MINUTES OF THE January 25, 2024 MEETING

**NEW JERSEY WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION**

**NORTH JERSEY SECTION**

**CALL TO ORDER**: President Christopher Pabst called the meeting to order at Lassoni 1904 at 6:15 pm.

**ROLL CALL:** Chris Pabst, Lisa Oberreiter, Jason Chase, Scott Hansen, Joe Bonaccors, Ann Bonaccorso, John Corkery, Cathy Pabst, Peter Jackson, Shawn McNally, Andrew Reusche, Kevin Cosman, Sean Sauder, Natalie Pisarcik, Brian Valliere, Louis Lambe, Dan Carey, Steve Wendowski, Paul Rodriguez, Justin McCarthy, Mark Coimbra, Victor Ramos, Chris Malvicini, Rich Stafford

**RECOGNITION OF PAST PRESIDENTS:**

John Corkery

Steve Wendowski

Joe Bonaccorso

**STATE OFFICERS-**None Present

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**: President Pabst noted that the minutes for the September 27, 2023 meeting were distributed asked if anyone had any corrections or comments. Motion was then made by Steve Wendowski to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded by Louis Lambe.

No Discussion.

The motion was approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**NORTH JERSEY SECTION EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS:**

**President’s Report:** Christopher Pabst

Dinner dance registration is open and anyone interested in advertisements for the program can find information in weekly email blasts.

**Vice President’s Report**: Lisa Oberreiter;

State level mini seminar this week. This event was very well attended buy all sections.

**Secretary’s Report:** Humbertt Mortola; No Report.

**Treasurer’s Report**: No Report

**SECTION STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Awards Committee:** Chairman Robert De Block

All North Section award honorees for 2024 have been approved for recognition at the Frank S. Miller Dinner Dance and Awards Night.

NJWEA State Awards for 2024 have been approved by the NJWEA Executive Committee for recognition at the NJWEA 109th Annual John J. Lagrosa Conference.

The following North Section Members will be receiving Awards in Atlantic City.

* John McNamara-WEF Arthur Sidney Bedell Award for Service to the NJWEA
* Alexia Barlikas-WEF Laboratory Analyst Excellence Award
* Christopher Pabst-Harry P. Croft Award
* William Cleary-James De Block Service Award
* Julio Cabrera-Robert Rowe Award

Any member who would like to forward names for consideration in 2025 by the Awards Committee can email recommendations to [RDeBlock@DeBlock.org](mailto:RDeBlock@DeBlock.org)

The State Awards Committee will be soliciting nominations for 2025 NJWEA and WEF Awards in September.

**Education & Meetings Committee:** Sean Sauder:

A great tour. 15 members took the tour today about manufacturing in New Jersey. If anyone has any ideas for future tours please reach out.

**Membership Committee:** Chairman Rob Watkins

No Report

**Nominating Committee:** Frank Pestana Not Present-Read by Chris Pabst

Following are the nominations for consideration at tonight’s North Section meeting from the nominations committee.

North Section Delegates to the NJWEA Governing Council.

1 Year term commencing at the call to order of the NJWEA Governing Council Meeting scheduled for April 2024.

1. Brian Bigler
2. Joseph Bonaccorso
3. Mario Bonaccorso
4. Gregory Burde
5. Frank Pestana
6. Joanne Mancuso
7. Humbertt Mortola
8. Jennifer Marques
9. James Wancho
10. Natalie Pisarcik

North Section Alternate Delegates to the NJWEA Governing Council.

1 year term commencing at the call to order of the NJWEA Governing Council Meeting scheduled for April 2024.

1. Daniel Carey
2. Jason Chase
3. William J. Cleary
4. Harry L. Ladisheff
5. Terrence McHugh
6. John McNamara
7. Richard Stafford
8. Charles P. Theodora
9. Ramon Vera
10. Steven Wendowski

North Section Officers. 2-year term commencing at the conclusion of the Annual Conference

President – Lisa Oberreiter

Vice President – Humbertt Mortola

Secretary – Natalie Pisarcik

Treasurer – Jennifer Marques

Trustees. 3-year term commencing at the conclusion of the Annual Conference

James Wancho – 2022-2025

John Corkery – 2023-2026

Rick Stafford – 2024-2027

Motion was then made by Joe Bonaccorso; the motion was seconded by Steve Wendowski.

No Discussion.

The motion was approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

**Policy Advisory Committee:** Chairman Steve Wendowski: No Report.

**Scholarship Committee:** Dan Carey:

A total of eight applicants. The group will meet shortly.

