

NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION
SOUTH JERSEY SECTION
Minutes of the June 17, 2022 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 15:37 hours at The Cape May County Zoo located at 707 N Route 9 in Cape May Court House, 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
John Reardon, NJWEA Past President

Approval of Minutes: Bob Carlson made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 7, 2022 business meeting, seconded by Rocco Maiellano and unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

President's Report: Joe Pantalone

- **Attendance at the Executive Committee Meeting**, Morning of June 17th in Eatontown
- **May Conference**
Attended the May conference at Harrah's and witnessed a successful conference and awards ceremony. Had a good time bartending in the suite. It was great to see the attendance after the past year COVID cancelations. Kudos to the organizers, sponsors and presenters for a job well done. Also, thank you to NJWEA for again choosing Atlantic City.
- **Mission for my Term**
Entice more young operators and business associates to join the Section as well as to have them actively participate in the standing committees that exist.
- **Effective Utility Management Workshop**
Early in the year, I was approached by Andy Kricun, former Executive Director of the Camden County Utilities Authority and currently with Moonshot Missions Consulting to assist him with an invite from EPA to conduct an Effective Utility Management (EUM) Workshop in New Jersey. With the help of Lisa Oberreiter of Middlesex County Utilities Authority as well as the NJWEA Executive Staff, we will be holding this one-day event on Tuesday, July 19, 2022 at the Middlesex County Utilities Authority Public Meeting Room, 2571 Main Street Extension, Sayreville, NJ 08872.
This workshop will help utilities address a full range of challenges and move toward sustainable management of their operations and infrastructure. There is a limited amount of seating available, so all are encouraged to register ASAP. The registration is on the NJWEA website with a cost of \$20.00 per person. Credits are available for this session. Many thanks to the EPA, NJWEA, MCUA, and the AEA for promoting this event.
- Recognition of New Attendees to the Meeting

Vice President's Report: Steve Blankenship, No Report

Treasurer's Report: Kathy Collinge

- Attended the General Business Meetings on April 7, 2022.
- Worked the registration table at Vendor's Day on April 1, 2022. We are waiting on three payments who has issued PO's. I will cut a check to the SJWP once I receive all the payments.
- Attended the South Section Executive Virtual Meeting on April 4, 2022.
- I am Continuously training with Sorin to learn the associations current marketing module, the Member leap System.
- Attended the Conference and assisted at the registration desk. I would like to express my compliments to Casey Eustace/DeBaun who ran registration most successfully.
- Made various disbursements and deposits
- Association checking account balance as of May 31, 2022 was \$43,331.19. I have been working with the bank to complete the new Executive Board members documents for the checking account.
- The Section's Wells Fargo Investment portfolio for May 2022 closing is as follows: \$20,000 in (2) CDs with maturity dates of 10/31/2022 & 11/10/2022; Closing value of \$21,662.16 Cash and sweep balance is \$1,715.50. I have been working with our Wells Fargo Advisor to complete new Executive Board member documents.
- The most recent reconciliation, current budget vs. actual reports and profit/loss statements are submitted for ratification.
 - Joe Pantalone made a motion to approve the submitted Financial Statements, seconded by Dennis Palmer and unanimously approved.

Secretary's Report: Kevin Whitney, No Report

Past President's Report: Bob Carlson

- Worked with the Biosolids committee to help finalize Biosolids / Energy program for the Fall Technology Transfer Seminar.
- Attended annual conference in May.
- Attended Executive Committee meeting in Eatontown on June 17th, 2022.

NJWEA Report: Past President John Reardon

- This morning was the first NJWEA meeting for the new term with President Jill Plesnarski, President Elect Fran Bonaccorso, Vice President Mike Hope, Treasurer Bob Fisher, Executive Director Jim DeBlock and Deputy Executive Director Rick Eustace.
- President Plesnarski sends her apologies for not attending today's meeting and hopes to attend in the future.
- Working with Policy and Advisory Board to revise bylaws that coincide with the WEF disciplinary and code of conduct.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health & Safety: Harry Smith and Daren DiFonzo

- We held a committee meeting on May 9th at the convention. We discussed potential topics for the Fall Tech Seminar. We are making progress with program, our target date for submission to the Tech Committee is July 1st.
- Today's Safety Topic is particularly important and possibly one of the most violated OSHA Standard in the Wastewater industry. Each year we lose far too many workers to Confined Spaces. Unfortunately, most fatalities are easily preventable, simply by properly following the established regulation and procedure as stated in OSHA 29 CFR 1910.146.
- A good safety measure would include the use of an Entry Permit, a calibrated gas detector, a set up tripod with winch, a full body harness and most important a partner.

Memberships: Vacant

Sick & Welfare: Rocco Maiellano

- Please contact to inform of any unfortunates to our members.

Nominating & Awards: Rocco Maiellano

- The award ceremony was beautiful, thank you to Rick Eustace and Jim DeBlock. Some Awardees were not able to attend, and those awards are being hand delivered or mailed. The awards book was beautiful and an excellent tool for nominating future potential award winners.
- Nomination packets were handed out and are also available upon request or on the NJWEA website
- Do not tell people they are nominated for an award; in the case they are not chosen for the award.

