

**MINUTES OF THE MAY 23, 2007 MEETING  
NEW JERSEY WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION  
NORTH JERSEY SECTION**

**CALL TO ORDER:** President Brian Bigler called the meeting to order at La Reggia Restaurant, Secaucus, N.J. at 6:30 PM.

**ROLL CALL:** David Baker, Brian Bigler, Brian Beckmeyer, Joseph Beckmeyer, Ann Bonaccorso, Francis Bonaccorso, Joe Bonaccorso, Mario Bonaccorso, Greg Burde, Bill Cleary, Bob Cornetto, Steve D’Achino, Jim De Block, Robert De Block, Steve Dowhan, Bob Fischer, Tony Graham, Tom Hayes, Maurice Houckes Jr., Jack Kennedy, Matthew M. Klug, Jack Lagrosa, Ralph La Mendola, John McNamara, Kevin O’Brian, John Pampaloni, Frank Pestana, Arnold Raquet, John Reverendo, Bob Ryan, Jay Switi, Adeline Theobald, Ramon Vara, Jim Wancho and Edward Yennie.

Also Present: Robert Adinski, Capt. Bill Sheehan.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** President Bigler asked everyone to review the minutes of the April 18, 2007 meeting. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mario Bonaccorso and seconded by Jim Wancho.  
Discussion: None  
The motion was approved unanimously. Motion Carried

**Presidents Opening Remarks:** Brian Bigler thanked Capt. Bill Sheehan for his presentation and expressed the hope that all who attended found it as informative as he had. He reiterated that one of his goals as President is to focus on educational opportunities for the membership. The eco-cruise complemented our goals well and a 2 hour nitrogen and phosphorus pre-meeting seminar is being worked on for September 19<sup>th</sup> by Jim Wancho. He continues to work on the backflow course and hopes it will be scheduled for this summer. More programs will be offered as long as attendance can sustain them. It as been a very good year so far.

**RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS:** Bob Fisher, Steve D’Achino , Dave Baker , Steve Dowhan, Jim De Block, Jack Lagrosa and Joe Bonaccorso.

**RECOGNITION OF STATE OFFICERS:** Joe Bonaccorso, NJWEA President, Jack Lagrosa, NJWEA Executive Director

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

Frank Pestana	Fruit Basket – Gary Fare’s Family	\$88.94
Jack Kennedy	Seed Money for 07 Golf Outing	\$500.00
NJWEA	Envelopes/Postage	\$387.00
Rupperts Restaurant	Section Meeting – 4/18/07	\$412.20
Aramark Corp.	Deposit for Night @ Races 07	\$863.25
Hackensack Riverkeeper	Deposit for Eco-Cruise	\$100.00

**TOTAL**           **\$2,351.39**

Motion to approve the bills was made by Joe Bonaccorso, seconded by Steve Dowhan. The motion was approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:**

**President’s Report:** Brian Bigler, The nominating committee is working on nominations for next year. We are developing a Manual of Practice for the section that will be in conformance with the NJWEA Constitution and By-Laws. We are also revamping the details of our annual scholarships.

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

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

**Treasurer Report:** Frank Pestana; No Report. .

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

**BREAK FOR PRESENTATION BY CAPTIAN BILL SHEEHAN, HACKENSACK RIVERKEEPER.**

## **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**Membership Committee:** NO REPORT

**Policy and Advisory Committee** Brian Bigler; There will be a brief meeting of the Policy and Advisory Committee following this regular meeting to discuss the Manual of Practice for the section.

**Nominating Committee** Dave Baker, A full slate of nominations will be presented for the first reading at the September meeting.

**Education Committee:** Jim Wancho; There will be a session on nitrogen and phosphorous removal prior to the September meeting. Details will follow

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

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

Brian Bigler; All information needed to address the IRS issues has been acquired from NJWEA President Joe Bonaccorso and has been forwarded to the auditor. A letter is being drafted for execution by the President and this issue will be finalized.

**Awards Committee:** Brian Bigler; There will be a meeting in September to discuss nominations for state awards. If you have a recommendation for a worthy recipient please forward me the information.