**SECTION SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Affiliates Night:** Chris Pabst on behalf of Charles Theodora:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that attended and helped with the Beefsteak. We had approximately 225 attendees and 30 venders. As we move forward with next year’s Beefsteak the price will remain the same because the Fiesta gave us a break, zero increase for 2024. Thank you, God Bless and let’s make The 2024 Beefsteak the biggest and best ever.

**Dinner Dance Committee:** Kellie Markert:

The 51st Annual Frank S. Miller Dinner Dance is scheduled for Saturday, March 2, 2024 at the Fiesta.

Attendee registration is open and available online at NJWEA’s website.

Ad sponsorship registration is also open and available on the NJWEA’s website.

Ads are due by February 15th, 2024.

**Golf Outing Committee:** Rick Stafford and Humbertt Mortola:

The Golf Outing is scheduled Friday, June 7, 2024 at Beaver Brook Country Club. The flier will be created in the next few weeks.

**Young Professionals:** Brian Carey:

No Report

**NJWEA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT:**

Executive Director/ Deputy Executive Director: Jim De Block

No report

Federation Directors:

Other State Officers/Committee Members: Lou Lambe and Jo

Attended webinar with the Clear Water Association. The Kentucky/Tennessee Water Environment Association changed their branding to become the Clean Water Professionals of Kentucky and Tennessee. The big question was why did they do it, and it was because they got sick of explaining to people what a water environment was. What’s a water environment? It’s not intuitive. They rebranded from wastewater professional to clean water professional. They got utilities to change their names. It may not be for everyone but it worked for them. They have been noticeably better received.

New Jersey should be careful when considering this, change is good however rebranding takes times to adopt.

Joe-Recalls when NJ Water Pollution Control Association was presented upon to adopt the federations move to rebrand to the Water Environment. Joe objected. In his view the significance of what we do was lost by calling it a water environment, what is a water environment. It didn’t say anything. If it is time to rebrand to let people know what we do and what we are committed to, it may be worth while to discuss.

The President noted that the conversation would be had with the state executive committee. No further action at this time.

**NJWEA, COMMITTEE REPORT:**

**Financial Report: Submitted by President Chris Pabst**

**BILLS:** Thefollowing bills were presented by Chris Pabst for ratification by the membership**:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Bills For Ratification** |  |
|  | **Detailed** |  |
| **Section Meeting 1/25/24** |  |  |
| Humbertt Mortola  Booton Station 1904  The Fiesta | Gift Cards Golf Outing  September 2023 Business Meeting  The Beefsteak 2023 | $1,044.65  $1,232,01  $11,251.77 |
| Charles Theordora | Door Prizes-Beefsteak 2023 | $181.25 |
| Rapid Pump & Meter | Refund-2 Tickets Beefsteak 2023 | $110.00 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  | **Total Expenses** | $13,819.68 |

Motion to approve the bills by Joe Bonaccorso, seconded by Natalie Pisarcik

Motion approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

Discussion: None

**Treasurer’s Report**.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **For the Period of** | January 24, 2024 | |
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| TD Bank-General Operating |  | $45,086.91 |
| Wells Fargo Scholarship CD’s |  | $24,587.51 |
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| **Total Assets** |  | $69,674.42 |

Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report by Lisa Oberreiter seconded by Jason Chase.

Motion approved unanimously. Motion Carried.

Discussion: None

**Old Business:** None to Report

**New Business:**

Steve Wendowski brought up marketing and rebranding. Wants to consider using a new branding for one of the programs. He would like to see what the membership thinks. The president presented that the venue should be the conference, from the state. John and Lou filed a report with the Executive Director and the State President regarding the meeting.

Chris Pabst-Reminder that the Tech Trans March 4, 2024-March 7, 2024. Next Fall 2024 Tech Transfer is not in September. It is scheduled in October which is after the deadline for the 3 year cycle. This March Tech Transfer is the last one to get TCH for this cycle. You will also have the Annual Conference and there is another mini seminar in June. Do not rely on September for TCH’s because it is not there.

**Good and Welfare:**

Steve Wendowski’s mother passed away.

Steve Wendowski’s son who was a scholarship recipient is now teaching at Pompton Lakes HS

Henry Penley passed away since the last meeting.

**Benefactors:**

John Corkery PSI Process

Jason Chase – Harper-Haines Fluid Control

Scott Hansen -Zoeller

Joe Bonaccorso-CME Associates

Peter Jackson-Neal Systems

Dan Carey-Magnum Vac

Rick Stafford-ERS

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08pm on a motion by Rich Stafford and seconded by Natalie Pisacik and was approved unanimously.