



Chesapeake WEA Board Meeting Minutes

Teams/Engineers Club
Tuesday, May 6, 2025
9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Attendance: Laura Oakes, Eric Held, Stephen Greiling, Gary Moore, David Wildasin, Tralonda Kelly-Redondo, Alan Will, Danielle Sheahan, Alana Gildner, Yvette Judge, Carlos Mejias, Beth Forbes, Gian Cossa, Clarence Beverhoudt, Alexis Wingfield, Jegnow Essatu, Peter Garvey, David Gisborn, Justin Bell, Clark Howells, Chaka Kamran, Elizabeth Colletti, Bethel Abate, Kraig Moodie, Brian Persing, Justin Bell

Call to Order by President Gary Moore – meeting called to order at 9:35.

SECRETARY REPORT – Kraig Moodie – present

- March 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
- Motion to approve by Laura, seconded by David. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Danielle Sheahan - present

- Current Financial Status of CWEA

DELEGATE'S REPORT(S) - Ellen Frketic, Laura Jo Oakes – not present/ present

- Laura reported on the Salem WEFMAX. Will share resources that were shared
- Will be preparing for WEFTEC
- Peter also shared on WEFMAX

CTA'S REPORT – Gian Cossa – present

- Gian reported that he's working with Eric Held, Rachel, and Karl on details. (Insurance, etc.)
- Encouraged everyone to attend Spring Meeting

NEW BUSINESS

- WEF MA Grant Proposal and vote for approval – Yvette presented
 - Member Engagement Program to be submitted for the grant
 - Gary overviewed what Yvette proposed
 - Motion to approve grant proposal by Gian, seconded by Laura. Motion carried.
- Nominations for the 2025-2026 Chesapeake WEA year
 - Positions up for nomination: (the process was reviewed)
 - Treasurer, DC Trustee, WEF Delegate, Vice-President
 - Call for nominations went out on April 14th
 - Nominations deadline – May 9th
- 100th year Celebration during the 2026-2027 year
 - Kraig discussed the possibility of creating a workgroup to decide on what we're planning to do to celebrate
 - Yvette asked if we could have someone step in as a chair for the celebration
 - Gian Cossa suggested creating an Ad Hoc Committee
 - Traci suggested Cheryl Paulin as the Chair and Gian volunteered to be Vice-Chair

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

- Upcoming events – Traci Storm
 - Friends of Biosolids & ITT Social Event – May 6th – Engineer's Club
 - National WEF RBITT Conference – May 6th-9th – Baltimore Convention Center

- Public Works Experience Big Truck Day – May 10th – NEED VOLUNTEERS
- Spring Meeting – May 15th
- Ed Norton/Gary Wyatt Memorial Golf Tournament – May 21st
- Stormwater Seminar – June 12th
- Rescheduled Brewery Tour – June 26th

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Gary Moore – present

- Asked people if they had ideas to bring them forward
- Happy to see all of the things that are happening, and how we're moving forward

COMMITTEES

Delaware Trustee – Chaka Kamran - present

- Awards – Eric Held – present
 - Eric reported on the WEF MA Awards and the need for nominations.
 - Eric discussed the possibility of a Public Official Award
 - To bring them to Tri-Con to speak and be presented with the award
- By-laws – Alan Will – present
 - The goal is to bring bylaws to propose at the next board meeting to approve
 - We have subcommittees working different topics
- Collection Systems – Charles Poskas – not present
 - Ed Norton/Gary Wyatt Memorial Golf Tournament – May 21, 2025
- DE&I – OPEN for Chair – Eric has stepped down
- Publications – Chaka Kamran – present
 - Chaka reported that the spring issue is complete and ready for print
 - The next issue will be the Tri-Con issue and will be full, so if you have something you want to submit, let us know right away
- Water Reuse – Andrew Kreider – not present

Utility Member Representative – Yvette Judge - present

- MDE W/WW Board Liaison – Clark Howells – present
 - Clark reported on improvements in the license and renewal process
 - There is a backlog, and they are working on it
 - A study guide has been created and issued
- Plant O&M and Safety – Tyrus Hunter – not present
- Short Course – Clark Howells
 - We had no takers for the Short Course Scholarships
- Training, Review and Evaluation (TRE) – Clark Howells – present
 - Short Course is on track and ready to go
 - Kraig asked if we could offer operator credits for OPS Challenge
 - Application is on the MDE website
- Utility Management Conference – Gian Cossa - present
 - Waiting for the final P&L
 - What is the status of the MOU
 - Kraig stated that we need to address the topic of the MOU with CSAWWA
 - CSAWWA has committed to Maryland Live for 2026.
 - Gian is very concerned about the leadership and would like to have the discussion
 - We don't have an agreement for the 2026 event
 - Kraig will initiate the conversation with Rachel

