

NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION
SOUTH JERSEY SECTION
Minutes of the December 7, 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 14:18 hours at Villa Fazzolari located at 821 Harding Hwy in Buena, New Jersey. The following members were present at roll call:

Joe Pantalone, President
Steve Blankenship, Vice President
Kathy Collinge, Treasurer
Kevin Whitney, Secretary
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 June 22, 2023 business meeting, approved by Kevin Whitney, seconded by Joe Rizzuto and unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

President's Report: Joe Pantalone

- Attended the Executive Committee meeting in Eatontown on September 8, 2023.
- Attended and presented at the Technical Transfer on September 12, 2023.
- Assisted with manning the NJWEA booth at the League of Municipalities on November 16, 2023.
- As Chair of the AEA's PFAS Committee, we released our uniform sampling workplan to our members and many have started utilizing the plan. This plan was endorsed by NJDEP. On Tuesday, September 12, 2023, we presented a summary of the workplan at the Technical Transfer.
- Committees' goals are to eliminate and/or consolidate to make more effective were warranted and to be specific of the expectations.
 - Sick & Welfare – Rocco Maiellano
 - Legislative – Dennis Palmer
 - Golf Outing – Joe Rizzuto
 - Affiliates – Bill LaPorte
 - Following the event, summarize a report of the activities for the submission at the March meeting.
 - Following the event, secure the venue and sponsors of key aspects for the following year.
 - By the last meeting of the year preceding Vendor's Day, provide a report on who will be doing what function on the day of the event, including the participation from the SJWP.
 - On the day of the event, coordinate all activity and assign volunteers where needed.

- Seminar & Technology –
 - This committee will be revamped to be responsible for coordinating two planned activities outside the four business meetings that will elicit TCH's. (Suggestions to replace Jim Neville)
 - The committee shall schedule one event in the first six months and the second in the second six months.
 - Starting in 2025, the committee must have their events scheduled and targeted for the release of the 2025 Master Calendar which will be released in December 2024.
 - This committee will be consolidated with the following subcommittees whereby the two semi-annual TCH seminars will have a program from each:
 - Health and Safety – Janette Kessler
 - Industrial Waste – Chris Jepson
 - Revamp the regional authorities to attend these designated forums (side meeting) as a way for shop talk of current common issues.
 - Will broach this subject with peers once the committees are revamped.
- Membership –
 - It was agreed that all members should be soliciting new candidates, however this committee will be tasked with following up with any new candidate/affiliate that was invited to a meeting and attended to try to secure membership.
 - The committee will be responsible for updating and maintaining the South Section membership list.
 - Steve to have his GIS staffer attempt to identify membership geographics.
 - Task this committee with identifying methods of subsidizing.
 - Approach LSA as an outlier.
 - General reduction of costs for smaller events to keep prices down for all and especially those paying out of pocket.
- Scholarships – NJWEAS Vice President
 - VP shall solicit candidates by March 15 of each year.
 - Inclusive in the outreach for candidates will now include the Institutes of Technology for Atlantic, Burlington, Cape May, Camden, Cumberland and Gloucester, as well as Rowan and Stockton.
 - VP shall submit their recommendation to the Executive Committee by April.
 - Scholarships will be announced to the candidates in April and present an invitation to our June 6 Awards dinner.
 - If we can attend and present at their perspective HS awards ceremony (if applicable) usually in either May or June, we should try.
- Awards – Rocco Maiellano
 - Ladies Night Dinner discontinued.
 - It was determined that this committee needs to be revamped.
 - This committee will be consolidated with the Awards Committee so the awards will be presented at the June business meeting.
 - Nominations are for the following SS awards
 - The Leo J. Saverese Award (*For distinguished service as a member of the South Section and is considered appropriate by the Executive Committee*)
 - The Raymond G. Case (*Award Past President of the South Section and the NJWEA State President*)