**Meeting and Programs Committee** Bob Cornetto; No Report

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEES:**

**Golf Outing** John McNamara; The 2007 golf outing will 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 9-945 rather than lunch at the turn. Start time will follow breakfast at 10AM. Dinner will follow at 3:30 PM. Each golfer will receive a ticket that can be redeemed for a drink at the halfway house. Cost is \$90/person. At this point we have 22 golfers and 11 sponsors. Please get you registration and sponsorship information in as soon as possible. If you have any questions you can reach me at [jmcnamara@jmeuc.com](mailto:jmcnamara@jmeuc.com)

Bob Cornetto; information for the golf outing, registration and sponsorship forms are available at [www.NJWEA.org](http://www.NJWEA.org)

**Life membership committee** No report.

**Affiliates Night** Robert De Block; Affiliates Night is scheduled for November 29<sup>th</sup> at the Meatcutters Hall on Paterson Ave. in Little Falls. Registration information will follow.

**Social Functions Committee** Brian Bigler; After many years as Chairman of the Social Functions Committee Ken Hrasdzira is stepping down and I would like to introduce the new Chairman Mario Bonaccorso.

**Dinner Dance Committee** Bob Cornetto; As reported at the last meeting the dinner dance was a successful event. We are booked at the Fiesta for next year.

**NJWEA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT:** Joe Bonaccorso; We have been urging the Federation to become more responsive in processing the membership information we forward them. WEF is so far behind in updating NJWEA membership information they don't know what to do with us. We are the number 1 member association in the nation. California will start to sneak up but when WEF processes our membership information they fall behind again. Towards the end of June we will be in Baltimore for a conference. As you may know there is an effort to increase dues but NJWEA has teamed up with NYWEA, NEWEA and PWEA and signed a letter indicating our opposition to a dues increase without substantial increases value. Between the 4 MAs that have signed on we represent 40% of the entire federation. WEFTEC is coming up in October. Please get your reservations in as hotels and flights are filling up fast.

**Executive Directors Report:** Jack Lagrosa; The NJWEA luncheon at WEFTEC will be on Monday at a restaurant near the convention center. The registration form will be in the June newsletter. All the hotels near the convention center are booked. If you have not already it is importation to make your arrangements as soon as possible.

Bob Fisher; The fall Technology Transfer Seminar that typically is scheduled for October has been moved up this year to September 25-27<sup>th</sup>. I have been assisting the NJWEA on the audit of TCHs and nearly all of the problems they are encountering have to do with other associations. The NJWEA database is very through an as a result very few of our members are being audited.

**Old Business:** Brian Bigler; I have been the recipient of the Shaw Scholarship on May occasions and I implore you to apply or tell others about the NJWEA scholarships. There is a lot of money available through scholarships and the membership should take advantage of it.

**New Business:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:** Frank Pestana;  
For the period of 3/31/07 – 4/30/07

Opening balance	\$46,502.04
Deposits	\$4,658.07
Cleared Transactions	\$3,146.21
Uncleared Transactions	\$2,663.25
Closing balance	\$45,350.65
Scholarship CDs	\$20,000.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$65,350.65</b>

Motion to accept Treasurer's report by Steve D'Achino, seconded by David Baker.

Discussion: None

Motion approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

**Good and Welfare** Joe Bonaccorso; George Moussab who was a very active member of the association and retired as Superintendent of West Paterson Pollution Control has passed away. He was also former Chief of WPF. He was always helping out at the conference and managed the hospitality room. He was the type of guy we all would be fortunate to become. He was a Shoveler and received the T. William Cleveland Award and Section Supporter Award. He was one of the individuals who took me under his arm and encouraged me to get involved in the association. At this point there was a moment of silence for all of those pillars of the association who have preceded us and George Moussab in particular. Johnny Covello, brother to Rosemarie Lyons passed away. Despite the challenges he faced he was an upbeat, loving and caring person, the kind of man who brings joy to his family. There is no doubt Johnny is in God's arms but I ask that you keep Rosemarie, Mike, Donna and their entire family in you thoughts as they are suffering a great loss at this time.

On a happier note Steve Dowhan's daughter was just married but unfortunately she married a mechanical engineer.

**Door Prizes:** Benefactors – Beckmeyer Engineering  
Winner: Jack Kennedy

The next meeting is September 19<sup>th</sup> at Rupperts Restaurant and will be preceded by a 2 hour seminar.  
[www.njwea.org/north-section/index.php](http://www.njwea.org/north-section/index.php)

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Fran Bonaccorso, seconded by Jack Lagrosa and approved unanimously.