminars this year. The WWOA website will have members only password access to vendor and plant information. There have been some changes to the organization of the 2000 WWOA annual conference. WWOA has a 2000 – 2001 budget that predicts a shortfall of approximately \$11,000.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Collection Systems: Chair Floyd Finney presented a written report. Planning is complete for the 13th annual Collection System Seminar, which will be held in Watertown on June 1, 2000. Mike Spence from TN & Associates will serve as the chair of the committee for 2000 – 2001.

Government Affairs: Chair Rusty Schroedel presented a written report. He held a teleconference on May 12th with 6 committee members. Items discussed were revitalizing the regulatory and legislative tracking activities of the committee, confirming the membership of the committee, and identifying topics that the committee should track. Phil Budde will chair the Government Affairs Seminar for 2001.

Groundwater Protection and Toxic Waste: Chair Dave Sauer submitted a written report that was presented by Carol Strackbein. The committee has been relatively inactive due to lack of time for committee members to get involved. The membership questioned whether the Section still needs the committee to continue in light of the inactivity and lack of important issues. The Board will take under advisement the issue of continuing or dissolving the committee.

Industrial Waste: Chair Randy Wirtz submitted a written report that was presented by Tom Sigmund. The report also stated that the committee has been relatively inactive and is trying to target new members and identify issues to pursue.

Membership: Ken Sedmak presented a written report prepared by Chair Mike Gerbitz. From April 1999 to May 2000, the Wisconsin Section has secured 22 new members. Mike will chair a Membership Programs Group comprised of Mike, Paul Nehm and Tom Sigmund to investigate ways to increase membership and get members more involved in the Section. The group will convene its first meeting in June.

Operations Committee & Management Seminar: Carol Strackbein and Joe Mandala presented a written report prepared by Chair John Olson. Recommendations have been forwarded for the Hatfield and Operator of the Year awards. Joe Mandala will serve as the 2000 – 2001 chair for the Operations Committee. The Operations Committee will provide nominees for the Laboratory Technician of the Year award as part of its responsibilities. Operations Challenge funding for the year 2000 competition will be addressed at the CSWEA Executive Committee meeting on Friday, with the intent to develop a clear policy to be followed.

Bill Marten presented a written report on the planning for the 2000 Management Seminar. The seminar is planned for Thursday August 17th in Madison at the Comfort Inn. The theme

of the seminar is “Leadership Skills and Tools”. Registration for the seminar will be limited to 60 people. The seminar brochures will be mailed in June.

Public Education: Chair Max Anderson presented a written report. Four levels of WEF Source Books are available covering Kindergarten through 12th grade. Few teachers came by the booth for the Wisconsin Elementary Science Teachers (WEST) Conference. He sold 4 Source Books at the Wisconsin Secondary Science Teachers (WSST) Conference in April.

Max proposed making a presentation on use of the Source Books at a seminar during the conferences and forgoing the exhibit booth. He proposed including the appropriate level Source Book as part of the registration materials for the seminars. Next year the WSST conference will be a joint conference with Minnesota teachers in Duluth. Max will coordinate with Patti Craddock from the Minnesota Section on the conference. Max invited new members to join the committee. The membership gave Max some ideas on ways to increase distribution of the Source Books for the committee’s consideration. Max will submit a budget and plan for public education to the Board for consideration.

Safety: Tom Sigmund presented a written report prepared by Chair Ari Mathos. The committee is working on a safety web site that he hopes to have on-line by the fall of 2000. Ari is preparing an article on interpretation of the confined space rule for publication in the WISILLMINN. The committee submitted a nomination for the Burke Safety Award.

Laboratory Practices/Analysts: Ken Sedmak reported on the CSWEA decision to eliminate the Laboratory Practices Committee at the CSWEA level that will be voted on at the CSEWA membership meeting. The Wisconsin Section will also eliminate the committee. As noted earlier, the responsibility for nominations for the Laboratory Analysts award will be transferred to the Operations Committee.

Watershed Management: Chair Mike Doran presented a written report. He discussed EPA’s rules on TMDL’s and the potential impacts on WWTP permits. He noted that professionals that are not normally part of the WEF membership will be involved in the TMDL program (scientists and others) and we should look to reach out to those groups to get them involved and to understand their motivation in making rules. He noted that the Water Body Use Designation effort is being driven by the fish biologists, who have a different agenda. The committee is looking for volunteers and would like to have committee members placed throughout the DNR regions.

Representatives Reports

Spring Biosolids Symposium: Chair Dave Taylor submitted a written report that was presented by Jay Kemp. The 2000 Spring Biosolids Symposium was held on March 14th at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point. Approximately 300 people attended. Planning is underway for the 2001 seminar. Jay Kemp will serve as the Wisconsin Section representative to the seminar.

Water Wastewater Education Association: Representative Rusty Schroedel presented an oral report. He encouraged members to use the calendar that can be accessed through a link in the CSWEA Wisconsin Section web site.

CSWEA/WEF Representatives: Chuck Hansen and John Leonhard, representing CSWEA and Rhonda Harris and Paul Roach, representing WEF attended the meeting and gave brief

reports. John Leonhard's emphasis for the coming year will be twofold: 1) Recognition of the talented, hard working people in the organization and utilizing the awards programs for deserving members, and 2) To encourage more people, especially younger people, to get involved in the workings of the organization. He asked the members to encourage co-workers to get involved and to work with the colleges, universities, and vocational schools to get students from engineering and environmental studies programs signed up as members.

Old Business

Wisconsin Section Service Award: Paul Nehm reported on the criteria that had been developed for the Service Award. The committee will consist of: the immediate Past Chair, the Secretary/Treasurer of the Wisconsin Section, and the three immediate past Service Award winners, if they are available. A motion was made by Tom Bunker and seconded by Larry Teunissen to create a standing committee for the award. Motion carried.

New Business

2000 Wisconsin Section Service Award: Paul Nehm presented the 2000 Wisconsin Section Service Award to John Leonhard in recognition of his long and dedicated service to the Section.

Passing of the Gavel: Carol Strackbein passed the gavel to Ken Sedmak, this year's Wisconsin Section Chair.

Past Chair Award: A plaque was presented to Carol Strackbein by Ken Sedmak recognizing her service to the Section as Chair for the past year.

Chair Ken Sedmak presented some remarks on his goals for the Section. The strength of the Section is in the committees, this keeps the group together and moving forward. Ken will contact committee chairs on a quarterly basis to help keep them active and moving the Section forward. Ken stressed the importance of the membership committee to renew the momentum of new membership and involvement of students in student chapters to get them involved in CSWEA.

Joe Mandala moved that the meeting be adjourned. Second by Floyd Finney. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas W. Sigmund
Secretary/Treasurer
Wisconsin Section - CSWEA