- SJWEA Knight of the Golden Shovel Award Plaque (*presented to a member who has contributed to the advancement of Wastewater treatment and or collection need a nomination*)
- William Pine Affiliate's Award (*recognize the affiliate for their dedication and hard work for the advancement of the SJWEA*)
- The schedule for the awards shall be as follows:
 - July 7, 2024- online posting of awards nomination form
 - September 29, 2024- Written Nominations to the Awards Committee are due. Nomination must include a brief description of the nominee's qualifications for the award being considered. This information should be supplied by the individual placing the nomination not the individual being nominated.
 - October 3, 2024-Awards Committee submits its findings to the Executive Committee for acceptance.
 - a. Executive Committee reviews and votes on award nominations.
 - December 5, 2024 – Award recipients announced to the Membership.
 - June 2025 – Recipients receive their awards at the Awards Dinner.
- Rocco Maiellano will be asked to continue.
- Josh Palumbo will be asked to assist to assure all is on the agenda for the Awards dinner and to present the awards
- Program –
 - Seeking a new program Chair
 - This committee will be responsible for making the arrangement for the dates and venues of the business meeting as decided by the Executive Committee.
 - This committee will be responsible for working with and supporting the two tech events administered by the Seminar & Technology committee.
 - This committee shall suggest with details (what, where and when) to the Executive Committee at their October meeting at least two networking-nonbusiness meeting events.
 - After acceptance by the Executive committee, this committee shall secure the events for placement on the December release of the Master calendar.
 - Phillies
 - Flyers
 - Fishing Trip
 - Whale Watching
 - Steve's suggestion of the park in Williamstown
 - Axe throwing
 - Happy hour at a brewery
 - This committee shall work with the newly established YP committee to assure that either or both "fun" events will be attractive to enticing younger members.
- Young Professionals
 - New Committee
 - Charged with working with Membership to entice young professionals to attend and ultimately join the South Section.
 - Charged with working with Programs to suggest events that will entice membership from a younger group.
 - Work toward the deadlines established to assure the events are on the Master calendar to be released in December.

- Maybe we pay for a TBD number of YP candidates to attend the fun events.
- Daneille has a candidate for Rowan and Kathy has a candidate from LSA.
- Archives – Kathy Collinge
- Kathy is the chair of Archives but according to her it is just Memorabilia.
 - She manages all below, but it should be:
 - Minutes - recording secretary
 - By-laws – President
 - Award history - Award Committee, vice committee
 - Officer history - President
 - Scholarship history - Vice President
 - In 2024 we need to redirect her responsibilities to lessen workload.

Master Calendar

- It was a goal to have definitive dates and places for and get released in December for the following year:
 - Business meetings
 - 1st Thursday of March (Crab Trap) , June (Loster House and Awards Dinner), Sept (Zoo), Dec (TBD -geographics)
 - Executive meetings
 - Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct (1st Thursday)
 - Tech sessions
 - Fun events
 - Golf Tourney
 - Vendors' Day
 - Committee deadlines
 - Regional/state/national industry events
 - Kevin will present his report.

Vice President's Report: Steve Blankenship, No Report

Treasurer's Report: Kathy Collinge

- The South Sections Association checking account balance as of December 7, 2023 was \$42,993.09.
- The Section's Harbor Lights Financial Group Investment scholarship portfolio for October 31, 2023 had a closing value of \$22,425.68. This value includes (3) \$6000.00 CDs with maturity dates of May and November of 2024 and the third in March of 2025. The cash and sweep balance is \$4,160.69. A copy of the statement is available.
- The most recent reconciliation, current budget vs. actual reports and profit/loss statements are submitted today for ratification. The reports are available for anyone who would like to look at them. Please motion for approval before the end of this meeting.
 - 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 Dennis Palmer and unanimously approved.
- I attended the golf outing on September 22nd. All invoices and reimbursements have been paid. A deposit of \$250.00 has been paid to reserve Valleybrook Golf Course for Friday, September 20, 2024. The golf outing shared workbook is up-to-date.

