

**Pennsylvania Water Environment Association  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
October 2, 2009  
10:00AM – Holiday Inn – New Cumberland, PA**

**Board members present:** Art Auchenbach, Mike DiSantis, Scot Fertich, Ed Gillette, Lee McDonnell, Dean Miller, Charles Music, Douglas Pike, Mike Sassaman, John Schon, Alison Shuler, Dan Slagle, and Shannon Williams

**Committee Chairpersons present:** Lisa Webb, Carl Janson, Joe Rost, John Spitko, Philip Tiewater, Sara Urbanczyk, Stefan Weaver

**Guest:** Mike Kyle

**Staff:** Susan Boynton

**CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Alison Shuler called the meeting to order at 10:05AM; a quorum was confirmed. Introductions were made, as the new PA DEP representative was in attendance. President Shuler asked for discussion on or approval of the August 7, 2009 Board Meeting minutes as submitted.

**Motion/Second by:** Doug Pike/Dean Miller  
**Motion (passed):** To approve the August 7, 2009 Minutes as submitted.

**President's Report**

President Shuler reported on a recent Chesapeake Bay Advisory Committee meeting, which focused on the farming community. Mike DiSantis commented that there is confusion and extra work needed within the wastewater community because the DRBC has indicated they have ability to override PA DEP permits.

Alison presented information received regarding a television program connected with Hugh Downs. It was the Board's consensus to not pursue any contribution. Alison also reported on a website maintenance contract that was reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee.

**First Vice President's Report**

First Vice President Dean Miller's report is included in the Conference Committee report.

**Second Vice President's Report**

Absent, no report submitted.

**First Past President's Report**

First Past President Doug Pike had nothing new to report.

**Second Past President's Report**

Second Past President Ed Gillette reported on an outside science review of the EPA's nutrient level numbers, which largely disputed the EPA's calculations & methodologies. Ed also reported the proposed TDS limit of 500 will be extremely hard to adhere to and very costly. This limit will primarily affect the eastern part of the Commonwealth. Ed indicated he was considering submitting an article for publication in the KWQM with respect to the impact TDS will have on land application of biosolids.

**Editor**

Shannon Williams reported that in response to a call for volunteers, she had received communication

from eight people who were interested in joining the Committee. Shannon reported she was considering formation of a sub-committee to address the subject of issuing an RFP for publication services. Shannon reported the Committee is still looking for articles and columns for future issues of the KWQM.

#### **Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

Secretary/Treasurer Art Auchenbach reported the Association was in good standing and asked if there were any questions. John Schon requested information on the contributions and donations line item as it was over budget by \$1,000. Executive Director Sue Boynton contacted the PWEA office and requested a clarification of payouts for that line item. It was discovered that a \$1,000 donation to the Central Section Scholarship program had been duplicated. She indicated she would send the Central Section Treasurer an email requesting a refund be issued.

#### **Western Director's Report**

Western Section Director Dan Slagle reported the Section has 720 members. Events scheduled included a clay shoot on September 25, 2009; a Bowl-o-Rama on October 21, 2009; and a Section meeting on October 22, 2009.

#### **Central Section Director's Report**

Central Section Director Chuck Music reported the Section was doing well. The Section's annual trade fair was scheduled for November 4, 2009; 40 exhibitors had already been identified.

#### **Eastern Section Director's Report**

Eastern Section Alternate Director Scot Fertich reported the next Section meeting was scheduled for November 20, 2009 in Reading. The Section has approximately 1,400 members.

#### **First Federation Delegate's Report**

John Schon reported on the PA Night Reception being held on Sunday evening at WEFTEC in Orlando. John also review information that was provided in the WEF Management Report to MA's document.

#### **Second Federation Delegate's Report**

Second Federation Delegate Mike Sassaman had nothing more to add to John Schon's report.

#### **Professional Wastewater Operations Director**

Mike DiSantis reported that two Operations Challenge teams would be traveling to Orlando – the Die-Jesters and Loo-natics. He requested that anyone attending WEFTEC try to make time to support the two teams as they compete in the various events.

#### **PA DEP Report**

Lee McDonnell attended as the new PA DEP representative identified to attend PWEA Board meetings. Lee indicated he would bring information on TDS and differences between DEP and DRBC to the December board meeting. Lee reported the EPA reports on the Chesapeake Bay are due to the Administration by the end of 2009. The Administration's Executive Order to accelerate the process has put a push on the EPA to move quicker.

**Motion/Second by:** Ed Gillette/Chuck Music  
**Motion (passed):** To accept Officer and Director reports.

#### **WEF Board of Trustee Report**

Carl Janson provided information on approved uses of the MA contingency funds, which have been incorporated into WEF's budget. Carl reminded everyone WEFTEC.09 was being held in Orlando on October 11-14. The number of exhibiting vendors was tracking well. Carl also reported that indications were that the WEF-MA relationship was improving and that issues with the membership database were being addressed and cleared up. WEF will be working with MA's to standardize membership applications, which will further help to eliminate data input into the WEF membership database.

#### **Administrative Report**

Executive Director Sue Boynton briefly reviewed profit and loss statements for PennTec 2009 and the Collection System Committee workshop.

