

NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION
SOUTH JERSEY SECTION
Minutes of the June 5, 2025 Business Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance

The business meeting of the New Jersey Environment Association South Section was called to order by Past President Joe Pantalone at 18:45 hours at the Lobster House located at 906 Schellengers Landing Road in Cape May, New Jersey. The following members were present at roll call:

Kathy Collinge, Treasurer
Kevin O'Donnell, Secretary
Rocco Maiellano, Trustee
Joe Pantalone, Past President

Approval of Minutes: No motion to approve the minutes from the March 25, 2025 business meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

President's Report: Steve Blankenship

- Attended the South Section Business Meeting at the Bonesaw Pilot House Brewery in Deptford on March 25th. A big thank you to Ray Longo and Kevin Whitney for their work in arranging the venue and catering from Mission BBQ.
- Attended the NJWEA Governing Council meeting in Eatontown on April 11th. Thank you to the delegates that were able to attend and represent the South Section.
- Arranged and led an Executive Committee meeting on Zoom on April 30th to approve the 2025 South Section scholarship awardees and South Section awards. Thank you to Kevin Whitney for overseeing the scholarships and to Rocco Maiellano for the South Section awards.
- NJWEA Annual Conference
 - 5/5 I moderated the GIS & Asset Management session and attended the President's Award Reception.
 - 5/6 I attended the Golden Manhole ceremony and pulled a shift in the hospitality room that night.
 - 5/7 I attended and participated in the Sludge Bowl Karaoke event.
 - 5/8 I attended the Jeanne Decker the Select Society of Sanitary Sludge Shovelers ceremony.
 - Working with Ray Longo to assist in scheduling a Phillies game event

Vice President's Report: Kevin Whitney, No Report

Treasurer's Report: Kathy Collinge

- Vendor's Day 2025 50/50 split with SJWPA \$4,649.23.
- The South Sections Association checking account balance as of April 30th 2025 was \$65,465.16.
- The Section's Wells Fargo scholarship portfolio for April 2025 had a closing value of \$25,749.49. This value includes (6) CDs. There has been discussion by the Executive Committee about increasing the Scholarships. One of the \$6000 CDs came due on March 17, 2025, it was decided to split the funds so if there is an increase the full amount will be available for the scholarships.

- The breakdown is:
 - \$2000 maturing March 2026,
 - \$6000 maturing November 2026,
 - \$2000 maturing March 2027,
 - \$6000 maturing May 2027,
 - \$1000 maturing March 2028,
 - and \$7000 maturing November 2028.
 - The current market value is \$24,152.87 and the cash and sweep balance is \$1,596.62.
- The most recent reconciliation, current budget vs. actual reports and profit/loss statements, were not submitted electronically for ratification. The reports are available on request for anyone who would like to look at them. No motion for approval before the end of this meeting. Thank you.

Secretary's Report: Kevin O'Donnell, No report

Past President's Report: Joe Pantalone

- February 20 – hosted at ACUA the NJWEA South Section Annual Orientation meeting.
- April 2 - On behalf of NJWEA South Section judged the Delaware Valley Science Fair in Oaks, PA along with Karen Foster (ACUA) and Danielle Farrell (Rowan) (Our selected winner also was the NJWEA essay contest winner in May)
- Attended NJWEA conference in May.
- Asked to be an NJWEA representative on the NJDEP PFAS task force
- Assisted where needed to move the membership and young professional committees forward.

NJWEA Report: No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health & Safety: Janette Kessler, No report

Memberships: Rocco Maiellano, No report

Sick & Welfare: Rocco Maiellano, No report

Nominating & Awards: Rocco Maiellano

- Presented the William B. Pine Sr. Affiliates Award to Rob Wilson and Timmerman Equipment.
- Presented the Knights of the Golden Shovel Award to Joe Pantalone.
- Announced Steve Blankenship will receive the Leo J. Saverese Award.