Secretary's Report: Kevin Whitney

Future Scheduling of Meetings

- We have been diligently crafting a Master Calendar in advance of 2024, with the intent of outlining the events of the coming year and providing information for deadlines of activities and tasks to be completed by the Executive Members and/or Committee Chairs
- The following schedule and dates are still 'tentative' pending finalization from the Executive Committee – upon finalization the calendar will be shared on the NJWEA South Section webpage and shared via email blast to the membership
 - Executive Meetings – to be held on the first Thursday on the first month of each quarter (January, April, July and October); the meetings in January and July will be virtual meetings and the meetings in April and October will be held in-person.
 - 2024 Dates: January 4, April 4, July 11, October 3
 - Notice out to executive committee, committee chairs and trustees at least 3 weeks before meeting
- Business Meetings – to be held on the first Thursday on the last month of each quarter (March, June, September and December)
 - 2024 Dates: March 7 (Crab Trap), June 6 (Awards Dinner – Lobster House), September 5 (Cape May County Zoo), December 5 (Location TBA)
 - Email notice and registration posted on webpage at least 4 weeks prior to event Vendor's Day – to be held typically on the first Friday of February at the Scottish Rite Auditorium in Collingswood
 - 2024 Date – February 2
 - Event to be announced at September Business Meeting, email notice and registration posted on webpage at least 8 weeks prior to event
- Networking Events – goal to hold two networking events each year, one in the April-June period, one in the Aug-Sep period; the first Networking Event should be planned in conjunction with the Young Professionals committee with the goal of attracting younger membership
 - Events announced with Master Calendar; email notice and registration posted on webpage at least 6 weeks prior to event
 - South Section Tech Seminars and Executive Directors' Meeting – goal to hold two events annually that offer the membership TCH opportunities in conjunction with an Executive Directors' Meeting of South Section member Authorities.
 - 2024 Dates – targeting the 3rd week of April and third week of October
 - Dates announced with Master Calendar; email notice and registration posted on webpage at least 6 weeks prior to event
- Golf Outing – to be held typically on the 3rd Friday of September at Valleybrook Country Club in Blackwood, NJ
 - 2024 Date – September 20
 - Date announced with Master Calendar; email notice and registration posted on webpage at least 8 weeks prior to event

Past President's Report: Bob Carlson

- Working with Biosolids and Energy Committees.
- Was away last month.

NJWEA Report:

- There is an Executive meeting tomorrow
- Approving Awards

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health & Safety: Janette Kessler

- Janette Kessler from ACUA spoke of First Amendment Audits.

Memberships: Vacant

Sick & Welfare: Rocco Maiellano

- Unfortunately, we need to say our goodbyes to a few of our members.
 - Passed away Henry Penley of Central.
 - Passed away Gary Fare was the Director of Linden Roselle Sewage Authority.
 - Passed away Lou Russo, former Executive Director of Evesham MUA.
 - Moment of silence.
- Send blessings for Frank Hartman.

Nominating & Awards: Rocco Maiellano

- Knights of the Golden Shovel Award – Timothy Fisher
- Leo Saverese Award – Robert Carlson
- William Pine Award – Samantha Liccketto
- Life Membership – Frank Deyhle
 - Joe Pantalone made a motion to approve the nominations for awards, approved by Rick Eustice, seconded by Josh Palombo and unanimously approved

Affiliates: Bill LaPorte, Report submitted

- Vendor's Day 2024 will once again be held at the Scottish Rite Ballroom, Collingswood, NJ, and is scheduled for Friday, 2/2/24.
- To date, the Committee has held two (2) virtual meetings with the first meeting held on 2/14/23 and the second meeting held on 3/24/23.
 - Contracts have been secured and executed with Summit Catering (same caterer as last year) as they agreed to hold same prices and menu as last year.
 - Rusty Miller of Core & Main has agreed to sponsor the continental breakfast again this year with the understanding that the Association will invoice Core & Main directly and not vendors of Core & Main.
- We have room for a total of sixty-eight vendor tables (first come first served).
- Costs remain the same as last year, as follows:
 - \$175.00/vendor table (includes one lunch)
 - Additional Vendor lunches available at \$30.00 each
 - Vendor sponsorships are also available at a donation of \$50.00. All sponsorships will be recognized at Vendor's Day like last year.

