

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 21, 2007 MEETING  
NEW JERSEY WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION  
NORTH JERSEY SECTION**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Vice President Bob Cornetto called the meeting to order at Manny's Restaurant, Moonachie N.J. at 6:37 PM.

**ROLL CALL:** Robert Androsiglio, Henry Aarsel, David Baker, Steven E. Baldwin, Angelo Baron, Brian Beckmeyer, David Biasi, Dan Bigler, Charles Blumeling, Ann Bonaccorso, Francis Bonaccorso, Joe Bonaccorso, Mario Bonaccorso, Gilbert Bowers, Greg Burde, Vincent Caetero, Bill Cleary, Ron Conte, Michael Coppoloua, Bob Cornetto, Charles Cuyulis, Steve D'Achino, Jim De Block, Vicky De Block, Robert De Block, Tory De Block, Linda Dowhan, Steve Dowhan, Ted Dowhan, Jason Doyle, Ed Dunn, Allen Earl, Robert Fischer, Frederick Forte, Don Georgakis, Tom Hayes, Ken Hrasdzira, Lou Jacob, Dick Jenkins, Henry Johnson, Dennis Jones, Jack Kennedy, Harry Ladisheff, Donna Lyons, Bob McAdams, Zach Main, John, McCann, John McNamara, John Minnett, Kevin O'Brian, Frank Pestana, Edward W. Poyer, Rick Quintieri, Arnold Raquet, Phil Reeve, Bob Ryan, Don Schalch, John Shallbetter, Bruce Smith, Michael L. Snyder, Edward Switay, Ramon Vara, Jim Wancho, Steve Wendowski, Bruce Wrede, and Edward Yennie

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Vice President Cornetto asked everyone to review the minutes of the September 13, 2006 meeting. A motion was made by Joe Bonaccorso and seconded by David Baker. The motion was approved unanimously. Motion Carried

**Presidents Opening Remarks:** Bob Cornetto; In light of the vast number of members and additional mailing costs minutes for future meetings will be available on the NJWEA website for review by the membership prior to the next meeting.

**RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS:** Steve D'Achino, Steve Dowhan, Dave Baker, Ken Hrazdzira, Jim De Block and Joe Bonaccorso.

**RECOGNITION OF STATE OFFICERS:** Joe Bonaccorso, NJWEA President.

**Bills:** The following bills were presented by Frank Pestana for ratification by the membership:

HNS Co.	Reimb.06 GO Raffle Tickets	\$30.03	Ruppert's	9-13-06 Meeting	\$743.30
Meadowlands Race Track	06 Night @ Races	\$1,973.57	Frank Pestana	Fruit Basket	\$81.94
Brian Bigler	Reimb. for flowers	\$53.50	Dave Baker	Reimb. for 06AF Prizes	\$551.96
HNS Co.	Reimb. 06 AF Beer/Wine	\$346.81	Robert Cornetto	Reimb. for 06 AF supplies	\$33.27
Baskingers	06 AF Catering	\$5,159.00	Prestige Party Rental	06 AF Night Table Rent	\$225.00
Glen Rock Vol. Amb.	In Mem. of Ken H's Father	\$50.00	Frank Pestana	Fruit Basket	\$83.94
La Reggia	Ex. Committee Meeting 1/5/07	\$160.00	Macular Deg. Foundation	Mem. of Rob V's mother	\$100.00
NJWEA	Student Program/Hosp. Suite	\$500.00	Dee Productions	07 DD DJ deposit	\$495.00
NJWEA	Reimb. for Envelopes 07DD	\$328.00	Ralph LaMendola	Reimb. for Postage, 07DD	\$399.00
Tally's Trophy	07DD Award Plaques	\$304.25	Meadowlands	06 Night @ Races 13 Add tix	\$569.27
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$12,187.84</b>			

Motion to approve the bills was made by David Baker, seconded by Greg Burde. The motion was approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**Executive Officers Report:**

**President's Report:** Bob Cornetto, the Section Budget has been submitted to the State Association. We have budgeted more funds in the education line item and are currently updating the scholarship program. We have a tentative site (BCUA) and date (2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of April) for the backflow certification course. Those interested in attending, please see Steve Dowhan later in the meeting. Co-Sponsor is NEWWA. Attendance is limited to 24. Thank you to Chuck Cuyulis of Engineered Solutions Corp for the outstanding TCH program offered prior to the meeting.