#### **Advertising Committee Report**

Absent, no report submitted.

#### **Awards Committee Report**

Absent, no report submitted.

#### **Biosolids Committee Report**

Stefan Weaver reported the Committee was meeting approximately two times each month. Stefan reported HB1341 would ban biosolids land application. A scheduled legislative hearing at which this subject would be discussed, was cancelled until further notice due to Commonwealth budget issues. The Committee will continue to work on meeting with Representatives Hutchinson and George to provide them with information. Stefan reported he would be attending an October 15 meeting coordinated by Synagro and other industry representatives in order to pull together a brochure for the wastewater industry regarding biosolids and land application. Stefan also reported that the EPA was considering redefining the definition of solid waste to include biosolids.

#### **Collection Systems Committee Report**

Absent, no report submitted. Committee meeting minutes were included with the Board meeting package.

#### **Conference Committee Report**

Dean Miller reviewed the minutes submitted for the Committee meeting held on September 9, 2009. A general discussion was held regarding proposed social activities and attendee benefits for the 2010 conference. The Board was in favor of moving forward with transforming the Awards Dinner to a new format to be held at Beaver Stadium. In order to keep expenses in check, the Board suggested the meal items be reduced from the normal high-priced food items.

Dean also reviewed the possible venues for PennTec 2011 and indicated that a contract needed to be executed within the next few weeks in order to lock in preferred dates in June 2011. After a general discussion, the Board agreed to hold the PennTec 2011 at the Marriott Lancaster at Penn Square in Lancaster, PA.

Dean reported that the Conference Committee had discussed a joint conference with the PaAWWA. Due to the short time to coordinate a joint meeting for 2011, the Conference Committee recommended a joint conference be explored for 2013.

Lisa Web, co-chair of the Exhibitors and Sponsors Sub-committee reported the Committee would be bringing back the "Sewer Bowl" to the exhibit hall.

Sara Urbanczyk, co-chair of the Young Professionals Committee reported the Committee would again be hosting the "Are You Smarter Than a YP" event, as well as a YP Personal Development session. The Committee would also be working with Cindy Rock to have a YP lounge.

**Motion/Second by:** Chuck Music/Ed Gillette

**Motion (passed):** To contract with the Marriott Lancaster at Penn Square for June 5-8, 2011.

#### **Constitution and Bylaws Committee Report**

John Schon reported the constitution and bylaws were in need of several revisions. A draft of the proposed revisions was being worked on and once completed would be submitted to the Board for review. After the Board's review, the revisions would need to be sent to WEF for their review and approval before final distribution to the PWEA members for their approval.

#### **Finance Committee Report**

Doug Pike reported a Committee meeting was scheduled for November 10, 2009 at 9AM to review a draft of the proposed 2010 operating budget.

**Government Affairs Committee Report**

Absent, no report submitted

**Industrial Pretreatment Committee Report**

Absent, no report submitted. Committee meeting minutes were included with the Board meeting package.

**Laboratory Practices**

Absent, no report submitted. Alison Shuler reported she had spoken to Pat Canavan and had requested the Committee consider a workshop geared for lab supervisors.

**Membership Committee Report**

Absent, no report submitted.

**Nominations Committee Report**

Carl Janson reported he would have a report to submit at the December Board meeting.

**Operator Certification Committee Report**

Dean Miller reported there was continued concern regarding the exam pass rate for Activated Sludge.

**Policy and Planning Committee Report**

Doug Pike reported the Committee was working on updating the PWEA Handbook. The Board requested they be provided with a final draft having the revisions highlighted. The Board requested that the Committee also establish a policy to address requests received for member mailing lists.

**Public Education Committee Report**

Absent, no report submitted.

**Research Committee Report**

Absent, no report submitted.

**Safety Committee Report**

Joe Rost reported the Committee was working to provide a workshop at PennTec 2010.

**Training Committee Report**

Absent, report submitted as part of Board meeting package. Sue Boynton requested comments or approval for the sub-committee to move forward with developing training for Professional Engineers. The Board was in unanimous favor of moving forward with providing PE training workshops and conference sessions.

**Utility Management Committee Report**

Phil Tiewater reported the Committee would be working on a session for PennTec 2010. He also reported the Committee would be working on a two-day EPA workshop on Utility Management in fall of 2010. Phil also reported that the Committee is working to provide a regular column article for inclusion in the KWQM.

**Water Reuse Committee Report**

John Spitko reported the Committee was working on a full-day session for PennTec 2010. He reported the Committee was also working on a white paper or article for publication in the KWQM on the need for and opportunities for water reuse in Pennsylvania.

**Web Site Committee Report**

Carl Janson reported work on Phase II was continuing with the website vendor.

**Young Professionals**

Sara Urbanczyk reported the Committee would once again be hosting a holiday food drive. The Committee is also planning to host plant tours for young professionals in 2010.

**Motion/Second:** Dan Slagle/Shannon Williams

**Motion (passed):** To accept WEF Trustee, Administrative and Committee reports.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Prior to adjourning the meeting, Dan Slagle acknowledged John Schon's dedicated service to PWEA and the completion of his service as a WEF Delegate.

The meeting adjourned at 2:15PM.