

MWOA Executive Board Meeting
June 16, 2004
St. Cloud, Minnesota

Members Present:	Rick Ashling	Jerry Balbach	Darsey Thoen
	Mary Fralish	Dianne Navratil	Randy Poore
	Pat Meyer	Dave Simons	Jim Miller
	Bob VanMoer	Dean Nelson	Joel Schmidt

Members Absent: Joe Stepun

Guests Present: None

President Dave Simons called the meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. at the S.E.H.Boardroom in St. Cloud.

Motion by Randy Poore to amend the March 2004 minutes to include more details regarding the review of the TIC materials, second by Jerry Balbach, passed.

Dean Nelson related that the 2004 Annual Meeting Technical Program was ready to go. Roger Karn had made a request to be included on the program to update MWOA members on MPCA activities. Randy Poore will be checking on the Tuesday social activity coordination. The awards selection process has been completed and when Dave Simons has finalized the Loyal Service Award, the awards list will be sent to the engraver for preparation. Jerry Balbach related that there were nine Scholarship applications. Six will be selected with SUSA sponsoring the 5th and 6th awards. The promotions selection of colors and styles was discussed with a suggestion from Dianne to look into short sleeve denim shirts and additional colors.

Joel Schmidt reported on the activity of the Cooperative Training Committee. Joel will be speaking with John Ikeda regarding the "need to know" criteria for certification and operator training. MPCA is seeking input from stakeholders in hopes of preparing new exams by next spring. Events held by MWOA and related parties should be sent to the webmaster to use the MWOA calendar for scheduling. There has been discussion regarding the merger of the Training Coalition and the Cooperative Training Committee. Stew Thornly has been contacted regarding this possibility. John Ikeda has been in favor of continuing the Cooperative Training Committee. There will be more information regarding the follow-up meetings. President Simons asked to meet to discuss further the direction and purpose of the Cooperative Training Committee.

Jerry Balbach related the names of six candidates from the nine submittals for MWOA (SUSA) Scholarships. Motion by Joel Schmidt, second by Pat Meyer to approve the six candidates with SUSA being credited for the 5th and 6th recipients, passed.

Bob VanMoer reported on the 2005 Annual with the Best Western Motel being set as the location in Marshall. The Comfort Inn near the Best Western will serve as an overflow for additional rooms that will likely be needed by the attendees. The Vendor Display will be held in the Motel. Golf, fishing and trap will be a challenge that they will be working on in the upcoming months. The status of the Arrangements Committee was discussed to assist the Local Arrangements in the negotiation with the motel for this and future Annual Meetings. The MWOA has purchased four projectors for use at the Annual Meetings and also for the workshops and CSWEA MN functions. The Collection Workshops have provided nearly 50% of the funding for these purchases. Additional A/V equipment is slated to be purchased with proceeds from the Annual Meeting and Joint Workshops to assist with the Annual Meeting (and other) needs.

Randy Poore reported that the letter of intent had been signed and the Sawmill Inn will be the site for the 2006 Annual Meeting hosted by the Metro/Suburban Section. The Vendor Display will likely be held in the Civic Center.

Pat Meyer asked for assistance and guidance for the Central Section who will be hosting the 2007 meeting. He also related that Clay Watson would be the new Director for the Central Section.

Jerry Balbach related that the June issue of the Wastewatcher was at the printer. He put pressure on Tom Miller to add more "stuff" to the issue. He and Tom have been talking about use of the website to allow a modem hookup for use in proofing the issues prior to print. Additional information will be updated on the web with this and the next issue of the Wastewatcher.

Jim Miller reported to the Board that there were a number of outdated publications and A/V presentations that should be discarded. Jim will remove the outdated material. Jim also related that the funds from the 2003 TIC (\$526.25) had not been expended and would be available with the proceeds from the Annual this year for purchase of additional materials. It was discussed that Rick Ashling had been serving as the Chair of the TIC but with the interest expressed by Randy Poore, President Simons asked Randy to Chair the Committee with assistance from Rick Ashling.

Discussion regarding the Wastewatcher Editor Position was motioned to be held in Executive Session by Dean Nelson, second by Bob Van Moer, passed. Discussion regarding the applicants received related that when the session was opened Jerry Balbach was notified that he had been selected to fill the term of Editor of the MWOA Wastewatcher. President Simons related that Jerry has the unanimous support of the Board in those duties.

Jerry Balbach related that he had noted that the Loyal Service "Hall of Fame" plaque had not been updated for some time and he would coordinate getting those new names inscribed.