**Vice Presidents Report:** Bob Cornetto; No Report.

**Secretary Report:** Robert De Block; No Report.

**Treasurer Report:** Frank Pestana; We have spoken to both the Fiesta and the DJ, Dee Productions, they have received our deposits and everything is set for our Annual Dinner Dance.

**Trustees Report:** Steve Dowhan, Ralph LaMendola; No Report.

## **Standing Committees**

**Membership Committee** Mark Meneghin; No Report.

**Policy and Advisory Committee** Dave Baker; The Committee is reviewing the constitution and by-laws to ensure and will present changes as necessary.

**Nominating Committee** Ken Hrasdzira; the committee nominates Stephen Dowhan for a second 3 year term as Trustee, the term is to be from May 2007 through May 2010. The Committee is prepared to make the following nominations for NJWEA Delegates and Alternates to take office at the conclusion of the Annual Business Meeting at the conference. Delegates: Robert Cornetto, Stephen D'Achino, Robert De Block, Richard Jenkins, Frank Pestana, Stephen Dowhan, Kenneth Hrasdzira, Ralph LaMendola, David N. Baker and Michael Lyons. Alternate Delegates: Robert Grodeska, Donna Lyons, Gregory Burde, James De Block, Francis Bonaccorso.

**Education Committee:** Steve Dowhan; Scholarship recipients have been selected: Greg Cardena, Katherine Jacob, Ian Bigler and Steven Sablack. The recipients will be recognized and receive their awards at the Annual Dinner Dance. We are continuing to prepare for the backflow certification course and registration will be offered to members in attendance first. If anyone is interested please let Steve Dowhan know.

**Ethics and Practices:** Jack Lagrosa, No Report.

**Auditing Committee** Ralph LaMendola, No Report.

**Awards Committee** Bob Cornetto, North Jersey Section Awards will be presented at the Frank S. Miller Dinner Dance. Outhouse Awards: Mario Bonaccorso and Frank Pestana, Benefactor/Supporter Award: Schoor DePalma. The T. William Cleveland Award recipient will be announced at the Dinner. The North Section will be well represented in Atlantic City during the annual NJWEA Conference. Congratulations to: Joe Bonaccorso who will receive the "Croft Award", Robert Fischer who will receive the "Public Education Award", Charlie Moeller who will receive the "Joe Bonaccorso Educator Award", Robert Cornetto who will receive the "NJWEA Service Award – North Jersey Section".

**Meeting and Programs Committee** Bob Cornetto; The NJWEA Technology Transfer Seminar will be held March 6-8<sup>th</sup>. Among the many programs are Licensed Operator Review, Power of Spreadsheets, Lab Session, Regulatory Update and Collections Systems. March 10<sup>th</sup> is the Annual Frank S. Miller Dinner Dance to be held at the Fiesta, Rt. 17 South, Wood Ridge. Our next section meeting will be April 18<sup>th</sup>. The location will be selected when the date of the Backflow Certification Course is finalized. Should it fall on the third week of April the meeting will be held at Manny's otherwise it will be at Rupperts. The Annual NJWEA Conference is April 30<sup>th</sup> – May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Tropicana. Jim De Block noted that the exhibit areas are sold out. There will be 30 sessions on a wide variety of topics and it has been an outstanding program assembled by the Program Committee. Ron Conte noted, new this year is the Public Works Backhoe Training session to be held on Tuesday.

## **Special Committees**

**Golf Outing** John McNamara; The 2007 golf outing will be at the Water Gap Country Club on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Arrangements will be slightly different this year in that we will have a buffet breakfast from 9-9:45 rather than lunch at the turn. Start time will follow breakfast at 10AM. Dinner will follow at 3:30 PM. \$90/person.

