

MWOA Executive Board Meeting
December 3, 2004
Marshall Inn, Marshall, Minnesota

Members Present:

Linda Mullen	Dianne Navratil	Randy Poore
Clay Watson	Jim Miller	Bob VanMoer
Dean Nelson	Joel Schmidt	Rich Ashling
Darold Nienhaus	Darsey Thoen	Howard Jacobson

Members Absent:

Dave Simons

Guests Present:

Jerry Balbach

President Dean Nelson called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m. at the Marshall Inn Boardroom in Marshall.

Motion by Bob VanMoer to approve the September Board Meeting minutes, second by Darsey Thoen, passed.

Jim Miller reviewed the proposed Annual Meeting Budget prepared with Bob Van Moer and Linda Mullen. The costs were related to budget for a conservative attendance and the following registration fees: Full Registration - \$200, Social Registration -\$80, Vendor Display - \$250. After going over the line item details Joel Schmidt made a motion to adopt the proposed Annual Meeting Budget, second by Howard Jacobson, passed.

Bob Van Moer further detailed information regarding the local details including the Keynote Speaker and entertainment for the banquet. Rick Ashling presented information regarding the Technical Program. The exam refresher will be provided by Keith Redmond of St. Cloud Technical College. The MMUA training site will be used for a hands-on collection/maintenance session. There was a great deal of discussion regarding a proposed change in the structure of the sessions with the Vendor Display and Annual Business Meeting being moved to Wednesday to allow better coordination of the hands-on workshop at the MMUA site. Rick will report back to the Board at the April Meeting how this will be conducted.

Jim Miller reported on the proposed Annual Budget with a line by line breakdown of costs. Jim related that this past twelve months a number of strategic purchases have occurred. The MWOA with assistance from proceeds from the jointly sponsored CSWEA Mn Section Collection workshops have purchased four PowerPoint projection units and a PS system. The 2005 Budget includes purchase of wireless microphones for use with either the PA system or site PA systems. The purchase of these items will assist in the long term enhancement of training events by both MWOA and jointly sponsored events. The projected revenues and expenses relate a decrease in funds by \$ 3,140.00. There was a motion by Joel Schmidt, second by Linda Mullen to approve the Annual Budget as presented, passed.

Joel Schmidt presented information regarding the Cooperative Training Committee. The Training Coalition has invited members of the Cooperative Committee to attend their February 2, 2005 meeting in Bloomington to discuss possible merger of the two committees. Dean Nelson asked a number of questions regarding recent concerns about timing of meetings and concerns of members. Dean suggested that after hearing the discussion that the move to merge the two Committees be put on hold until further discussion and consensus is obtained.

Rick Ashling presented information on the recent activity of the MPCA Need to Know (N2K) efforts. The MPCA is in the process of reviewing and defining the need to know information for operation of wastewater and collection systems. At this time the Steering Committee is working on expanding the existing need to know fact sheets going beyond the topic to two additional levels of definition. Additional information will be available at the upcoming Central Section Meeting Dec. 7 and press release information to be made available to the Wastewatcher and website.

Linda Mullen reported on the progress of the arrangements for the 2006 Annual Meeting in Grand Rapids. The Vendor Display site has not been confirmed but two possible sites – the civic center and Armory are being considered. Additional negotiation and discussion with Anthony Ward of the Grand Rapids PUC will be undertaken to resolve.

Clay Watson reported that he has been looking at four possible locations for the 2007 Annual Meeting – St. Cloud (2), Willmar and Alexandria. He will be getting additional direction from Section Members at the upcoming meeting. He will also be working with the Arrangement Committee to assist the final location.

Rick Ashling and Jim Miller will have a proposed By-law change to better define the “Standing” and “Ad hoc” committees for the next Board Meeting.

Jerry Balbach reported that the WASTEWATCHER presently has 50 paid advertisers and he has been working to sort out the past billing procedures and improve the way we keep track of our vendor ads and payments. The appears to be 15 vendors that have outstanding amounts due for ads in 2004. One vendor has gone out of business and will be difficult if not impossible to collect. He and Tom have been working on setting up a standard format for layout and submission. The proposed revenue should be very close to the 2004 level in 2005, Jerry indicated that he will be looking at a few possible new vendors for ads to continue to improve the WASTEWATCHER. He also indicated that the publishing costs proposed included some allowance for Tom to access high speed internet to allow Dianne and Jerry to proof and exchange information in a better manner. The next deadline is January 15 for the upcoming issue.

Rick Ashling reported that he had represented the MWOA at a recent MPCA meeting regarding APO's. The outcome was that the group felt the present method in handling APO/s was acceptable.

Joel asked Dena about the Governor's Lake Pepin project. Dean related that emphasis is being placed to continue TMDL's to be used on not only the Mississippi but other rivers to continue clean-up efforts.

Dean also reported that he and Jim attended the WWOA Conference this past October in Wisconsin Dells. They have a very large meeting with over 1000 attendees and a very large two day Vendor Display.

Linda Mullen presented the idea of looking for a member that might have all of the MWOA pins so that they might be displayed at the Annual Meeting. This was well received and she will proceed.

The agenda item of Joint Meetings was addressed in discussion during the Cooperative Training Committee report by Joel Schmidt.

President Nelson set the next Board Meeting Date as April 8 in St. Cloud.

With no other business before the Board the meeting was motioned to Adjourn by Bob Van Moer, second by Linda Mullen, passed at 12:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted James E. Miller, MWOA Sec. /Treas.