The Collection Committee will be holding the Fall Workshop in Albert Lea October 26th and the spring location will be at the Ziegler site in April.

Joel Schmidt asked about apparent discrepancies in the position descriptions and application to the By-laws. The position descriptions have been partially updated and many have been incomplete since the Strategic Planning Committee worked out the basic outline a number of years ago. Dave Simons asked members to email updates for their positions by July 15th to then discuss at the Annual Meeting over Lunch on Wednesday. Joel also inquired about the procedure to modify By-laws.

President Simons expressed concern over the recent Southeast Section Election procedure as he had been contacted regarding the election and some discussion by a Board Member regarding the procedure. The issues were discussed and Dave asked if any further questions remained. He reminded Board members that the procedures should be followed regarding the elections to avoid this type of issue. The Board in this matter took no further action.

Jerry Balbach asked about the publishing of some Section Minutes and reports that have obvious errors. The members agreed that spelling and minor issues are corrected, but major issues should be brought up with Section Officers or the Board.

There was a motion to recess until August 3 by Pat Meyer, second by Bob Van Moer, passed.

August 3, 2004 Duluth – Radisson Inn

Members Present

Dean Nelson	Pat Meyer	Jim Miller	Dianne Navratil	Bob Van Moer
Darsey Thoen	Rick Ashling	Jerry Balbach	Joel Schmidt	Dave Simons
Randy Poore				

Members Absent

Mary Fralish Joe Stepun

Guests Present

Darold Neinhaus	Howard Jacobson	Steve Duerre	Keith Redmond
Sandy Mass	Steve Lipinski		Dan Berg

President Simons called the meeting back to order at 8:07 p.m.

Dianne related that the numbers for the Annual Meeting was very good with 179 registered, 31 social, 42 golf, 16 skeet, 10 fishing so far. Everyone noted that the picnic was excellent with lots of food and a very good time.

The meeting rooms will be on three levels that were identified in the on-site brochure. Maps have been available for finding the locations for the social and program activities. Both Jim and Dave thanked the Local Arrangements Committee members for all of their hard work.

Dean Nelson reported that the technical sessions were all in order and he also thanked all those who assisted in putting the program together.

It was noted that there were several members of concern. Member Ron Okerstrom had passed away and Paul Hoeschen had been involved in a very serious motorcycle accident and was recovering. Members had recently seen Dave Frey and he is in good spirits but would not be attending.

The A/V equipment was in order (thanks to Steve Duerre and Gene Erickson). The four MWOA ppt projectors will be put to a test this week.

The Lab Committee "pre-conference" workshop had 22 in attendance. Tony Glympf was the primary instructor and Steve Kleist supplied the microscopes for the sessions.

Jerry Balbach reported that the Nominating Committee had made two selections with a possible third candidate for Thursday's election for Vice President. He also reported that at least two scholarship recipients would be attending the banquet. The Loyal Service plaque may need to have an update to ensure all of the nameplates are that same style. He also reported that the Wastewatcher was in the process of standardizing the ads and procedures for submittals. He also indicated that he would be soliciting articles from the vendors to assist in the publication.

Dave Simons reported that the Arrangements Committee had met in July and was working on developing how Local Sections will be involved in the site selection process. This process will also be detailing the duties and roles of various members and their involvement. Dean Nelson will appoint a chair for this committee that will continue to work on the selection process including a request for qualifications to be given to prospective hotels/motels. The Committee will be meeting one hour prior to Board meetings to get started on this process.

Joel Schmidt asked about whether we (Board) were going to have a new officer's workshop. Dave indicated that this would occur Wednesday at lunch.

Joel also reported that the Cooperative Training Committee had met at the MPCA in St. Paul. MWOA, MPCA, MRWA, and the CSWEA MN Section gave reports on Training activities. Ruth Hubbard will be talking to Stew Thornly about the merger of the two Committees and Joel was invited to the Training Coalition meeting to discuss the possibility as well. Discussion also included ensuring that the Lab Committee be included to update the MPCA and MDH along with MWOA/CSWEA.

Bob Van Moer brought up discussion regarding the TIC and its function. There was a great deal of discussion about the types of materials and the limits of certain selections such as the Sac State Manuals that are checked out for extended periods of time. The Board was unified in looking for better ways to provide useful materials to its members. The Committee will continue to focus on this task during the upcoming year.

With no further business before the Board a motion by Jerry Balbach, second by Bob Van Moer was passed at 8:49 p.m.

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