



ILLINOIS SECTION - CENTRAL STATES WEA SECTION MEETING

Minutes

October 17, 2017 (5:00 – 7:00 PM)

Reserve 22

485 Winchell Way, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

1. **Call to Order - Zach Matyja** – Meeting called to order at 5:30pm by Zach Matyja
2. **Approval of May 7, 2016 Meeting Minutes** – Motion by Mike Holland / Aaron Berry 2nd motion passed.
3. **Treasurer Report – Mike Holland**
 - i. Mike Holland stated that the Section has more income than was budgeted, and less expenses. Sue Baert inquired why that was, to which Mike responded that it was in part a result of the Water Week Stipend (\$1,000) going unused and the Energy & Nutrient Recovery Seminar generated significant income as well. Mike Holland also stated that the Operations Challenge reimbursement has not yet been distributed.
4. **Trustee Report – Mark Eddington, CSWEA Illinois Section Trustee**
 - i. No Report
5. **Committee Reports**
 - a. Public Education – Amanda Sheposh
 - i. Amanda not present, no report.
 - b. Membership – Aaron Berry
 - i. Membership Committee has fully utilized the budget for this year, looking at portfolios for next year.
 - ii. May work a free associate membership incentive to prospective members attending Seminars.
 - c. Industrial Pre-Treatment – Eduardo Gasca
 - i. No report; Eduardo not present.
 - ii. November 9th MWRD TARP Tour in conjunction with Suburban branch of APWA. Lunch will be served prior to the tour. Registrations are currently in the low 20's and capacity is 32, however a second bus may be utilized.
 - d. Young Professionals – Jillian Goodlove
 - i. Past events: August 30th, 2017 - Grundfos Pump Corporation opened up their manufacturing floor in Aurora for CSWEA YPs to see their production, testing and servicing operations. Anthony Jarvis and Joe Masterson in Grundfos' Sales Department toured the facility with seven CSWEA YP members. Very cool to see the manufacturing side of the pump industry and let along in our own backyard. YPs and Grundfos met at Hopvine Brewing Company afterwards for follow-up discussions, drinks and appetizers (courtesy of Grundfos).
 - ii. Upcoming events: Currently arranging for YPs to tour the Downers Grove Sanitary District WWTF through Nick Mennigna, General Manager.

Looking at planning a late November tour before it gets too chilly. Social hour to follow at a nearby establishment.

- iii. The 2018 YP Summit Assistantship is attached. Currently waiting for more workshop information to be released from AWWA/WEF before distributing it to the IL YP contact list. The YP Summit will take place on February 19-20, 2018 in San Antonio, Texas. I attended last year and it was a great experience. I would highly recommend any YPs in the group to look out for the application in the upcoming weeks and apply. Currently the application reads that all applications be returned to the Section Chair (Zach Matyja) by December 15th.
- e. Laboratory – Mary Dressel
 - i. No report; Mary not present.
- f. Collections – Bob Swirsky
 - i. Bob not in attendance, report given by Aaron Berry.
 - 1. Aaron Berry stated that the 2017 Collection System Conference was a success, and a downstate joint Operations/Collections seminar is in the planning phase. Zach is leading the effort in planning this joint effort with APWA and IAWA. There are currently 30 registrations and it seems to be generating significant interest. Zach indicated that six students from Bradley University will be in attendance and present a senior design combined sewer project. All of the attendants who are not currently members will receive a free one-year associate membership in an effort to engage downstate participants.
- g. Biosolids – Chris Buckley
 - i. Took a hiatus for this year, looking to team with the Energy & Nutrient Recovery Committee for a joint conference in 2018.
- h. Operations – Jason Neighbors
 - i. Jason Neighbors not in attendance, report given by Chris Marschinke.
 - 1. Chris Marschinke stated that several nominations for Operator/Plant of the year have been received.
 - 2. If anyone has operators that may be interested in joining the Committee they would be more than welcome, seeking some “new blood”.
- i. Safety – Karol Giokas
 - i. Discussed creating a Safety track in conjunction with the Collection Seminar. Karol will coordinate with Aaron Berry.
- j. Government Affairs – Carl Fischer
 - i. Carl Fischer stated that he attended the WEF Government Affairs Subcommittee meeting at WEFTEC which discussed potential Federal SRF funding reduction. The general consensus was that the current administration would not be pursuing these cuts. Regulatory reform was also discussed, specifically in regards to a push for 10-year NPDES permits rather than 5-Year. Flushable wipes were also a lengthy discussion during the Government Affairs meeting – DC recently adopted legislation regulating the wipes, and Kimberly Clark promptly filed lawsuit.