**Life membership committee** Mark Meneghin, No report.

**Affiliates Night** Bob Cornetto: Affiliates Night was another huge success. There were 32 exhibitors and 231 attendees. The net profit to the section from the night was \$3,836.93.

**Social Functions Committee** Ken Hrasdzira; The “Night at the Races” on October 7 2006 was a great success. 68 tickets were sold and the section netted \$227.28. Ken is looking to phase out of this committee and anyone interested in working on this event should let him know.

**Dinner Dance Committee** Steve D’Achino; As previously mentioned the venue has changed to the Fiesta and will be held on March 10<sup>th</sup>. We are in a much larger room than we are customary to, will have a cocktail hour prior to the dinner, a 5 hour open bar and a variety of dinner selections and a Venetian Table with international coffee’s following dinner. Cost is \$110/couple. The Membership Book is being completed, make sure to get your ads in as soon as possible.

**NJWEA Executive Officer Report** Joe Bonaccorso; Jack Lagrosa is currently in VA. He has been invited by WEF to give input on the new membership categories. Many MA’s across the country are not fairing as well as the NJWEA and they are seeking our expertise on growing membership. The NJ Directors for WEF are there to represent NJ on changes in governing issues within WEF. We are making sure NJ’s concerns are being heard and you will be hearing more about the governance issues in the near future. We have realigned the date of the Technology Transfer Seminar in 2009 so that it will fall in September, prior to the end of the 3 year TCH cycle in order to incorporate last minute TCHs. We have enabled NJDEP to access our database of TCHs so they can identify licensed operators who have completed the required TCHs. Unfortunately NJAWWA, the New Jersey Water Association(Rural Water) and Rutgers have been unable to provide suitable access to NJDEP as we have. If you have acquired all of your TCHs with the NJWEA they you will not be audited by DEP. If however you have credits with any of the aforementioned groups the DEP will not be aware of your credits and as a result you may be audited. The NJDEP is very happy to go with our records and I am proud to say that once again the NJWEA lead the pack and the other organizations have not be able to duplicate our efforts. We are in excess of 2900 members and that fluctuates based on the TCH cycle, time of year and how quickly individuals renew their memberships. The NJWEA awards scholarships totaling \$25,000 dollars. Scholarships are listed on [www.njwea.org](http://www.njwea.org). We have added \$5,000 in scholarships this year and have created the Jean Decker scholarship. If you have any ideas for training topics please let us know so we can incorporate it into one of our training sessions.

**Executive Directors Report** No report.

**Old Business** Steve D’Achino; with the new structure of the NJWEA our section now has over 800 members. The costs associated with mailing minutes to all members is significant and the Section is looking to move into the information age and save money by making minutes available online. Bob Cornetto; we will still be mailing notices and flyers for other function it is only minutes that will not be mailed. Jim De Block; to update your e-mail address in the association database you need to visit [www.wef.org](http://www.wef.org) and log onto the “MY WEF” page. From there you can edit your personal information including your e-mail address.

**New Business** David Baker; Encourages everyone affected by the phosphorous limits to check out the new commentary on the issue at the NJDEP website.

**Treasurer’s Report** Frank Pestana:

**For the period of 9/1/06 – 1/31/07**

Opening balance	\$48,526.92
Deposits	\$16,838.00
Cleared Transactions	\$10,899.59
Uncleared Transactions	\$1,626.25
Closing balance	\$52,839.08
Scholarship CDs	\$20,000.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$72,839.08</b>

Motion to accept Treasurer’s report by David Baker, seconded by Mario Bonaccorso.

Discussion: None

Motion approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

**Good and Welfare** Past member Douglas Adamo passed away on Monday. Judy Miller, longtime member of the Association has passed away after a long illness.

**Door Prizes**

Door Prizes for this meeting will be 2 vouchers to attend our next dinner meeting free of charge. Winners were: Mario Bonaccorso and Ken Hrasdzira.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by David Baker, seconded by Jim Wancho and approved unanimously.