



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

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting**

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

**May 16, 2013**

**The Monona Terrace, Madison, WI**

Chair Bill Oldenburg called the Wisconsin Section of Central States Water Environment Association Annual Meeting to order at 7:47 a.m. on May 16<sup>th</sup> 2013 at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison, WI.

Board Members present:

- Bill Oldenburg, Chair
- Dave Arnott, Vice Chair
- Joshua Gable, Secretary/Treasurer
- Jane Carlson, Past Chair
- Bill Marten, Trustee
- Sharon Thieszen, WWOA Liaison

Other members present were: Jay Kenp, Steven Woodman, Tom Krueger, Randy Wirtz, Nathan Antonneau, Hans Holmberg, Bryan Viitala, Sam Warp Jr., Randy Belanger, Dan Lynch, Mike Blazejovsky, Steve Hayden, Amber Marzahl, Craig Lawniczak, Bill Angoli, Julie McMullin, Greg Gunderson, Jeremy Cramer, Jerry Poriott, Tom Sigmund, Carol Strachben, John R Leonhard, Alan Grooms, Tom Foltz, Jon Butt, Jim Fisher, Trevor Ghylin, Mark Mittag, Daniel Zitomer, Steven Graziano, Randy Lanuer, Reid Snedaker, Rusty Schroedel, Rick Pace, Keith Haas, Bob Bradley, Dale Doerr, Eric Lynne, and Steve Brand.

**Introduction of those present:**

All attendees introduced themselves.

**Approval of the February 27<sup>th</sup> Winter Board Meeting:**

No comments, Dave Arnott motioned to approve the minutes as written. Second by Jane Carlson. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Josh Gable presented the Treasurer's report, which showed a balance in the Section's accounts of \$42,418.98 as of May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Of this amount, \$18,118.67 was in our checking account,

\$18,828.39 was in our savings account, and \$5,471.92 was in our 14-month CD. Jane Carlson moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted. Second by Bill Marten. Motion passed.

### **CSWEA Trustee Report:**

Trustee Bill Marten reported the following:

The membership committee is going to start listing new members in CSWater.

Keith Haas was elected to the CSWEA Executive Committee.

CSWEA is sending four student design teams to WEFTEC to compete this year.

Finally, as a result of CSWEA auditor comments/warnings for several years now the CSWEA Executive Committee has decided that the WI Section's practice of allowing committees/conferences/seminars to open and use separate temporary checking accounts will no longer be allowed."

### **WWOA Liaison Report:**

WWOA Liaison Sharon Thieszen reported:

WWOA has made changes to its lifetime membership policy: Lifetime members will now have to pay annual dues if they are currently employed. Details of this policy change can be found in the WWOA publication, The Clarifier.

Tuition reimbursement and scholarships continue to be available, due to underutilization, the reimbursements and scholarships are now available to individuals other than members of WWOA and their decedents so long as their education is relevant to the wastewater industry.

## **Committee Reports**

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

### **Collection Systems Committee:**

Committee Chair Randy Belanger gave the following report:

Planning for the two Collection Systems conferences is moving full speed ahead. The committee is expecting 250 + attendees and 40+ vendors for the "Classic" Conference. Some concern is arising that the conference may be outgrowing the venue, the committee is hoping not.

The "Northwoods" Seminar continues to grow yearly, this year they already have 65 attendees signed up and 34 vendors. It now looks likely that the "Northwoods" seminar will have to change venues in the future.

### **Government Affairs Committee:**

Committee member and incoming chair Hans Holmberg reported:

Thanks very much to Brandon Koltz for the past service as Government Affairs Committee Chair. The committee continues to be made up of a great cast.

The DNR is continuing to issue guidance requests for phosphorus trading. The Government Affairs Committee continues to make comments.

The Government Affairs Seminar was very successful. Gil Hantzsh has announced his resignation as chair of the event. A new chair has not yet been selected.

### **Industrial Waste Committee:**

Mike O'Neil reported the following:

Things are going forward with the August Seminar. The committee is also planning to send out a pretreatment survey this year to better gauge what plants are doing.

The committee consists of a diverse group of members; they are working well together and making good progress.

### **Membership Committee:**

Committee Chair Jay Kemp reported the following:

Jay will be resigning as the committee chair and is currently in search of a replacement.

The committee roster posted on the Section website may have been linked to some malicious emails. This needs to be further investigated by the CSWEA webmaster.

### **Operations Committee:**

Committee Chair Troy Larson was not present and no verbal report was given.

### **Management Committee:**

Incoming Committee Chair Mike Simon was not present however Tom Krueger gave the following update:

The location for the event has been changed for this year. The event will be held on August 7<sup>th</sup> in Brookfield, WI.

