

**MSAWWA/MWEA BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES  
Monday April 25, 2016—4:00 pm  
Holiday Inn, Bozeman MT  
Room: University**

**Attendees:** Robin Barnes, MSAWWA Executive Secretary and MWEA Executive Director; Greg Lukasik, MSAWWA Past-Chair; Slim Miller, MSAWWA Chair; Collette Anderson, MSAWWA Chair Elect; Jeff Ashly, MSAWWA Senior Trustee; Wayne Lovelis, MSAWWA Junior Trustee; Logan McInnes, MSAWWA Section Director; Gene Koontz, AWWA President; David LaFrance, AWWA CEO; Nate Weisenburger, MSAWWA Secretary/Treasurer; Michele Marsh, MWEA Past President; Amy Deitchler, MWEA President; Starr Sullivan, MWEA President-Elect; Jeremy Perlinski, MWEA Vice President; Herb Bartle, MWEA Senior Trustee; Mike Abrahamson, MWEA Junior Trustee; Dana Audet, MWEA Secretary/Treasurer; Rodney Lance, incoming MWEA Secretary/Treasurer; Rika Lashley; Jody Allen; Tom Kunetz, WEF Board of Trustees.

**Call To Order:** Amy called the meeting to order at 4:14 p.m.

1. Introduction of board members & guests: Logan McInnis introduced David LaFrance and Gene Koontz from the AWWA organization. Amy Deitchler introduced Tom Kunetz from the WEF organization.

**Old Business:**

1. Review and Approval of Fall 2015 Meeting Minutes: Logan made a motion to approve the minutes. Starr seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**New Business:**

1. MWEA President's Report: Amy provided highlights.
  - a. Education Committee organizing pre-conference for next year.
  - b. Seven awards will be provided at the conference this year.
  - c. 133 MWEA members.
  - d. Long Range Planning Committee is revising documentation.
  - e. Pretreatment Committee – held a joint conference w/ METC; had 21 attendees.
  - f. Junior Stockholm Water Prize: the committee is reviewing the entries and will identify a recipient.
  - g. Stormwater Committee – MWEA is seeking active members.
  - h. MWEA will fill Junior Trustee and National Delegate positions at the membership meeting.
  - i. Rodney Lance has been identified to be the MWEA Secretary/Treasurer.
  - j. Charitable donation: MWEA will review in the fall and may rotate identified charitable organizations in the future.
  - k. Investments: MWEA does not plan to transition its investments to mutual funds.
  - l. MWEA members plan to be more involved in the S&YP committee.
  - m. Grants for teachers: received interest from four applicants; budget of \$2000.
  - n. MWEA discussed fundraising via the license plate; WEF is assisting.
2. MSAWWA Chair's Report: Slim provided highlights.
  - a. Budget update: MSAWWA switched a portion of investments to Vanguard investment account.
  - b. Director's Report: summarized the lead issue; member engagement (50,000); Path to One AWWA; total revenue of \$30 million; Water Equation Campaign operator scholarship; Total Water Solutions; AWWA India; EPA small grants program; and WIFIA update.

- c. Education: 58 preconference registrants.
- d. Legislative: John Alston and Nate Weisenburger attended the Water Matters! AWWA Fly-In.
- e. Membership: challenge funds were used to provide registration for new attendees; 258 members; met membership challenge goals.
- f. A total of 8 students registered for the conference.
- g. WFP fundraisers: raffle for fly rod; BBQ/smoker grill.
- h. Fuller Award: a nominee has been selected.
- i. Minor changes to bylaws are in progress.
- j. MSAWWA will have elections for the Junior Trustee and Section Director-Elect positions.
- k. Website revisions are needed to reflect that MSAWWA and MWEA are independent organizations and operate as partners; Robin will also manage her email signature moving forward.
- l. AWWA Water Operator scholarship opportunity.
- m. RMSO in 2017 – Whitefish; RMSO in 2016 (Hawaii)
- n. Conference registration: 245 attendees; 57 exhibitors; 65 vendors.
- o. Speaker reimbursement policy will be discussed later during this meeting.
- p. 2017 Conference in Great Falls; Fairmont not adequate space/rooms.

