



Chesapeake WEA Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 7, 2024

9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Attendance: Gary Moore, Ellen Frketic, Beth Forbes, Clarence Beverhoudt, George Pearson, Clark Howells, Chrissie Swann, Kurtis Drummond, David Wildasin, Tralonda Kelly-Redondo, Islam Khallaf, Sara K, Gian Cossa, Jegnaw Essatu,

Call to Order by President Gary Moore – Meeting started at 9:35 am.

SECRETARY REPORT – Kraig Moodie

- Meeting Minutes
 - July Board Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes Laura, seconded by Yvette. Motion carried.

- Tri-Con Business Meeting

Motion to approve annual meeting minutes Gian, seconded by Yvette. Motion carried.

- Special Board Meeting – September

Motion to approve the Special Board Meeting minutes Ellen, seconded by Laura. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Danielle Sheahan - present

- Current Financial Status of CWEA given by Danielle. (Report attached.)
- Will be receiving the Tri-Con revenue check within the next week.
- Danielle reported that she and Alan met with his investor, Schwab, to learn more about how to invest some of the CWEA funds.
 - Shared that the investment option they discussed would hold the same interest for 45 days, opposed to the sweep account that changes daily.
 - Gian asked if CDs were a viable option. He suggested that we look into an 18-month option to lock into a good rate before they drop.
 - Gian suggested that we look beyond a brokerage house and doesn't think that is our best option.
 - Danielle suggested that we take the conversation offline to further investigate our options.

DELEGATE'S REPORT(S)

- Ellen Frketic – present
 - Ellen reported on WEFTEC and the related meetings.
 - She will be continuing on the DE&I committee and will be the vice-chair for the budget & finance committee and helping other committees.
- Laura Jo Oakes – present
 - Laura reported that she is the Communications Chair for the HOD, and several other HOD committees.
 - Laura discussed the Our Blue World movie from WEF and asked about interest in hosting a viewing.
 - She gave the dates and locations on the upcoming WEFMAXs.
 - Reported on the MA Grant program and upcoming deadlines.
 - WEF is doing MA Spotlights – one is on how to apply for an MA Grant.
 - November 13th – first one – Succession Planning
 - Open to everyone
- Gary encouraged board members to think about who will be attending the WEFMAXs.

CTA'S REPORT – Gian Cossa – present

- Gian reported that the first meeting is scheduled for December 16th.
- Kraig will be attending and helping Gian make the transition into the role.

NEW BUSINESS

- WEF's National RBITT Conference – May 6th–9th – Baltimore Convention Center
 - We are hosting the Friends of Biosolids social event the evening of May 6th
 - Traci reported that we are currently looking at venues.
- WEFTEC 2025 – Chicago
 - Do we want to hold a Chesapeake WEA reception, possibly with VWEA?
 - Gary proposed the option – do we want to do this again?
 - Traci will gather the information and investigate to see if there is value in pursuing this for 2025 and present it to the board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

- Upcoming events –
 - Bay Bridge Run – November 10, 2024
 - Chesapeake WEA team starts at 9:00am
 - Be sure to register for the Chesapeake WEA team
 - Details on website slide and calendar
 - Stormwater Webinar – November 21, 2024 @ noon
 - Geomorphic and Landscape Indicators for Prioritizing Stormwater Management Activities

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Gary Moore - present

COMMITTEES

President-Elect – Alana Gildner – not present

- Asset Management – Theresa Bruton – not present – report submitted
- Audit – Kraig Moodie – not present - report submitted
- Government Affairs – Liz Colletti – present
 - Liz reported on the recent webinar and will be planning for the upcoming Fly-In.
- Nominations – Alana Gildner - (Closed until April) – not present
- Sponsorship – Andrew Kreider – not present – Traci reported.
 - Annual Sponsorship Campaign – Now Open!
 - New brochure on website
- Technical Education – Matt Zelin – not present – November webinar

Vice President – Jegnaw Essatu - present

- Budget/Finance – Ellen Frketic – present
 - Ellen reported on the upcoming budget planning.
 - She gave an all-call for any outstanding budgets.
- Business Practices – Gary Moore – present
 - Gary reported that the committee has been co-meeting with the Bylaws Committee.
- Leadership Retreat – Jegnaw Essatu (Closed until July 2025)
- Membership – Laura Jo Oakes – present
 - Laura reported on the Brewery Tour rescheduling.
 - The committee will be meeting with Yvette about a utility membership luncheon event.

- Spring Meeting Co-Chairs – Chrissie Swan, Bethel Abate – present/not present
 - Tentative Date of May 15th
 - Chrissie reported that the committee is currently looking into possible venues.
- Strategic Planning – Yvette Judge – present
 - Yvette reported that the committee hasn't met lately but is working with the Bylaws Revision Committee.

Maryland Trustee – David Wildasin – present

Dave introduced himself as the new MD Trustee and introduced the new Lab Practices Chair.

- Laboratory Practices – Tralonda Kelly-Redondo – present
 - Tralonda reported that the committee went on a lab tour.
 - Eight new members were added to the committee since Tri-Con.
 - Committee is working on their SOP.
 - She asked about the Crystal Crucible Award and if we want to start awarding that again. Traci will do some research and follow-up.
- Student Activities
 - Hiring Event – Alexis Wingfield – not present – no report
 - Tentative dates – February 14th or 28th
 - Currently looking at venues.
 - Student Activities – Agam Singh – not present – no report
 - Student Chapters – Chike Monwuba – not present
 - Dr. Sara reported out and thanked CWEA for supporting HUWEA.
 - Traci reported on the recent chapter visits with Chike.
 - Design Competition – Megan Livak – not present – report submitted.
 - Ellen asked for a Johns Hopkins champion to create a student chapter.
 - Traci will email George Pearson the WEF Student Chapter requirements. His son is taking classes there.
 - Laura suggested asking Chris Overcash since he works there.
 - Jessica S. suggested that there needs to be a student champion to get the chapter off the ground.
 - Clarence and Beth will check with their Morgan State contacts to gauge the interest of implementing a chapter there.
- YP's – Carlos Mejia, Stephen Greiling – neither present – report submitted.

DC Trustee – Jessica Shiao - present

- Public Outreach – Emma Danz, Brandon Friedland – present/not present
 - Emma reported on the Fleming Park Clean-up event.
 - Water Palooza, PWE events
- Residual and Biosolids Management – Hahns Hairston – not present – no report
- Stormwater – Alexi Sanchez de Boado, Beth Forbes – not present, present
 - Beth reported on the June '24 seminar.
 - Seven new members have been added since the June seminar.
 - She reported on their upcoming webinar.
 - Announced a staff member passing at MDE may delay some things.
 - They will have an in-person committee meeting.

Delaware Trustee – Chaka Kamran - present

- Awards – Eric Held – not present

- ◊ Traci reported on upcoming WEF award deadlines.
- By-Laws – Alan Will – not present – no report
 - ◊ Gary asked Yvette to give a report on committee activities.
 - ◊ Yvette reported on the several subcommittees that have been formed and the progress of the revision committees.
- Collection Systems – Charles Poskas – not present – report submitted
 - ◊ Gary gave Charles's report.
 - ◊ Announced that the Ed Norton/Gary Wyatt Memorial Golf Tournament is planned for May 21, 2025.
- DE&I – Eric McFarland – not present – no report
- Publications – Chaka Kamran – present
 - ◊ Chaka reported on the latest issue of the Ecoletter.
 - ◊ She encouraged others to submit articles.
 - ◊ She reported that Aaron Hughes is back and will be doing interviewing for Women in Water articles.
- Water Reuse – Andrew Kreider – not present
 - ