

NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION  
SOUTH JERSEY SECTION  
Minutes of the March 9, 2023 Business Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance

The business meeting of the New Jersey Environment Association South Section was called to order by President Joe Pantalone at 17:42 hours at The Crab Trap located at 2 Broadway in Somers Point, New Jersey. The following members were present at roll call:

Joe Pantalone, President  
Steve Blankenship, Vice President  
Kathy Collinge, Treasurer  
Kevin Whitney, Secretary  
Frank Deyhle, Trustee  
Rick Eustace, Trustee  
Rocco Maiellano, Trustee  
Bob Carlson, Past President

**Approval of Minutes:** President Joe Pantalone made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2023 business meeting, approved by Frank Deyhle, seconded by Dennis Palmer and unanimously approved.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**President's Report:** Joe Pantalone

- The Executive Committee met via Zoom on Friday, March 3, 2023. In addition to the various committee reports overviews that will follow from the respective Committee representatives, the following items were discussed by the Committee.
  - A request by the Recording Secretary to have all reports by Committee Chairs as well as the Officers in writing in the advance of any meeting.
  - Reaffirmation by the Delegates to attend the NJWEA session to be held at the Eatontown Sheraton on April 14, 2023.
  - Development of a definitive schedule for Regular and Executive Meetings that by the By-Laws each are required to occur 4 times per year. Kevin Whitney and I in concert with Frank Deyhle will work on this so we can better plan for attendance and venues.
  - To encourage advanced on-line registration for dinner meetings, the Committee unanimously voted to impose a \$10 additional fee for registration at the door. This will allow a proper headcount for the selected venue and less last minute activity on the night of the event.
- PFAS - As reported last meeting, I am the Chair of the AEA's PFAS Committee. The uniform sampling workplan we developed has been finalized and was introduced at last month after the AEA PFAS Committee has had one last chance to review and accept. I will have the plan and the introductory memo forwarded to the South Section members if any member of the NJWEA who is not a member of AEA can participate.

- Earlier we reported a reluctance to test since there is concern that voluntarily submitting results to the NJDEP will ultimately be used against us. The AEA was successful in having NJDEP pass an Administrative Order that presents a permit shield.
- Vendor's Day - The annual NJWEA South Section Vendors Day in conjunction with the South Jersey Water Professionals Association took place on February 3, 2023 at the Scottish Rite Auditorium in Collingswood.
  - Many thanks to Chairman, Bill LaPorte and South Section Treasurer, Kathy Collinge for their work on this annual event to make it the success that it is.
  - Following that event, the executive committee held a postmortem meeting to discuss the day's events and develop a plan to get more assistance and define roles and responsibilities in advance of next year's events. A Teams meeting will be scheduled with SJWPA in the upcoming weeks to further this cause.
- ACUA Earth Day Festival - NJWEA will be a Vendor at the ACUA's 31st Annual on April 23, 2023. NJWEA is seeking volunteers to assist with manning the booth. The event is attended by over 8000 patrons annually and is one of the largest of its kind.
  - Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Rick Eustace ([reustace@njwea.org](mailto:reustace@njwea.org)).
- Next Meeting - The next meeting of the South Section will be held in May or June and most likely be held again at the Cape May Zoo. Details TBD.

#### **Vice President's Report: Steve Blankenship**

- We award four \$1500 scholarships a year. The Joseph W. Manganaro Scholarship Award, Blake Maloney Scholarship Award, Robert Ingles Scholarship Award and the Memorial Scholarship.
- Scholarship application deadline has been extended to May 15, 2023.

#### **Treasurer's Report: Kathy Collinge**

- Association checking account balance as of February 28, 2023 was \$43,086.22.
- The Section's Harbor Lights Financial Group Investment portfolio for January 31, 2023 had a closing value of \$21,935.37. This value includes (3) \$6000.00 CDs with maturity dates of March 2023, May and November 2024. The cash and sweep balance is \$3,935.97. A copy of the statement is available.
  - A \$6000 CD matured on March 6, 2023. On March 3<sup>rd</sup> the Executive Committee approved the purchase of a \$6000 dollar two-year CD at 5.0%.
- The most recent reconciliation, current budget vs. actual reports and profit/loss statements are submitted for ratification. The reports are available for anyone who would like to look at them.
  - Joe Pantalone made a motion to approve the reported reconciliation, current budget vs. actual report and profit/loss statement, approved by Joe Pantalone, seconded by Steve Blankenship and unanimously approved.