### **Public Education and Awareness Committee:**

Chair Dale Doerr reported that he will be stepping down and that Sharon Thieszen will officially be taking over the position as of this meeting.

Incoming Chair Sharon Thieszen reported the following:

Regarding the Stockholm Junior Water Prize, five applications were received. Isabella Cafaro and Sarah Organ, 11<sup>th</sup> graders at Divine Savior Holy Angels High School were selected as the winners of State competition. Dale Doerr and Sharon Thieszen will present the Wisconsin SJWP certificates to Isabella and Sarah on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Isabella and Sarah will be presenting their work at the national competition in Portland, OR on June 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you to the committee for helping judge the papers: Dale Doerr, Ken Sedmak, Lyle Lutz, Eric Lynne, and Sharon Thieszen.

### **Safety Committee:**

Outgoing Committee Chair Jerry Hirt was not present. Incoming Committee Chair Bill Oldenburg reported the following:

Bill has been working get make the committee more active, in doing so he has found a committee vice-chair, Vince Matarrese III.

One of the first objectives of the rejuvenated committee will be to help implement safety topics into the technical sessions at the various WI-Section seminars. The committee is open to any suggestions in this regard (please contact Bill if you have any).

### **Watershed Management Committee:**

Incoming chair Mark Mittag reported the following:

Mark is officially taking over as Committee Chair in place of Julie McMullin as of this meeting.

The committee is always looking for interested individuals and asks everyone to consider joining the committee. The committee is currently looking for ideas for the 2013 webinar; feedback on location and topics is desired. The committee is also currently seeking a Vice-Chair.

### **Students and Young Professionals Committee:**

Committee Chair Eric Lynne reported the following:

Bryan Viitala will be taking over as Committee Chair as of this meeting.

The student chapters continue to be quite active.

Jane Carlson added that it sounds like UW-Whitewater is going to be starting a student chapter. Dan Lynch confirmed this and added that the process is underway.

### **Spring Biosolids Symposium Committee:**

Committee Chair Jay Kemp reported the following:

The Spring Biosolids Show was held on March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point. There were 250+ attendees at the Show this year. Estimates right now look as though the Section will net about \$800. Both Jay Kemp and Bill Marten would like to stick with coordinating the conference for the upcoming year.

Eric Lynne posed the following question: In 2016 could the WI Spring Biosolids Show be combined with the WEF Residuals and Biosolids Conference if it is in fact held in Milwaukee?

Bill Marten replied: Probably not because the WEF RSB conference is an order of magnitude more expensive and would likely exclude a lot of the WWOA operators.

Rusty Schroedel added: The WEF Residuals and Biosolids Conference is WEF's largest specialty conference having 600+ attendees annually. CSWEA is looking for WI-Section help to in bringing the conference to Milwaukee.

### **WWEA Committee:**

Committee Chair Tom Mulcahy had nothing to report.

## **Old Business**

### **Strategic Plan Update:**

WI Section Chair Bill Oldenburg gave a brief update the progress made in the past year on the Strategic Plan:

The strategic plan was created in 2000. This year the board tasked itself to revamp it. The plan is to redraft the entire document in 2015 by committee.

Some of highlights of the strategic plan that have been accomplished:

- Increased membership – The section has been quite successful in recruitment, especially so when considering young members.
- Committees are well run – They are following proper guidelines and procedures.

- Improved public awareness.
- Improved promotion of professional development – The Pretreatment Seminar specifically has had a lot of impact.
- Increased recognition of members that are excelling in their careers and service to the industry and organization – via service awards, etc.
- The Strategic Plan includes 23 strategies, 15 of which can be checked off at this time.

Secretary Josh Gable added a few Strategic Plan items not yet resolved per the discussion at the Winter Board Meeting:

- The Membership Committee needs to develop a list of potential mentors.
- Committee chairs need to report membership of their committees on a quarterly basis – we are requesting that this be included as part of the quarterly committee report.
- We need to get promotional material out to the students chapters - the Public Education and Awareness Committee and the Students and Young Professionals Committee need to work together to complete this.
- Finally, the display for the Section needs to be located and updated.

#### **WI PDH Ad Hoc Committee Update:**

The PDH Ad Hoc Committee consists of the following four members:

Dave Arnott, Jon Butt, Jay Kemp, and Andy Craven

Dave Arnott talked briefly on behalf of the committee:

The committee is planning to deliver a set of guidelines for the committees to use when planning seminars. The committee would like to wrap this up in 3 to 4 months.

Rusty Schroedel added that the committee should check with ASCE for help in developing guidelines.

