

MSAWWA/MWEA BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Monday May 12, 2014—4:00 pm

Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula MT

Room: Bitterroot A&B

Present: MSAWWA: Reed Campbell, Bill DeMeyer, Gwen Pozaga, Slim Miller, Greg Lukasik, Collette Anderson, Nate Weisenburger, Logan McInnis, John Alston, Nicole Mosby. **MWEA:** Erin Mosely, Jeremy Perlinski, Michelle Marsh, Starr Sullivan, Dana Audet, Amy Deitchler, Coralynn Revis.

Call To Order

1. Introduction of guests

- John A. introduces AWWA Vice President Reed Campbell.
- Coralynn introduces WEF Board of Trustee Erin Mosely.

Old Business:

1. Review and Approval of Fall Meeting Minutes—All

- Bill motions to approve. JP seconds. Motion passes.

New Business:

1. MWEA President's Report—Dan discussed the 2:00 P.M MWEA Board Meeting.

- Budget looks good. Good conference last year.
- Discussed contract renewal with Robin; had WEFMAX in Whitefish with minimal MWEA expenditures. Adjusted website expenditures for next year in budget.
- WEFMAX – held meeting in Whitefish. 30 folks from across the country. Dan got good feedback from attendees. Highlights mentioned there that may be applicable to the Montana M.A.: flat rate for utilities; outreach via teachers education grants; membership growth ideas – help to remind members; awards given at conference - maybe get out to communities and give them again in front of Mayors, Commissioners, etc.
- Discussed possible topics for pre-conference.
- Talked about strategic plan ideas – part of Long Range Plan. Top five list and then added some more achievable goals for next year.
- Need to add pretreatment information to Long Range Plan.
- Committees; Amy will work with the Education Committee on Pre-Conference topics and will get with Don Clark and Mark Fitzwater to get the Pre-Treatment Committee off the ground and running.
- Coralynn discussed the new website;
- Voted to form a Stormwater Committee.
- WEFTEC attendance – Starr will step in for Coralynn and Michelle Marsh will attend as well.
- Operator scholarship has been awarded to a gentleman from Rocky Boy. This is a replacement of MSU-N scholarship

2. MSAWWA Chair's Report—Gwen

- Went over the Budget.–
- John and Reed gave directors report; discussed a new AWWA strategic plan. John's last meeting as a member of the MSAWWA board.
- John discussed membership concerns – downward pattern. 250 to 236. No longer have a lifetime free membership so lost some here. Bozeman went from 8 members to joining as one utility so lost some members there.
- Committee Reports;

- Nate went to the fly-in and met with Steve Daines, three staffers from Testers camp also met with representatives of Walsh.
- Water for People raffle will be set up as a raffle rather than silent auction
- Slim attended a Membership Summit. Reviewed key points such as perks for first time members and a focus on young people.
- Discussed strategic plan - Slim and Greg will look at it and get it more in line with AWWA.
- Revised by-laws and position descriptions. Reducing the board from nine members to seven members. Will do this at the general membership meeting. Will drop senior and junior trustee.
- Some website discussion.
- John – MSAWWA is doing a “buried no longer process”. Working with awwa to get it going in 10 other communities.

3. Joint Committee Reports:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Board Oversight</u>	<u>Committee Chair</u>
Cross-connection ABPA Big Sky Chapter is active – putting website together. The choice for certification and testing. Maybe need to work with them on it.	MSAWWA/MWEA Sec/Treasurer Jeff/Dana	Barb Coffman
Exhibitors Nicole – there is a new vendor track on Wednesday afternoon and Thursday. Slim, Michelle and Dan Harmon will help moderate these sessions..	MSAWWA/MWEA Sr. Trustees Slim/Nate/Starr	
Information Management No Report.	MSAWWA/MWEA Jr. Trustees Nicole/Collette/Jeremy	Nate Wiesenberger
Host City: DH – no worries. CR says they are stuffing packets now. Met throughout year. Social on Wednesday is a game night. Giving out two drink tickets. There will be ping pong, foosball, beer pong - you can challenge for tickets. Lots of prizes. Bid on tickets by winning events.	MSAWWA/MWEA Chair/President Gwen/Dan	Ross Mollenhauer
Lifetime Achievement ; CR – two winners and both will be here: Tom Evans and Tim Hunter	MSAWWA/MWEA Directors John/Cora	Paul LaVigne
Program; Nicole reported that the slots got filled – water taste test, pub trivia, vendor track are new. Will print something with changes. Dignitaries will	MSAWWA/MWEA Chair/President Gwen/Dan	Nicole Mosby

