



**MWEA BOARD MEETING AGENDA  
Monday April 25, 2016 — 2:00 PM.  
Holiday Inn, Bozeman  
Room: State**

**Call to Order** – Present: Amy Deitchler, Dana Audet, Rodney Lance, Starr Sullivan, Coralynn Revis, Herb Bartle, Michelle Marsh, Paul Abrahamson, Jeremy Perlinski.

**Introduction of guests Tom Kunez** was present - **Kelsey Hurst** will arrive tomorrow.

WEF Trustee - works in Chicago for the utility division. 1.1 billion mgd of wastewater in Chicago. Will talk about WEF and provide support for the organization tomorrow. Tom thanked Coralynn for setting everything up. Tom did some hiking yesterday in the Yellowstone Park area.

**Old Business:**

1. Review & Approve Fall Meeting Minutes – Starr motions to approve and seconded by Herb.
2. Budget Review – Dana A.

Starr says we need to get the information out about the scholarship so that it gets used. The board will make an effort to discuss and come up with ideas to market the program better. It can be used for any ww/w training.

**New Business:**

1. Budget Report – Dana A reported the budget is still in good shape.
2. MWEA Committee Reports:
  - Beneficial Re-use: No report.
  - Education: Jeremy - Will meet at conference to discuss what the pre-con will be next year. The MDEQ held three training sessions in Helena this year.
  - Government Affairs: Cora – no report on government affairs.
  - Honors/Awards: Michelle: turned it over to Jeremy. Jeremy told Bill he would take it over but turns out Bill is not retiring so Bill may continue as the lead for this committee.
    2. Bill Enright and Bill Bahr will be getting Lifetime Achievement awards. Glasgow is small system award winner. Dan Harmon is the Arthur Bedell award winner. Bill is interested in adding a Large System award. Starr says we may want to add a collection system and a rookie of the year award. Starr will volunteer to be on a committee to get

these awards off the ground. Tom will give out the Bedell at the Wednesday conference banquet.

- Long Range Planning: Jeremy said no one is on this committee. He asked Scott Murphy to chair this committee and he does not have the time. We need to get people to volunteer for this committee. The LRP will need to be updated as well. Michelle said maybe have the past president do it. Past President has been responsible for Strategic Annual plan. Michelle will do the current update and then turn it over to Past President which this year is Amy Deitchler.
  - Membership: Cora – we have 131 paid members. Relatively stable. Amy has been presenting to engineering students at the universities to get them interested in becoming members.
  - Pre-treatment: Jeremy – talked with Leann Books about the Committee. Six members = develop a MT pre-treatment group and do some public outreach. Did some training at the MT Rural water. It was good training. Made \$5-600 for the MWEA.
  - SJWP: Mike got an update from Kristi Kline. Still reviewing submittals but will get someone awarded before conference. UNC will be location of National. MWEA will provide airfare. National sponsor is Xylem.
  - Stormwater: Cora – last year one person came to the committee meeting. Need to recruit members to this committee. Wants to mimic WEF committee. Jeremy says we need to tap into a new demographic as wastewater people are not normally storm water people. Jeremy may be able to start with his company to see where they are at, and how to go about talking with other engineers and regulators. Amy will do the same with her firm to see what they say. Stormwater is still in its infancy but as it gains traction we will try to stay ahead of it. Michelle asks – what is the goal? Idea is to provide a networking platform that will bring other people into the MWEA. Outreach/training/get the word out/ assist with small and large committees. Stay abreast of regulations – some states are requiring treatment of Stormwater. HDR is creating an MS4 manual for the MT League of Cities and Towns. Mike says maybe we integrate this into the conference training. Amy suggests a Stormwater pre-conference. Tom suggests having someone from WEF assist and we could give him a call. Chris French is his name.
3. WEF delegate to attend WEFTEC this year in New Orleans—Cora R. will be on maternity leave. Need to send someone and need someone else to take the next three year shift. Amy is interested in becoming the new delegate. Starr said it was a great experience to go to WEFTEC as did Coralynn. Workgroups that the delegates are a part of meet on occasion throughout the year. Will nominate Amy at the membership. Starr is voting by proxy for Amy.
  4. WEF delegate position and nominations for this next 3 year cycle.  
  
Amy will be nominated at the membership meeting.
  5. Nominations for Junior Delegate.  
  
Ross Mollenhey, Paul Skubinna and Rika Lashley were nominated.
  6. Secretary position replacement—Dana nominates Rodney Lance.

7. Where do we want to give our charity donation this year? Cora R – may want to re-think who we give the donation to. Watershed Network has asked for money. Michelle suggests “Engineers Without Borders”. Starr says we may want to put together a list. Someone different each year is an option. Maybe make a decision in the fall as to whom we give it to. The Board decided to wait until the fall meeting to discuss/decide.
8. Carryover discussion from last meeting:
  - a. If we want to invest our CD's in mutual funds? Mutual funds have not done real well in the last six months. Market is bumping up against some highs right now so may not be a great time to jump in. The Board decided to leave the investments as is for now.
  - b. Discussion on Board meeting being Monday night or having on the day of the Pre-Con. Cora spoke with Robin and she said it will probably not work. May not go anywhere with this idea so did not discuss any further.
  - c. YP sponsorship each year? Asking for WEF involvement along with AWWA chapter? Cora says we have been sponsoring sending someone. Do we need to identify someone who is more proactive on our behalf? Maybe we need to identify a YP to join the committee. It is currently really geared towards the water side. 35 years or less than 10 years in the industry are the guidelines.
9. Preconference 2017—Amy D says we need to think of topics. Amy had previously mentioned Stormwater as a possible topic and it might be a good one.
10. Grants for Teachers application—Amy D – gave away two grants this past year. One more application from Smith Elementary in Helena – requesting \$1500 for equipment for some ponds and ecosystems for this year. OPI was not helpful. Amy started sending it to superintendents. Spoke with Allen Kelm in Miles City. There is definite interest out there. Maybe state in the application that we are not funding technology such as I-Pads/computers etc. Jeremy suggests we establish a committee for this program – maybe public education or outreach. Cora suggests maybe a specific committee just for “Grants for Teachers”. Amy asks do we want to ask MSAWWA to be a part of it. Michelle says no but Amy is open to maybe getting them on board to assist. Michelle motions to make it a committee – Herb seconds and it passes. We will increase the “Grants for Teachers” line item to \$2000.
11. Education Scholarship: Discussed how to get the interest up on the education scholarships – how to get the word out. Need to mention it at Rural Water and at our conference and mention the “Grants for Teachers” as well.
12. MWEA pins—how are they to be distributed? Will discuss at joint meeting.
13. Starr will re-connect with WEF about the license plate. Do we stay with “Protecting Montana’s Water Resources”? Need to come up with a design.

**Adjourn: Starr motions – Herb seconds 3:45 p.m.**