### 3. Joint Committee Reports:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Board Oversight</u>	<u>Committee Chair</u>
Cross-connection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four backflow prevention courses since last conference.</li> <li>• A booth is at conference.</li> </ul>	MSAWWA/MWEA Sec/Treasurer Nate W./Dana A.	Barb Coffman
Exhibitors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeff will obtain feedback from exhibitors and requested that others relay comments received during the conference.</li> </ul>	MSAWWA/MWEA Sr. Trustees Jeff A./Herb B.	Bill DeMeyer
Host City <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robin reported on efforts by the City of Bozeman and subcommittees.</li> </ul>	MSAWWA/MWEA Chair/President Slim M./Amy D.	John Alston
Information Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website update/revisions.</li> <li>• Historical photos will be posted on the website.</li> </ul>	MSAWWA/MWEA Jr. Trustees Wayne L./Mike A.	Nate Weisenburger
Lifetime Achievement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two awardees have been identified.</li> </ul>	MSAWWA/MWEA Directors Logan M./Cora R.	Paul LaVigne
Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four tracks on Wednesday and Thursday.</li> <li>• Accepted all but 6 abstracts.</li> </ul>	MSAWWA/MWEA Chair/President Slim M./Amy D.	Amy Deitchler
Public Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a newsletter with a target audience of public works directors and operators. First draft has been developed and will be provided via email.</li> </ul>	MSAWWA/MWEA Vice Chair/Pres. Elect Collette A./Starr S.	Rika Lashley

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public education materials on website.</li> </ul>		
<p>Scholarship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scholarship recipient will be attending the Wednesday luncheon.</li> </ul>	MSAWWA/MWEA Past Chair/Past Pres. Greg L./Michele M.	Coralynn Revis
<p>Student &amp; Young Professionals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee meetings</li> <li>MRWS social</li> <li>Keeley Barry attended the YP summit and provided an article for the newsletter.</li> <li>Poster competition this year</li> <li>Visited Carroll College</li> <li>MSU/Carroll/MT Tech Student Chapter initiative</li> <li>Committee meeting at conference</li> <li>Facebook page and social media outreach in progress; Facebook updates this week</li> <li>S&amp;YP Poster Competition winner will receive \$1500 expense reimbursement to attend ACE in June</li> <li>Poster session next year could be improved.</li> <li>Dave intends to step down as Chair; Keeley suggested as his replacement</li> </ul>	MSAWWA/MWEA Past Chair/Past Pres. Greg L./Michele M.	David Carlson

#### 4. 2016 Conference Report

- a. Attendance/vendors: board members will encourage attendees to have face time with vendors. MSAWWA will recognize new members at opening general session; MWEA will provide a similar list. Robin provided information on the location of sessions, breaks, luncheons, banquets, etc. First-time attendee head-count is substantial and could reduce profit given reduced registration fees. The hotels will charge an additional \$5,000 in facility rental fees due to not hitting targeted food/beverage amounts.
- b. Questions/issues
  - i. There will be a prize drawing for attending the Joint Membership meeting.
  - ii. Discussion regarding student registration fees: Logan mentioned membership challenge and efforts to encourage student attendance. A total of 9 (one more than identified above) student attendees are registered for the conference, probably due to location of conference in Bozeman. Logan asked if MWEA would be willing to partner on the cost moving forward. MWEA will consider the request on a case-by-case based on requests from MSAWWA.
  - iii. Introduction/recognition of new members/board members during conference at Thursday lunch: discussed earlier in the meeting.
    1. An effort will be made to connect first time attendees and new members with board members for mentoring purposes.
  - iv. Interface with exhibitors: discussed earlier in the meeting.
  - v. Speaker travel expense reimbursement: the issue was encountered this year for a pre-conference speaker. Criteria for consideration was discussed as was considering on a case by case basis. Herb made a motion to consider speaker

travel expenses reimbursement on a case by case basis. Collette seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5. 2017/2018 Conference Location/Rotation

- a. Fairmont Hot Springs: Robin reported that the venue has limited space for vendors, which would require use of hallway space, and the hotel only has 153 guest rooms. Fairmont Hot Springs was not identified as a feasible location for the conference.
- b. Annual Conference Locations: planned for Great Falls on May 1-4, 2017 or third week of April. The first week of May will conflict w/ Pacific Northwest conference. The annual conference will be held in Missoula in 2018.

6. Joint website and email signature potential changes

- a. The website and email signature used by Robin portrays MSAWWA/MWEA as a single organization. Based on preference and direction from AWWA, individual logos need to be displayed on the website, directory, programs, etc. Robin's email signature could be modified to reflect organizational representation, i.e. MSAWWA, MWEA, or both. Slim solicited ideas for consideration. David provided perspective and suggested adding "a partnership between..." language, as appropriate. Using joint conference language is fine. The website logo will be revised to revert back to individual logos.

7. Other Business

- a. Joint Membership Meeting agenda: Logan indicated that the Section Director nomination needs to be added to the agenda. The MWEA Junior Trustee, Delegate, and Secretary/Treasurer nominations were noted.
- b. The MSAWWA/MWEA Board dinner will be held at Santa Fe Reds at 6:00 pm.

8. Adjourn: Collette made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Greg seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:23 p.m.