<p>be judges for taste test. Pub trivia and tap test will be at break Thursday morning.</p>		
<p>Public Education Michelle M that there is a flyer in the packet, an information sharing site. May be able to use bill stuffers, Montana Rural Water, maybe a share library and develop more connections at MSU to further Public Education</p>	<p>MSAWWA/MWEA Chair Elect/Pres. Elect Greg/Michele</p>	<p>Tammy Filliater</p>
<p>Scholarship: Coralynn passes out a report and discusses. Went to one scholarship starting last year when we used to give two. Maybe we should invest in a mutual fund to keep up with inflation. Discussion and comments included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanguard Mutual Funds provides lots of options for Non-Profits to invest in. • Slim said we need to be conservative if we do – maybe target 4%. Diversification is important – maybe buy into a fund that is already set up to be diversified. These are available. • Greg asks how do we as two boards select the fund • Logan suggested forming a committee. • John makes a motion to form a committee of five to determine what to invest in. Bill seconded the motion; it was voted on and passed. • Logan, Dana, Greg, Slim and Coralynn volunteered to be on the committee. 	<p>MSAWWA/MWEA Past Chair/Past Pres. Bill/Cora</p>	<p>Coralynn Revis</p>
<p>Student & Young Professionals: Robin gave an update. There will be a Social tomorrow night. There is an initiative to develop a student chapter.</p>	<p>MSAWWA/MWEA Past Chair/Past Pres. Bill/Cora</p>	<p>David Carlson</p>

4. 2014 Conference Report—Robin

- 140 attendees. 61 vendors. High costs for the hotel. Tried to save some money on the food. Reduced the free beer and wine Wednesday night to 1 hour from 1.5. Need incentive to get people to the membership meeting – maybe a free membership or give away a free prize. Michelle says a prize would be better because most people get there membership paid. Bill motioned and Michelle seconded that a prize drawing would be

held for attendees of the membership meeting. It was decided to give away a water proof camera which had already been purchased as a vendor prize anyway.

- We are contracted in Billings in 2015, then Bozeman in 2016 and then Great Falls in 2017. Holiday Inn Grand in Billings; Holiday Inn/Grantree in Bozo and the Heritage in Great Falls. Great Falls may have another convention center available by then although the Heritage is one of the cheaper facilities we use to have conferences.

5. 2015 Conference Update: Billings Holiday Inn Grand

6. Website Update—Cora/Nicole

- Nicole and Coralynn are working on – ghost site in place – starting to fill in MWEA part of it. Need to pool committee chairs and ask them what they want to see on the site ; have a need to fill the content of the site – will show faux website – maybe get some time to show what the site looks like to the members. Moved away from a login but maybe using a drop box for committees – and large files. Maybe store stuff on there so we don't have to pay for paper storage – too much can increase hosting fees. Integrate mass emails into the site for Robin to do it easier. Robin has a concern that her email will change Website address = Montanawater.org. Robin – maybe setup registration thru the website will save some money on what she does now. Maybe cutout PayPal and accept payment for the conference and it goes right into the account so we don't have to pay PayPal; Logan and Dan will assist with the website. Lots of good ideas on how to use the site.

7. Other Business

a. SYP Social

- Tomorrow night after the vendor social at the Montgomery Distillery. Some appetizers. Try to get word out.

b. Poster presentation

- Benjamin Hills from MSU will display this. Try to get over and see it.
- SJWP winner will also set up a poster.

c. Exhibitor Track—attendance at – try to get some attendance – will give it a shot. 15 minute intervals – no credits for these. Can't be a sales presentation for credit as per Robin. Nicole will monitor this. It will be in Bitterroot BC.

d. Exhibitor Appreciation

- i. Mark Sampson Water Control – he rounds up like 10 vendors a year to get booths filled. He asked about recognition. He's been a huge help. What do we do?: SS says a public reference of what he's done would be good. Maybe at the banquet by one of the presidents. Maybe when thanking the vendors for the hosted events. Maybe Wednesday lunch. Bill – then put it in fall newsletter. Gwen will put something together.

e. Introduction/recognition of new members/board members during conference: when?

- Had them stand up in the past. Do it Thursday at lunch. New members and board members. Do it with the bounties which are at Thursday lunch.
- Registration in the go forward will be required of speakers who are attending the conference in addition to giving their presentation. Will add it to the abstract.
- Dinner at Stone of Accord for the Boards tonight.
- Dan H – two lifetime achievement winners will be attending with guests – one of them will have guest. This guest will attend for free as both boards agree.

8. Adjourn: Bill motions to adjourn; Starr seconds. 6:01 P.M.