- Registration costs for attendance only remain at \$30.00 each.
- Vendor door prizes are also welcomed and will be recognized at Vendor's Day like last year.
- Registration for attendance and for exhibitors should hopefully be available on the NJWEA website on or before 12/11/23.
- The Committee plans to conduct one last meeting sometime during the week of 1/8/24, to confirm final arrangements (handling of onsite check-in and or onsite registrations (walk ins), door prize tickets, 50/50 tickets, TV Raffle, etc).

Industrial: Chris Jepson, report submitted

- The south Section had a successful Industrial WWTP tour on September 7, 2023. We are looking at another industrial site tour in the future. Right now, we are zeroing in on the Oatley oat milk manufacturing facility in Millville. It is an interesting WWTP with two activated sludge processes in series. This will be discussed with our President for viability and for potential dates after the initial Oatley contact is made for a tour.
- Please contact me with any other ideas for an industrial meeting venue.
 - 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 needs a few more members. If you are interested, please contact President Pantalone or me.

Legislative Report: Dennis W. Palmer

The Legislature is back from its election break and committees are having hearings on bills. The committees met on the 20th, 27th and 30th of November. The following have seen action or are posted for committee hearings and actions:

- **Bill A577** Directs BPU to establish a program concerning renewable natural gas; provides gas public utilities with customer rate recovery mechanism for costs associated with program. This bill directs the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to establish a program to encourage the procurement of renewable natural gas and investment in renewable natural gas infrastructure by a gas public utility (utility). This could be a benefit to those with anaerobic digesters or landfills with methane production.

11-30-23 Assembly Environment and Solid Waste

- **Bill A4125** Prohibits the sale, manufacture, distribution, and use of firefighting foam containing intentionally added perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

11/30/2023 Assembly Environment and Solid Waste

- **Bill S1899** Increases income eligibility limit for reduction or abatement of municipal or county utility authority fees.

11/27/2023 Senate Community and Urban Affair

- **Bill S3258** Appropriates \$28,670,924 in 2003 and 1992 bond act monies for loans for dam restoration and repair projects and inland waters projects.

11/20/2023 Senate Environment and Energy

Golf Outing: Joe Rizzuto

- NJWEA – south Section Golf Outing was held on Friday September 22, 2023 at Valleybrook Country Club in Blackwood, NJ.
 - Total of 100 golfers registered = \$12,000
 - Total of 28 sponsors (skills, driving range and hole sponsors) = \$4,440
 - Revenues totaled \$17,205.00; Expenses totaled \$12,861.97; Profit \$4,343.03, down \$625.22 from 2022 Outing
- Next year’s golf outing is scheduled for September 20, 2024.
- Tremendous help was provided by golf the committee members and others that pitched in when called upon.
- Lessons learned from this year’s event to be applied to next year's event.

Recognition Dinner: Josh Palombo

- We are in the early stages of planning the event.

Scholarship Awards: Steve Blankenship

- Four Scholarships were awarded in the amount of \$1,500.00 to the following:
 - Joseph W. Manganaro Scholarship – Kathryn Tobolski
 - Joseph W. Manganaro Scholarship – Seth Edlinig
 - Joseph W. Manganaro Scholarship – Mia Caso
 - Joseph W. Manganaro Scholarship – Bridgett McDevitt

Young Professionals: Brian Carey, No Report

Operations Challenge: Keith Wagner, No Report

Archives: Kathy Collinge

- Submit any photos or materials for digitization.

New Business:

- Written instructions on “how to view your TCH’s” are available.
- Bob Carlson will be on the Licensing Committee – If you have any questions reach out.

Old Business: Nothing to Report

Good of the Membership: Nothing to Report

Adjournment / Time:

Joe Pantalone made a motion to adjourn the meeting, approved by Rocco Maiellano, seconded by Steve Blankenship and unanimously approved at 14:55 hours.