Affiliates: Bill LaPorte

- Vendor's Day 2023 will once again be held at the Scottish Rite Ballroom, Collingswood, NJ, and is scheduled for Friday, 2/3/23.
We need help for planning and executing this event. Please contact either me or Mimi Heims if you can assist with this event.
- Total income for Vendor's Day 2022 was \$15,830.00, and can be broken down as follows:
 - 68 Vendor Tables, including one lunch at \$150.00 each = \$10,200.00
 - 57 Extra Vendor Lunches at \$25.00 each = \$1,425.00
 - 19 Event Sponsors = \$950.00
 - 119 Individuals at \$25.00 each = \$2,975.00
 - Profit from sale of 50/50 Tickets = \$280.00
 - Total expenses for 2022 were \$9,114.34, as follows:
 - Rental of Scottish Rite Ballroom & cost of Catering = \$8,687.85
 - TV Door Prize 426.49
 - Total estimated profit for the day was \$6,715.66, to be split 50/50 between the SJWPA and the NJWEA South Section.
There is still a total of three outstanding balances remaining in the total amount of \$700. Once these are collected, the NJWEA – South Section will issue a check in the amount of \$3,357.83, to the SJWPA.

- A special thanks to all our vendors who participated and our event sponsors as all the profit from Vendor's Day goes to both the NJWEA – South Section and the SJWPA Scholarship Funds.

Industrial: Chris Jepson

- We would like to plan a meeting for our group as an Industrial session – Rocco M. has forwarded a potential venue. The landfill in Millville has just had a full treatment design and construction for their leachate system. This would be a good place to visit if the group decides it, is a go. We would have to coordinate this with the landfill folks, but it has been a while since the Industrial Committee has forwarded a suggestion.
- 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 needs a few more members. If you are interested, please contact President Pantalone or me. Thank you.

Legislative Report: Dennis W. Palmer

- After coming out of May with much of the focus on the State Budget Hearings, some committees are meeting to review and take action on bills and some new ones have been introduced.
 - [A4183](#)
Concerns local unit filing requirement for certain shared services agreements.
 - [S2755](#)
Provides public employee salaries at all levels of government cannot exceed salary of Governor.
 - [A4200](#) / [S790](#)
Requires DEP and owners of certain reservoirs to implement certain flood control measures; authorizes Office of Emergency Management to order lowering of reservoirs levels in response to severe weather events.
 - [A4066](#) / [S2734](#)
Appropriates funds to DEP for environmental infrastructure projects for FY2023.
 - [A4067](#) / [S2735](#)
Authorizes NJ Infrastructure Bank to expend certain sums to make loans for environmental infrastructure projects for FY2023.

Program: Frank Deyhle, No Report

- Phillies game tickets are sold out.

Golf Outing: Brian Southwick, No Report

- September 23, 2022 at Valleybrook

Ladies Night: Josh Palombo, No Report

- Informed by the Mansion to not schedule out for 6 months.

Scholarship Awards: Steve Blankenship, No Report

Operations Challenge: Keith Wagner

- The Battle by The Bay 2022 was held at Harrah's Casino in Atlantic City. This year there were more spectators because the OPS Challenge event was in the same area as the vendors and classrooms. There was a total of eight teams this year which included (7) Division 2 teams and (1) Division 1 team. There were (3) teams from New York, (2) teams from Colorado, (1) team from New Jersey, (1) team from Virginia and (1) team from North Carolina. The Top Five Places Overall were:
 - First - Brown Tide NY - Division 1
 - Second - Cake Breakers NJ - Division 2
 - Third - Sewerside Squad CO - Division 2
 - Fourth Place - HRSD VA - Division 2
 - Fifth Place - Predaturds NC – Division 2
- The New Jersey Team Cake Breakers which include Coach Art Cowan, Captain Keith Wagner, Emily Zidanic, Kevin Barstow and Eric Hansen have been together for less than a year. During that period, the Team in 2021 @ WEFTEC in Chicago placed first in Collections and fifth overall out of 18 Division 2 teams. In March 2022, the team competed @ The Brawl at the Beach in Myrtle Beach to gain knowledge to prepare for their home event in Atlantic City in May. In Atlantic City on their home turf at The Battle by the Bay. The Team won 5 Awards. The Team Placed 1st in Collections, second in Process, second in Lab, third in Maintenance, fourth in Safety and took 2nd Overall. One of the best finishes New Jersey has had in a few years. This Team has great chemistry, and it starts with Coach Art Cowan who has the Team firing on all cylinders. The Team is excited for their next OPS Challenge event in Ohio in July. Every OPS Challenge event is preparing us for WEFTEC 2022 in New Orleans to represent the State Of New Jersey and win Division 2.
- The Battle by The Bay OPS Challenge 2022 was a huge success. Thanks to the NJWEA, sponsors and individuals that contributed. A special thanks Kathy Collinge and Tim Fisher for their hard work and dedication. Looking forward to continuing the same success in 2023.

Young Professionals: No Report

Archives: Kathy Collinge

- Kathy will accept any photographs or documents on behalf of the Association.
- Tom Greci is digitizing archives.

New Business:

- Joe Pantalone recommends to approach PFAS regulations unified to ensure regulations do not lay the burden and responsibility for the treatment on the wastewater treatment facilities.

Good of the Membership:

- Rocco complimented Jeannie for running a successful “Wheel of Fortune” at the conference.

Adjournment / Time:

Dennis Palmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Rocco Maiellano and unanimously approved at 16:18 hours.