Affiliates: Bill LaPorte

- Vendor's Day 2025 was very successful as we continued to exceed past revenues as well as past overall attendance.
 - We sold a total of 64 tables and comped an additional 2 tables for a total of 66 tables.
 - The total vendor headcount for lunch was 109.
 - The total guest attendance was 194, giving us a total headcount of 303 for lunch.
 - Special thanks to Core & Main for once again sponsoring the breakfast. Core & main has already volunteered to do this again for next year as well.
 - All outstanding monies have been received as of 5/9/25.

- Total income, less total expenses, netted a total revenue of \$9,298.46. It is my understanding that Kathy has already sent a check to SJWPA for their portion of this.
- The final financial report for vendor's Day has been completed (Copy attached).
- Vendor's Day 2026 is tentatively scheduled for Friday, 2/6/26, pending availability and confirmation from the Collingswood foundation for the Arts (Scottish-Rite Ballroom).
- To address increased costs for 2026, the Committee is considering increasing the cost for exhibiting from \$175.00 to \$200.00.
- The current guest registration remains \$30/person; however, it is open for discussion as well.
- Anyone interested in assisting with the planning and execution of Vendor's Day 2026 or hosting one of the one hour training classes should reach out to me ASAP.

Industrial: Chris Jepson

- Another industrial venue is needed for a tour and TCH session. I have discussed several facilities with our members, but none have come to fruition as of now.
- 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 and 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 Blankenship or me. Thank you

Legislative Report: Dennis W. Palmer

- For most of April and May , the Legislature has been in budget hearings. However, some committees have met, and bills of interest are below;
- A5195 Requires manufacturer of certain firefighting equipment containing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances to provide written notice to purchaser; prohibits sale, manufacture, and distribution of certain firefighting equipment containing intentional containing these chemicals.
- These two bills have been combined.
 - A5223 Requires manufacturer of firefighting personal protective equipment containing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances to provide written notice to purchaser.
 - Bill A5584 ***Prohibits*** certain uses of perchloroethylene and trichloroethylene. Specifically, the bill would (1) prohibit all uses in commerce of TCE and (2) prohibit all consumer and commercial uses of PCE.
 - Bill S1043 Requires DEP to perform certain assessments concerning regulation of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances. The bill would require the DEP to conduct an annual assessment of PFASs that are unregulated at the time of the assessment, to determine whether a maximum contaminant level or other drinking water standard should be established for additional PFASs.
- S4472 Eliminates five percent down payment requirement for local bond ordinances involving hazard mitigation and resilience projects. This bill has yet to be introduced in the Assembly.
- S4468 / A5695 Modifies interest rates and accrual of interest on certain unpaid water and sewer utility bills and delinquent municipal taxes, assessments, and other municipal liens and charges.
- S4436 / A5654 Requires legislative approval for energy master plan to become State policy.
- S4398 / A5723 Suspends sales and use tax and societal benefits charge on electric and gas public utility bills during a four-month period.

Golf Outing: Joe Rizzuto, No Report

Scholarship Awards:

- Past President Joe Panatalone, and YP Chairpersons Meka Berry and Kayla Golliday announced the Scholarship Awardees:
 - Travis Schreiber, Joseph W. Manganaro Scholarship
 - Cheyenne Hamby, Joseph W. Manganaro Scholarship
 - Aaron Simpson, Joseph W. Manganaro Scholarship
 - Mia Caso, Memorial Scholarship

Seminar & Technology: Andrew Lieb, No Report

Young Professionals: Meka Berry and Kayla Golliday

- Thursday, August 21, 2025 TopGolf of Mount Laurel

Archives: Kathy Collinge, No Report

Publications: No Report

Program: No Report

New Business: No Report

Old Business: No Report

Good for the Membership: No Report

Adjournment / Time:

President Steve Blankenship made a motion to adjourn the meeting, approved by Dennis Palmer, seconded by Kevin O'Donnell and unanimously approved at 07:00 hours.