#### **Liaison Contacts:**

Each board member (excluding the secretary/treasurer) has the responsibility to check in with two committee chairs quarterly (Board Chair has only one) to ensure things are going smoothly.

SY&P Committee: Bill Oldenburg reported that he checked in with Eric Lynne and that things are going smooth.

Public Ed & Awareness Committee: Jane Carlson reported that she had talked with both Dale Doerr and Sharon Thieszen and that the things are going well.

Membership Committee: Jane Carlson reported that she had spoken with chair Jay Kemp and reiterated that the committee is looking for a new chair.

Industrial Waste Committee: Dave Arnott reported that he had spoken with Mike O'Neil and that the committee was doing well.

Collection Systems Committee: Dave Arnott reported that he had spoken with Randy Belanger and reported that preparation for the two upcoming conferences was going well.

Safety Committee: Sharon Thieszen reported that she had not spoken with Bill Oldenburg but Bill reiterated that things are going smooth for the safety committee.

Operations Committee: Sharon Thieszen reported that she had talked with Chair Troy Larson and that the committee is strong and that they will be having a meeting in June.

## **New Business**

### **Annual Committee Plans:**

Josh Gable brought up the topic of Annual Committees Plans: The Section By-laws instruct that each committee should put together an annual plan that should be submitted and approved by the board.

Dave Arnott added that he would work with Josh to establish a plan for bringing the annual plans into use. They will review the SAATs to establish a timeline for submittal and review of annual plans.

### **WI Section Bank Accounts:**

Josh Gable brought forth a discussion about the two accounts that are held by the Collection Systems Committee.

CSWEA is classified as 503C not-for-profit organization. After last year's audit it was found that we were out of compliance due to the use of these checking accounts which are used for seminar planning.

Rusty Schroedel added that it is strictly an IRS issue.

Bill Marten added that we need to update the section guidelines appropriately.

Randy Belanger noted that this all started because of the need to take registration on-line, which in turn required use of Paypal, which is controlled by CSWEA. The Paypal transactions raised the initial flag and culminated into a big mess.

Additionally, Randy noted that for the Northwoods Seminar, 75% of the registration is still completed by paper form and check, this makes the separate checking account particularly useful.

The section will work to develop a short term solution to get us through this year's conference season while also working to develop a new policy to avoid these issues in the future.

### **Date for Summer Board Meeting:**

The summer board meeting is traditionally held the same day as YP Brewers Outing. The date of August 15<sup>th</sup> had been proposed for the later. After opening to discussion, it was decided that the Summer Board Meeting will be held on Thursday August 15<sup>th</sup> at 2PM preceding the tailgate at Miller Park.

### **Wisconsin Section Service Award:**

Jane Carlson as Past Chair is responsible for heading up the Service Award Committee and presenting the award to its recipient at the Annual Meeting.

This year Jane presented the award to the much deserving recipient Tom Mulcahy.

Congratulations Tom and thank you very much for your years of service!

### **Upcoming Events:**

- “Classic” Collection Systems Seminar – June 6<sup>th</sup>
- CSX – July 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>
- “Northwoods” Collection Systems Seminar – July 25<sup>th</sup>
- Management Seminar – August 7<sup>th</sup>
- Pretreatment Seminar – August 14<sup>th</sup>
- Summer Board Meeting – August 15<sup>th</sup>
- YP Brewer’s Outing – August 15<sup>th</sup>
- WEFTEC 2013 – October 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>

## **Passing of the Gavel**

Chair Bill Oldenburg has passed the gavel to the incoming Chair of the Board, Dave Arnott.

## **2013/2014 Wisconsin Section Chair Remarks**

Dave Arnott, as his first act as Chair, presented Bill Oldenburg a plaque recognizing his services as the Chair for the 2012/2013 administrative year. Dave thanked Bill for an outstanding job and excellent leadership.

Dave proceeded to make a few brief remarks about the upcoming year. Dave stated that he wants to build on two core documents of the Section: The Strategic Plan and the Section Annual Activities Timeline (SAAT).

Regarding the Strategic Plan: it is not exciting but we have momentum and we will work to continue strengthening it. Regarding the SAAT, we have a lot of new chairs this year and utilizing this document will be very helpful in keeping our new chairs on task.

Additionally Dave mentioned he would like to target the following during his term:

- To push younger folks into to leadership roles within the committees.
- To work with chairs to identify roles that need to be filled.
- To promote CSX as it is such a great opportunity to bounce ideas off others from CSWEA. The Section has funding available to send interested individuals to this event.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further new business, Bill Oldenburg moved that the meeting be adjourned.  
Second by Jane Carlson. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:55AM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joshua J. Gable  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Wisconsin Section - CSWEA