## **Secretary's Report: Kevin Whitney**

- Membership Report - I have received a South Section membership report for 2023 and will be reviewing and developing a more concise email list to use that does not result in an 'email blast' to all NJWEA members so we can better target our membership and potential members.
- Upcoming Conferences and Events
  - NJWEA Tech Transfer Registration is open, March 27-30 – Eatontown, NJ
  - Annual Conference held May 8-12 in Atlantic City, information forthcoming.
  - Cape May County Earth Day Celebration – April 22, 10:00 – 3:00 at the Cape May County Park Zoo
- Future Scheduling of Meetings
  - Reiterating from President's Report – We will target to schedule events earlier so that registration opens at least 3-4 weeks in advance and encourage online registration by increasing day-of/at-the-door registration fees – we need to afford more accurate numbers to our vendors to provide services.
  - We are developing a set Schedule of Events in advance to inform the membership of targeted dates for future Business and Executive Meetings.
  - If anyone has program ideas for TCH's at future events, please pass along your suggestions.
  - We have two more Business Meetings to plan in 2023, likely the Cape May County Park Zoo and Carlucci's Waterfront
  - If anyone has other suggestions, please share – considering more relaxed settings, such as a brewery with pizza and wings – could incorporate, TCH credits, trivia, cornhole competition, etc. – need feedback from the membership if interested.

## **Past President's Report: Bob Carlson**

- Working with the Biosolids Committee.
- Assisting at Tech Transfer.
  - Joe presented Bob with a Past-President Award.

## **NJWEA Report:**

- The NJWEA conference brochure is live on the website.
- Sponsorship opportunities are still available. We have a running banner on our homepage showing all the conference sponsors and the sponsors website can be reached by clicking the logo.
- The exhibit area is filled, we are now filling the wildwood exhibit area.
- Scholarships applications are available on the website.
  - Applications are sent to Dr. Strom, even though his reply message says he is retired, he is still accepting the scholarship applications.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Health & Safety:** Harry Smith and Daren DiFonzo, No Report

**Memberships:** Vacant

**Sick & Welfare:** Rocco Maiellano

- Frank Hartman had surgery.

**Nominating & Awards:** Rocco Maiellano

- All awards are in, all except for one will be presented.
- The Awards dinner is the night of Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup> and we are having the ceremony upstairs.
- This will be a fun night while we recognize members who do special things.

**Affiliates:** Bill LaPorte

- Vendor's Day 2023 was our biggest success to date in regard to generating income for both of our respective scholarship committees producing a total profit of \$8,553.24 (see attached accounting sheet).
- We sold a total of 69 tables.
- Total vendor headcount for lunch was 118.
- Total guest attendance was 155 giving us a total headcount of 273 for lunch.
- Special thanks to Core & Main for sponsoring the breakfast. Core & Main has already volunteered to do this again for next year as well.
- All PO's that were received have been invoiced. Once these invoices are paid, the NJWEA South Section will be issuing a check in the amount of \$4,276.62, to the SJWPA.
- To date, we still have an outstanding amount due of \$2,403.60 (PO's, Invoice #7995, and Breakfast Sponsors).
- In closing, we received a record amount of PO's ahead of time. As a result of this, we had very few walk-ins. Receiving PO's ahead of time in lieu of having a large number of walk-ins works best as this allows for us to get a more accurate headcount to the caterer which improves our bottom line (final headcount to the caterer was 275 and our actual lunchtime attendance was 273).
- Vendor's Day 2024 is tentatively planned for Friday 2/2/24, using the same venue and caterer. More to come as planning continues. Anyone wishing to help with the Committee, please send me your contact information at: WLaPorte@Envirep.com.