- YH2O/Mentorship – Dennis Hasson/Moalie Jose – neither present
 - Kraig reported that the program has gone through changes
 - Part of the second EPA Grant was pulled
 - Only fall program will be held this year
 - Should have full year for 2026 and we will need Career Coaches

President-Elect – Alana Gildner -present

- Asset Management – Dennis Lopez – not present
 - Alana reported that they're working on the Tri-Con workshop
- Audit – Kraig Moodie – present
 - No update at this time
- Government Affairs – Liz Colletti – present
 - Submitted a report on the Fly-In experience
- Nominations – Alana Gildner - covered in New Business
- Sponsorship – Andrew Kreider – not present
- Technical Education – Matt Zelin – not present

Vice President – Jegnaw Essatu - present

- Budget/Finance – Ellen Frketic – not present
 - Laura reported that we do not have any updates
- Business Practices – Gary Moore – present
 - Gary reported that he is assisting the Bylaws Committee.
 - Alana asked for a list of who doesn't have a committee SOP
- Leadership Retreat – Jegnaw Essatu – present
 - Will need to meet with Traci about the event
- Membership – Laura Jo Oakes – present
 - Laura reported on the Networking event planned for June
- Spring Meeting Co-Chairs – Chrissie Swan, Bethel Abate not present/present
 - May 15th – Smoketown Brewing, Brunswick, MD
 - Bethel reported on Spring Meeting and the need for registrations
- Strategic Planning – Yvette Judge – present
 - Reported that we are working with the Bylaws revision

Maryland Trustee – David Wildasin- present

- Laboratory Practices – Tralonda Kelly-Redondo – present
 - No report this month
- Student Activities
 - Hiring Event – Alexis Wingfield – present
 - Heard back from some students that have been accepted into summer internships
 - Had an "after meeting" to discuss how to improve
 - Student Activities – Agam Singh – not present
 - Plant tour planned for May 16th
 - Student Chapters – Chike Monwuba -not present
 - Students worked on a project
 - Design Competition – Megan Livak – not present
 - David reported that there are 3 SDC teams this year
 - Two teams will be presenting at Spring Meeting
- YP's – Carlos Mejia, Stephen Greiling – both present
 - Stephen reported on the Coffee Chats and requested people to volunteer to speak
 - Reported on the plant tour happening next week
 - Carlos requested board members to volunteer to speak at the coffee chats

DC Trustee – Jessica Shiao – having computer issues

- Public Outreach – Emma Danz, Brandon Friedland – neither present
 - Water Palooza – researching options
 - PWE events – Big Truck Day, May 10, 10am – 2pm
 - Volunteers NEEDED
 - Laura reported on Big Blue World and Our Blue World and the possibility of doing screenings, which could be a PCOC event
 - She requested those interested to reach out to her
- Residual and Biosolids Management – Hahns Hairston - not present
 - Reported on the Piscataway plant tour associated with the WEF RBITT Conference
 - Will be working on the Biosolids Beauty Contest
- Stormwater - Justin Bell/Beth Forbes – both present
 - Beth reported on the Stormwater Seminar with MDE
 - Asked to review our SOP to see if it can be approved
 - Looking for a Vice-Chair

BOARD MEETING DATES 2024-2025 – Location (virtual or in-person, to be determined)

- JULY 17 – 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

ECOLETTER EDITORIAL DEADLINES FOR 2025 SPRING ISSUE

Refer to the Chesapeake WEA Reference Guide for submission guidelines.

2025 Summer issue (conference) – *Tri-Con dates*:

August 26–29, 2025

1. Deadline to Editors	Friday, June 13, 2025
2. Editors submit to CK (editorial deadline & advertising sales close)	Friday, June 27, 2025
6. Finish printing	Friday, August 1, 2025

ADJOURN – meeting adjourned at 11: 07 am.

Motion to adjourn by Laura, seconded by Yvette