

**MWOA Metro/Suburban Section Meeting Minutes**  
**April 23, 2003**  
**Apple Valley Redwood Community Center**  
**Apple Valley, MN**

**Morning Technical Sessions**

The April 2003 meeting was held at the City of Apple Valley Redwood Community Center. Carol Blommel, Apple Valley Public Utility Supervisor welcomed the group of 17 to the meeting and gave an overview of the program agenda. In addition Ms. Blommel gave the group a brief introduction of the Apple Valley Public Utilities. Carol then turned the meeting over to Director Ken Kuchera to introduce the first technical presenter of the meeting, Tim Keegan, a Regional Maintenance Manager, with the Metropolitan Council of Environmental Services (MCES). Tim provided the group with CMOM/SSO Rule updates. COMOM is the acronym for Capacity Management Operations & Maintenance and SSO is the acronym for Sanitary Sewer Overflows. The programs, which are coming down the Federal pipeline essentially, prohibit the discharge of wastewater or sanitary sewer overflows prior to the WWTF. Tim's discussion of the CMOM/SSO initiative was very informative and lead to a lot of interactive discussion with the group. The programs detail protocols for utilities to implement strategies and plan to deal with Inadequate Capacity, Power Failures, and Pipe Breaks and develop Response Plans. The emphasis is to move the utilities out of Corrective Maintenance and into Predictive Maintenance. Tim can be reached at [tim.keegan@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:tim.keegan@metc.state.mn.us) or by calling 651 602 4518.

The second presenter of the morning technical program was Linda Mullen the Utilities Foreman with the City of Apple Valley. Linda provided the group with an introduction and overview of the changes taking effect with personal use violations and a Commercial Divers License (CDL). Due to federal mandates, which tie highway-funding appropriations to the states, the states have to enact the more stringent regulations or loose the funding. Consequently what happens while operating a motor vehicle on your personal time will greatly affect your CDL status, particularly if alcohol is involved. Bottom line is that individuals who are required to have a CDL are held to a higher standard than those without CDL endorsement. The complete listing of requirements can be found in CDL – 49CFR parts 350 of the federal register.

The third speaker of the morning was MWOA President Jerry Balbach. President Balbach went over the details of the upcoming MWOA Annual Conference to be held in Moorhead at the Marriott Hotel. The conference dates are July 22<sup>nd</sup> through July 25<sup>th</sup>. President Balbach also reviewed ongoing executive board matters such as the much discussed membership directory. A straw poll was conducted and a substantial group of members polled were not in favor of a published directory. The executive board was going to decide the membership directory fate at the next board meeting, which was to be held in Moorhead on April 25<sup>th</sup>. In addition matters affecting training, AV equipment, and publication of the Wastewatcher were discussed. President Balbach also put out a

request for members to send photographs of treatment plants or current projects to editor Dan Johnson for inclusion in the Wastewatcher publication and posting on the MWOA display booth.

### **Business Meeting**

- Chairman Randy Poore called the business meeting of the Metro/Suburban Section to order.
- Secretary Joel Schmidt read the February 19, 2003 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Lawrence Hiles to approve the minutes. Linda Mullen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- Chairman Randy Poore revisited the nominations for the 2003 Metro Suburban Section Awards. The nomination window opened at the February 2003 section meeting and remain open until the April 23, 2003 section meeting. Chairman Randy Poore asked for additional nominations from the floor. No further nominations were brought forward.

Nominations brought forward from the February 2003 meeting are as follows:

Richard Kraft for the Class B Award

Richard Bristow for the Class A Award

Lawrence Hiles for the Class A Award

Randy Poore for the Collection Systems Award

A motion was made by Ken Kuchera to close the nominations and conduct an election for the Class A award. Tim Fox seconded the motion. The Nominations were accepted unanimously and a vote for the Class A award was conducted with Lawrence Hiles selected as the Metro/Suburban Section Class A Award winner. All award nominees will be presented the Metro/Suburban Section award for the respective award category at the February 2004 section meeting. In addition the nominees will be forwarded for consideration in the MWOA all state award selection, with those awards presented at the annual conference in July 2003 at Moorhead.

- Chairman Randy Poore discussed the section officer nominations for the Metro/Section officer positions of Secretary, Chairman and Director. The nomination window opened at the February 2003 section meeting and remain open until the April 23, 2003 section meeting. Chairman Randy Poore asked for additional nominations from the floor. No further nominations were brought forward.

Nominations brought forward from the February 2003 meeting are as follows:

Randy Poore – Director

Linda Mullen – Chairman

Joel Schmidt – Secretary

A motion was made by Lawrence Hiles to close the nominations. Eric Schoon seconded the motion. The Nominations were accepted unanimously. The new officer positions will take effect after the MWOA annual business meeting held in July 2003 at Moorhead.

Linda Mullen is welcomed as a new section officer. Chairman Randy Poore will assume the Director officer position. Director Kuchera's leadership this past 3 years was thanked. Outgoing Director Kuchera will be recognized at the Metro/Suburban Section meeting in October 2003.

- A Motion was made by Grant Krohn to adjourn. Lawrence Hiles seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

### **Afternoon Technical Sessions**

The afternoon consisted of tours of the Apple Valley Public Works Facility and the Water Treatment Facility. In addition a Flex Seal Utility Sealant demonstration was performed on one of the manhole chimneys at the Public Works Facility. The demonstration highlighted an inexpensive and permanent method of sealing the grade adjustment ring area and joint sections in a manhole or catch basin. The state of the art urethane material is packaged in a kit that is easily installed by SSI certified installers or utility staff. SSI can be reached at [www.flexseal.net](http://www.flexseal.net) or by calling 763 478 2057.

The group extends a sincere THANK YOU to the Apple Valley Utility for hosting and making this meeting a big success. Thanks again!

Respectfully Submitted

Joel W. Schmidt – MWOA Metro/Suburban Section Secretary

## Members in Attendance

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
1. Randy Poore	City of Bloomington
2. Linda Mullen	City of Apple Valley
3. Kent Zimmerman	City of Apple Valley
4. Joel W. Schmidt	Bonestroo & Associates
5. Ken Kuchera	MCES
6. Jerry Balbach	MVTL
7. Tom Barron	MFRA
8. Pat Oates	MCES
9. Lawrence Hiles	MCES
10. Steve Nicholas	City of Bloomington
11. Grant Krohn	City of Bloomington
12. Jason Gorr	City of Bloomington
13. Eric Schoon	City of Bloomington
14. Eric Hershey	City of Bloomington
15. Tim Keegan	MCES
16. Jeff Huberty	MAC
17. Tim Fox	MAC