**Industrial:** Chris Jepson, report submitted

- We are still working on putting together a complete industrial WWTP tour and South Section group meeting. I recently visited the Oatly WWTP in Millville. They make oat milk there. Very nice and high tech – great wwtp with both activated sludge and DAF units – unusual to see both processes at any treatment plant – municipal or industrial. Worthy of our group's interest. If nothing else comes up – I make a motion to contact Oatly and set up a visit. Dates and times must be ironed out and approved by our President.
  - Chris made a motion to contact Oatly and set up a visit, approved by Rocco Maiellano, seconded by Frank Deyhle and unanimously approved.
- Please contact me with any other ideas for an industrial meeting venue. Several ideas have been forwarded but none have come to fruition. Who has major industrial dischargers in their area?

Who has facilities that reuse their wastewater in innovative ways? Please check with any that may be interesting for our membership to visit.

- The Industrial committee is in need of a few more members. If you are interested, please contact President Pantalone or me.
- Please contact me with any questions or comments, 609-689-1100.

**Legislative Report:** Dennis W. Palmer

- One of the biggest news is the Governor introduced his budget to a joint session of the Senate and Assembly. Soon both houses will go to budget break and have budget hearing in the various committees. The following are bills of interest to the association and its members.

**A4013 / S484** Requires each government entity in this State to conduct review of cybersecurity infrastructure and make recommendations.

**S3565**

Establishes "Energy Infrastructure Public-Private Partnerships Program" and related financing program in NJ Infrastructure Bank; and authorizes certain energy contracts under "Public School Contracts Law" and "Local Public Contracts Law" up to 30 years.

**S3282**

Requires DEP and BPU to study and promote use of microplastics filtering systems and technologies in New Jersey.

**Bill S3437**

Requires person selling or transporting grease to possess documentation of origin of grease.

**Bill S3649**

Prohibits sale of non-flushable disposable wipes.

**Program:** Frank Deyhle

- Ordering 50 tickets for the Phillies game and fireworks for Friday, June 30, 2023.
- Attended the State meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup> at the Sheraton.
- Scheduled the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Crab Trap.
- Attended the South section Executive Board meeting by Zoom on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- At the Executive Board meeting it was discussed to have 1hr TCH at each meeting.
- Attended the WEF
- Attended the Quarterly meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup>.
- There are three WEFMAX coming up the next couple of months, April and May 2023.
- Below are changes to the Delegates-at-Large procedures and voted on and passed
  - 1.51 As the representational body of the federation it's important for the HOD to reflect the composition of WEF. As such, the selection of Delegates-at-Large presents an opportunity to address the need to increase the number of underrepresented demographic groups (e.g., age, profession, race, ethnicity, gender, etc.) in the HOD
  - 1.5.2 Each year, using the WEF DEI Scorecard and other reasonable means, the HOD Nominating committee will determine which demographic groups are underrepresented in the HOD and encourage HOD members to invite peers and other WEF members from these groups to apply for Delegates-at Large.

**Golf Outing:** Joe Rizzuto

- NJWEA - South Section Golf Outing is Friday September 22, 2023 at Valleybrook Country Club in Blackwood, NJ
- Former Golf Committee members who would like to stay on the Committee and those who would like to join the Golf Committee, please contact me at [jvrizzuto@gmail.com](mailto:jvrizzuto@gmail.com) or at [rizzutojv@cmcmua.com](mailto:rizzutojv@cmcmua.com)
- A Golf Committee meeting will take place in the near future.

**Ladies Night:** Josh Palombo, No Report

**Scholarship Awards:** Steve Blankenship

- We award four \$1500 scholarships a year. The Joseph W. Manganaro Scholarship Award, Blake Maloney Scholarship Award, Robert Ingles Scholarship Award and the Memorial Scholarship.
- Scholarship application deadline has been extended to May 15, 2023.

**Young Professionals:** No Report

**Archives:** Kathy Collinge, No Report

**Old Business:** Nothing to Report

**Good of the Membership:**

- The NJWEA convention needs south section bartenders to volunteer on Monday and Tuesday nights at the Hospitality Suite. Monday night is for Operations Challenge volunteers and Teams.
- Introduction and affiliation by the Board Members and guests.
- Rocco brought a birthday cake to celebrate Jeannie Maiellano.
- Live tulips were gifted to the ladies.

**Adjournment / Time:**

Joe Pantalone made a motion to adjourn the meeting, approved by Bob Carlson, seconded by Blake Maloney and unanimously approved at 18:20 hours.