



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

**Minutes of the November Business Meeting**

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

**November 8, 2000**

**Country Inn Hotel, Waukesha, Wisconsin**

The Annual Business Meeting of the Wisconsin Section of Central States Water Environment Association was called to order by Chair Ken Sedmak at 2:35 p.m. on November 8, 2000 at the Country Inn Hotel in Waukesha, WI.

Board Members present:

- Ken Sedmak, Chair
- Dan Busch, Vice Chair
- Carol Strackbein, Past Chair
- Dan Lynch, CSWEA Trustee
- Tom Sigmund, Secretary/Treasurer
- Judy Tholen, WWOA Liaison

In addition, 26 members of the Section were present:

**Approval of August 16, 2000 Board Meeting Minutes:** Carol Strackbein moved the previously distributed meeting minutes for the August 16, 2000 Board meeting be approved as submitted. Second by Dan Lynch. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Tom Sigmund reported that there was a balance in the Section's accounts of \$9,720.12 as of November 3, 2000. Rusty Schroedel moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. Second by Jeff Brochtrup. Motion carried.

**CSWEA Trustee Report:** Tom Sigmund presented a written report, assisted by Jim Nemke and John Leonhard.

- WEF will hold a Collection System Specialty Conference in Milwaukee in 2002. It is tentatively scheduled for August 19-23, 2002 at the Midwest Express Center.
- WEF and EPA may sponsor a Pretreatment Coordinator training session in Milwaukee in July of 2001.
- WEF continues to experience a decline in membership. A \$3 dues increase was approved for 2001.
- WEF and AWWA are planning to continue dialog between the two organizations and are considering consolidating administrative functions.

- Beginning in 2010 WEFTEC will be held in even years in New Orleans. Beginning in 2013 WEFTEC will be held in odd years in Chicago.
- Dianne Crilley, the WEF Student Activities Liaison, encouraged CSWEA to help students find ways to become involved in WEF.
- The CSWEA Vice Presidents are preparing a table that lists available awards and due dates for nominations. This should be posted on the CSWEA web site soon.

Joe Mandala moved that the Trustee's report be accepted as presented. Second by Jim Nemke. Motion carried.

**WWOA Liaison Report:** WWOA Liaison Judy Tholen presented a written report prepared by Tom Steinbach.

- Judy Tholen is the new WWOA Liaison to the Wisconsin Section.
- 878 people attended the 2000 Annual WWOA conference in Green Bay
- WWOA has added a student membership category.
- It has been a struggle for WWOA to get teams to participate in their operations challenge. The future of this competition will be addressed at the Board level. There was discussion by the membership to encourage WWOA to continue the competition to provide participants for the WEFTEC Operations Challenge.

**Strategic Planning Ad-hoc Committee Report:** Chair Dan Busch presented a written report.

- Dan presented the process used in developing the draft strategic plan and introduced the planning committee.
- Mission: Wisconsin Section membership will take a proactive leadership approach to promote, preserve, and protect the water environment.
- Dan presented the Goals of the plan, the Strategies, and the Activities
- The plan recommends two new Section committees: Student Activities and Public Awareness.
- Questions were solicited from the members in attendance. Dan Busch asked the committees to discuss the elements of the plan in the breakout session and to return with further questions or suggestions.

## Committee Meetings

Chair Ken Sedmak recessed the meeting at 4:40 p.m. to allow for the Committee meetings. The meeting was reconvened at 4:10 p.m.

## Committee Reports

**Collection Systems:** Chair Mike Spence submitted a written report. Dan Peterson has been selected as the committee co-chair. The 2001 Collection System Seminar has been scheduled for June 7, 2001.

**Government Affairs:** Chair Rusty Schroedel submitted a written report. An important issue that the committee is following is the PCB soil criteria being considered by DNR which would severely limit POTWs ability to apply biosolids. The Government Affairs Seminar is scheduled for February 22, 2001 with a focus on watershed management issues.

**Groundwater Protection and Toxic Waste:** Chair Dave Sauer submitted a written report. Disposition of the committee was deferred until later in the meeting.

**Industrial Waste:** Chair Randy Wirtz submitted a written report.

**Membership:** Chair Mike Gerbitz submitted a written report. Ken Sedmak has appointed Al Berg of Donohue & Associates as the membership committee chair to replace Mike Gerbitz.

**Operations Committee & Management Seminar:** Chair Joe Mandala submitted a written report. Management Seminar Representative Bill Marten submitted a written report with a draft financial report that showed that the 2000 Management Seminar had 57 attendees and made a profit. The 2001 seminar is planned for next summer in Madison.

