

MISSOURI WATER and WASTEWATER CONFERENCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 12, 2006

Chair Rex Brinker called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The meeting was held at the office of the Missouri Water and Wastewater Conference in Jefferson City. Present at the meeting were Bernie Meyer, Tim Campbell, Tom Stechmann, Todd Baslee, Gene Thurman, Ron Testerman, Sandi Miller, Tom O'Connor, Rob Trivette and John Betz.

Chair Rex Brinker asked if everyone had read the minutes of the last Board meeting. He asked for a motion to waive the reading of those minutes. Ron Testerman made a motion to do so. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board. The minutes were accepted as submitted.

The Board talked about arrangements for the coming annual conference in September at the Holiday Inn Select in Columbia. Rob Trivette handed out a draft of the technical program. He said the program was going well and that he had only two spots left open for speakers. Scheduled for slots on the program were reports from both the DNR and the Safe Drinking Water Commission. Rob said that Tom O'Connor was going to be helping out with the wastewater session and John Betz with the water session for the Wednesday afternoon "Operators' Workshop." John Betz told the Board that Sandi was working hard to come up with ideas to make sure our operators around the state and their employers were informed about the special Wednesday afternoon training session. John said he thought if advertised and promoted properly the session could be a major draw for the Conference. Tom Stechmann asked Sandi who the Annual Conference registration information is sent out to each year. Sandi said that like most organizations she uses our membership database. Rex Brinker suggested that we investigate trying to use other databases from DNR and other organizations. John Betz said that as the new chair of the Mo. Section AWWA he had already spoken with his Board about allowing the MWWC to use its database to distribute training and annual conference information.

Sandi Miller told the Board that she and the office staff had attended the memorial service for Marge Bentley. Rex told the Board that the Conference needed to do something to recognize Marge's decades of loyalty and service. The Board discussed the possibility of naming the new training center after her. A decision was made to have a plaque in her honor ready in time for the section orientation meeting/board meeting on May 24. Sandi Miller said she would proceed in getting one made. Rex said that we need to contact Donnie Parsons from the N. E. Section to get biographical information on Marge.

Sandi Miller gave a report about exhibitor registration for the September meeting. She said the registration fee of \$640 had resulted in complaints from three or four manufacturers. Tom Stechmann pointed out to the Board that the recent joint AWWA/MWEA conference at Tan-Tar-A had charged exhibitors nearly \$1,000. He said he thought our booth registration costs were not out of line and unreasonable. Rex said

that at the end of the September conference we need to look at our costs verses the income and see if we need to adjust the booth costs.

Sandi Miller brought to the Board's attention again that including the meal costs in the registration had greatly helped to increase the attendance at the annual banquet in October. The Board agreed that the banquet had been one of the largest and most successful in years and that we should continue including meals as part of the registration.

Tom Stechmann wanted to know if the Sections might be interested in promoting both their section and the communities in their area at a special booth during the annual conference. The Board thought this was an interesting idea and wanted to have time to think about how to do this. Rex Brinker said that we should definitely be displaying the names of Section officers in the exhibit area during the annual meeting. He thought it might take us until next year to have time to develop ideas about how to set up a special "Section Information" booth.

John Betz gave the financial report. Income since January 1, 2006 was \$70,742.41. Expenses were \$60,355.58. Net income for the year as of April 1 was \$10,386.83.

John gave the membership report. As of April 10, the MWWC had a total of 2,108 members.

John Betz and Lori Cook gave reports on the office training program. John passed out a list of the thirty-two power presentations he had developed for operator training. He said he had plans to hold at least two training sessions per month at the new training center and two more at different locations around the state. He said that he was also trying to find another retiree who might be interested in developing programs similar to his for our wastewater operators. Lori Cook said that since the beginning of the year we had sponsored twenty-four training classes and had netted \$14,983.81.

Rex Brinker gave a report on this year's April Section meetings. He said he was impressed by the size of the meetings he had already been to and said he was told that several of the other meetings would probably be even larger. Bernie Meyer said that he thought the meeting in the Northwest Section had been a great success. Rob Trivette passed along to the Board that they had a record turn out for exhibitors at the Northeast Section meeting. He said they had plans to move the annual N.E. meeting to the Moberly auditorium next year to accommodate the number of members showing up.

The Board discussed annual meeting dates for upcoming annual conferences. Chairman Brinker said that we were ready for the September '07 meeting at the Holiday Inn in Columbia and that we had a contract in 2008 for the Lodge of the Four Seasons at the Lake. He asked the Board for opinions about 2009. The Board decided to look at how the Lodge meeting went in '08 before committing again to the Lake of the Ozarks area. Gene Thurman made a motion to return to the Holiday Inn in Columbia in 2009. The motion was seconded and approved.

Todd Baslee talked to the Board about the possibility of changing the MWWC by-laws to include multi-year, non-transferable life memberships. The Board thought this was a good idea and decided to proceed with necessary changes. Chairman Brinker told Sandi to move ahead with developing information for the members on a multi-year membership and to have things ready for a vote at the opening session of the annual meeting in September.

Sandi talked to the Board about other possible needed changes in the Conference by-laws. She passed out copies of the by-laws with suggestions about changes. Rex asked the Board to look over the suggestions and to make any of their own. He said he would like to have suggestions returned to Sandi by May 15. At the Section officer orientation meeting on May 24 the Board will approve changes for the by-laws. These changes will have to be adopted by our members during the opening session of the annual meeting in September.

The Board talked about ideas for sponsoring a new "Sidener Breakfast" on the last day of the annual conference each year.

There being no further old or new business, Chairman Brinker asked for a motion to adjourn. Tom Stechmann made the motion. It was seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.