

MWOA Executive Board Meeting

September 17, 2008

St. Cloud Maintenance Facility

Members Present: **Bob VanMoer** **Jim Miller**
Dianne Navratil
 Todd Carlson **Butch Hybbert** **Pat Meyer**
 Howard Jacobson **Jim Bruender** **Brian Mehr**
 Joe Rubbelke
Members Absent: **Darsey Thoen** **Colleen Thompson**
Guests Present: **Linda Mullen** **Jerry Balbach**

President Meyer called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m in St. Cloud at the Utility Maintenance Board Room. Motion by Butch Hybbert to approve the minutes of the June/July Board Meetings as written, 2nd by Todd Carlson, passed.

2008 Annual Meeting. Most of the Board members had participated in the Arrangements Committee meeting held prior to the Board Meeting which highlighted the good and not so good aspects of the recent annual meeting. The Arrangements Committee will be striving to avoid some of those issues in the future and Sec/Treasurer Jim Miller had sent comments to the hotel regarding some concerns. There were approximately 115 full registrations for the conference and the target goals for revenue were met.

2009 Annual Meeting - Linda Mullen presented the details for the Grand Rapids location for next year's meeting. The site will have enough room for the vendor show to be held on site and should the conference grow - there is ample room for the immediate future at the Timberlake Lodge. Nearby hotels will provide additional sleeping rooms should the two properties owned by the Timberlake Lodge exceed capacity. The preliminary plan is to hold the meeting at Grand Rapids for 2010 IF things go well at this conference. Should the facility not live up to expectations - the 2010 backup site would be Willmar. A side discussion related that the Technical Program Committee chaired by the President Elect should consider functioning similar to the Arrangements Committee where there is a "standing committee" and the President Elect can continually change to the current holder of the position. This would allow several people to have

the resources and function of the program from year to year and allow a smooth transition each year as the chair changes.

Committee Reports:

Trustee - Colleen Thompson was unable to attend the last Training Coalition Meeting but has been active with the State Section.

WASTEWATCHER - Jerry Balbach reported that the WW will be coming out in October and reminded people to send in their articles and Committee Reports.

Finance - Jim Miller reported that Dean Nelson and Rick Ashling (Co-Chairs) will be meeting to review the 2008 financial conditions and prepare a draft budget for consideration at the December Board Meeting.

Biosolids - Discussion regarding whether a change in the Chair or function of the Committee left things as status quo for the time being. The Technical Program Committee will give guidance for the Annual Conference.

Collection - Steve Lipinski and Tom Fournier will continue to provide planning and execution of the two Collection System Workshops that are co-sponsored with the MN Section of CSWEA. Howard Jacobson related that the next session will be in Duluth October 14, 2008. There will be a hands on session.

Education - Steve Kleist had been Chair of the inactive Committee but some discussion was to support the Technical Program (as previously discussed). President Meyer will receive input and give direction at the next meeting.

Membership Committee - no news

Directors Reports: Brian Mehr - Central Section was just held at Clear Lake and 46 were in attendance. The December meeting will be at SCTC and should have 70-80 with students in attendance.

Todd Carlson - NE Section had 22 in attendance at Hermantown and had a very good management theme for the day. They also had a representative from MNOSH who gave a good update of priority

issues for OSHA. They presently have two meetings scheduled each year.

Jim Bruender - SE Section will have their October Meeting in Red Wing and February in LeSueur. The May 2009 meeting will be in New Ulm co-sponsored with the SW Section.

Butch Hybbert - SW Section will have a meeting in Marshall and their February 2009 meeting will be in Worthington. They have also recently received their new laptop and will be working to coordinate the software for the ppt and word processing functions.

Joe Rubbelke - Metro/Suburban Section reported that Linda Mullen and Joel Schmidt are working on planning their upcoming meetings. Ziegler and Oakdale are possible sites for their upcoming meetings. Jim Miller noted that longtime Metro/Suburban Section member - Lawrence Hiles was looking for someone to take over the Promotions duties. Ken Novak may be interested in taking over as long as someone assists. Jim also suggested something be produced to show Lawrence the Association's appreciation for his efforts.

Old Business - The Website is still not being updated and needs attention. Newly appointed webmaster Craig Carlson will be contacted by Dianne Navratil to move this process along.

With no further business before the Board a motion to adjourn by Joe Rubbelke, second by Bob VanMoer, passed at 12:01 p.m.
Respectfully submitted - James E. Miller - MWOA Sec/Treas.