**Public Education:** Chair Max Anderson submitted a written report. The committee plans to present workshops at the combined Wisconsin and Minnesota Science Teachers conference in Duluth, MN in March of 2001.

**Safety:** Chair Ari Mathos submitted a written report.

**Watershed Management:** Chair Mike Doran submitted a written report. A committee member has been identified for each DNR's Geographic Management Units. EPA continues to make progress on national nutrient criteria.

## Representatives Reports

**Spring Biosolids Symposium:** Representative Jay Kemp submitted a written report. The key topic for the seminar will be biosolids nutrient management, especially phosphorous and PCB criteria for soils. The seminar is scheduled for March 13, 2001 at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point.

**Water Wastewater Education Association:** No report was received.

**CSWEA Education Seminar:** The seminar is planned for March 27, 2001 at the Monona Terrace in Madison. The key topics are on biosolids stabilization techniques. Bill Marten will chair the seminar beginning in 2002.

### **Committee and Membership Input on Draft Strategic Plan:**

- General reaction to the draft Strategic Plan is that it is a well done, concise document that seems to blend well with the CSWEA Strategic Plan.
- Support for presentation of awards to members at the commission/public meetings in their cities of employment.
- Suggestion to use mass e-mail to members to get information out instead of U.S mail. Not sure the best way to compile that e-mail list. Supplement with posting on the web site.
- Discussion of our relationship with WWOA and how we communicate as organizations.

- Discussion of the Wisconsin Section tabletop display. We need to make sure that it is displayed at the WWOA annual conference and at all of the Section sponsored seminars. It was recommended that a committee be assigned to keep track of the display. Suggestions were for the Membership, Public Education, or Public Awareness Committees to be the organizer of the display.
- Suggestion that the committee charges be reviewed to see how they fit the committees and provide feedback to the Board.
- On regulatory and environmental issues, questions were raised as to how do we know we are catching everything of interest to the membership, what is the procedure for communicating important issues, and how are we getting feedback from the membership. Suggestion to make better use of the CSWEA web site to facilitate this. It was also suggested that a list serve be used to make members aware of important information posted on the web site. Wisconsin Rural Water Association (Ken Bloomberg) has a list serve we may want to utilize.
- MEG is considering opening up an associate member category. This would be a good source of information on water environment issues. MEG will make a decision in January 2001 if they will pursue this category of membership.
- AWWA is interested in working together on more seminars.
- With the difficulties that we have in keeping some committees active, we need to be careful as to what we can accomplish as we embrace the recommendations of the draft Strategic Plan.

## Election of Officers

Tom Sigmund presented a written report from the Nominations Committee. The committee was chaired by Sigmund and included Dan Lynch and Dan Busch. Nominees were presented for Vice Chair and Trustee to CSWEA. The nomination for Vice Chair was John Olson. The nomination for Trustee was Carol Strackbein. Sedmak called for nominations from the floor three times for the position of Vice Chair and three times for Trustee. Rusty Schroedel moved that the nominations be closed and that a unanimous ballot be cast for John Olson and Carol Strackbein. Second by Jim Smith. Motion carried. The new officers will begin their terms of office at the May 2001 annual meeting.

## Old Business

### **Report on Groundwater Protection and Toxic Waste Committee Status:**

- The recommendations in Dave Sauer's report were reviewed. The recommendations were to disband the Groundwater Protection and Toxic Waste Committee and assign the responsibilities to other committees.
- Rusty Schroedel commented that other associations have similar hazardous and toxic waste committees. An original objective of the committee was to increase membership for the Section, that hasn't worked out.

- A motion was made by Dan Lynch to disband the Groundwater Protection and Hazardous Waste Committee. Second by Floyd Finney. Motion carried.

## New Business

### **Student Chapters:**

- UW Stevens point is interested in starting a WEF student chapter. Dan Busch has provided the information needed for an application to WEF.
- Ken Sedmak will request the \$600 grant available from CSWEA for student chapters. The Board will decide how to spend the grant. John Leonhard noted that the intent was for the State Sections to use the grant to promote student chapters in any manner desired by the Section.

**Public Education Grant:** John Leonhard reminded the Section to request the \$1,000 grant available from CSEWA for public education. It was noted that the Section needs better accounting for the expenditures and revenue for the Source Books bought by the Section. Tom Sigmund will coordinate with Max Anderson.

Jeff Brochtrup moved that the meeting be adjourned. Second by Ray Grosch. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas W. Sigmund  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Wisconsin Section - CSWEA

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