

Minutes
12/11/07 - MWOA Central Section Meeting
St. Cloud Technical College

8:30 - Welcome by host Keith Redmond, instructor at SCTC.

8:32- Bruce Peterson, Dean of Technology at SCTC, spoke about future staffing challenges within the water and wastewater industry. Anticipated retirements of experienced wastewater operators within the next few years will create a high demand for operators leading to competition for qualified candidates.

8:38- Jorjia Dufrene updated those in attendance about biosolids activities, she covered solids permit rules, record keeping, meeting EPA & State requirements, better biosolid management, pathway risks of biosolids, and ongoing biosolids projects. Jorjia concluded by summarizing certification training opportunities and dates.

9:25- Rob Connoy demonstrated a “Magna Drive” coupling. He talked about advantages and applications of the magna drive verses standard coupling technology.

10:10- Travis Hackworthy of EAI (Engineering America) talked about positive displacement blower operation and maintenance, types of blowers and components of PD blowers.

10:50- Scott Gilbertson talked about the Melrose plant expansion, he gave information about their new centrifuge and its operation. Scott’s presentation included pictures and site plans. Following his presentation, Scott took questions from the operators in attendance.

11:25- Nick Pond of SEH gave an overview of the request for proposal (RFP) process. He talked about when an RFP should and should not be issued. Nick discussed what to include in an RFP, who should receive the RFP, when the RFP should be issued and how to evaluate the resulting proposals. Nick concluded with some tips for success.

11:45- Keith talked about the MWOA membership issues.

12:00-1:00- Lunch

1:05- Larry Christianson talked about electronic diagnostics. Larry introduced some basic equipment, uses of equipment, and proper test procedures.

1:35- Joe & Jeff from Infratech - talked about line tracing of non-conductive pipe and introduced various types of television equipment.

2:12- **MWOA Business Meeting called to order.**

Reading of previous meeting minutes. Motion and second to approve. Minutes approved by voice vote.

New Business.

Announcement that the Central Section Chair has resigned, the current secretary/treasurer (Paul Hoeschen) has assumed the Chair's duties. This necessitates the election of a new secretary/treasurer later in the meeting.

Ballots were handed out for annual awards, the pre-printed ballots contained candidates previously nominated by the membership. A call was made in each category for additional nominations. Randy ----, from -----, was added to the nomination list in the Maintenance Operator category. A motion and a second were made to close nominations for each category. Each motion to close was passed on a voice vote.

Voting and vote counting took place as the meeting continued.

2:25 - 15 year MWOA membership plaques were awarded.

2:27- Nominations for Secretary/Treasurer were announced. A call was made for additional nominations for sec/treas. No additional nominations were made. At 2:31 a motion was made and seconded to close nominations. Ballots were issued for secretary/treasurer.

Winners of Central Section Awards were announced:

- Class A; Scott Gilbertson, Melrose
- Class B; Paul Stock, St. John's University
- Class C; Tim Vogel, Melrose
- Class D; Joel Birr, Avon
- Rookie; Josh Elfering, Big Lake
- Collections; Tom Schnettler, Salk Rapids
- Laboratory; Troy Zwilling, Hutchinson
- Maintenance Operator; Randy ----, ----

Motion made and seconded to destroy the awards ballots, motion passed on a voice vote.

Voting results of the Secretary/Treasurer position announced; Craig Carlson elected to serve in 2008. Motion made and seconded to destroy the ballots, motion passed on a voice vote.

2:40 - Motion and second to close business meeting passed on a voice vote.