- ii. A point of discussion during the WEFTEC USEPA update was “cooperative federalism.” The USEPA would be following administration guidelines, but would continue enforcing current standards.
- iii. Carl stated that the Pacific Northwest has issues with high aluminum levels in their wastewater due to an aluminum-rich clay in the area. Water quality standards to address these concerns have been floated, which may be interesting considering the potential for significant alum use associated with phosphorus removal in the future.
- iv. Carl inquired whether the Illinois Section attended the “Fly-In” associated with Water Week. Mike Holland stated that no one applied for the Water Week stipend and does not believe there were any attendees from the Illinois Section.
- v. 2018 Government Affairs Seminar is scheduled for February 27th – March 1st in conjunction with the IAWA mini-conference.

k. Student Chapter – Chris Marschinke

- i. Chris Marschinke stated that eight students attended WEFTEC this year and participated in the Service Project, Design Competitions, and Career Fairs.
- ii. Amanda Heller stated that the GWS problem statement for the design competition should be coming out in the next several weeks. Chris said that the UIUC team is considering fielding two teams.

l. Energy – Mike Harvey

- i. Mike Harvey stated that the first Seminar was held this past spring, which included 36 participants and generated
- ii. Mike indicated that a seminar will be planned for next spring, but may pursue a different date due to scheduling conflicts.
- iii. Combining the Energy & Resource Recovery Seminar with the Biosolids Seminar was discussed and supported.

m. Stormwater – Paul Siegfried & Tim Juskiewicz

- i. Paul stated that the Stormwater Committee teamed up with the Collections System Seminar, had a lot of good presentations for the stormwater track.
- ii. Sue Baert stated that a Stormwater tour is going to be scheduled for annual conference, and is open to suggestions and assistance from the Stormwater Committee.
- iii. Report forwarded by Tim: Joliet may be interested in giving a tour of the tunnel project and wet weather treatment facility as part of the Annual Conference. Tim has discussed potential collaboration with the IAFSM at seminars and conferences.

6. CSWEA Reports

CSWEA Trustee – Derek Wold, Illinois Section Trustee

- a. Derek not present; no report.

CSWEA President – Sue Baert

- a. Sue Stated that the schedule for the Annual Conference will be changing, potentially this year. This would include removing Thursday from the schedule and shortening the conference to three days. The first day will have a Stormwater tour, YP event, and any other specialty tours.
- b. Mike Holland stated that Mark Eddington has been nominated to take the role of Second-Vice President for CSWEA, leaving the WEF Delegate role open. Derek Wold has been nominated to this position, leaving the Trustee position open. Rich Hussey was nominated to this position. Mike Holland stated that Mark Eddington and Derek Wold have announced their engagement. Aaron Berry motion to send flowers and/or edible arrangement up to \$35 in value, Matt Streicher second.

CSWEA Treasurer – Beth Vogt

- a. Beth not present; no report.

CSWEA Executive Director – Mohammed Haque

- a. Mohammed not present; no report.

Global Water Stewardship Updates – Amanda Heller

- a. Trying to revamp fundraising, Rich Hussey leading this effort including pursuing grant opportunities. GWS is now on Amazon Smile as Global Water Stewardship, please select GWS as preferred charity when making purchases.
- b. In the process of creating a new Website, should be more accessible.
- c. Several of the projects are actively moving forward, some have stalled at the moment.
- d. Mike Holland stated that a bio-garden was built during the last Costa Rica trip, in which Mike sweated profusely.

7. Old Business

- a. Upcoming IEPA Operator Training/Certification Requirements
 - i. No Progression on this item since the last meeting.

8. New Business

- i. Mike Holland started a discussion regarding recruiting new members, and suggested that this be a focus of the next year. Many committee chairs have remained for a number of years without progression of new members or vice-chairs. The group discussed potential routes for recruiting new members, focusing on advancing operator engagement.
- ii. Holding an operator track during the Annual Conference or for exam prep was discussed as a method to increasing involvement, particularly with certification continuing education requirements continuing to be discussed at the state level.

9. Upcoming Events

- i. Central Illinois Collections and Operations Conference – October 26th
- ii. MWRD Mainstream Pumping Station & Reservoir Tour – Nov 9th

10. Next Meeting – Lunch meeting to reduce costs, to be held late January or early February.

11. Adjournment – Matt Streicher motion, Mike Holland 2nd, motion approved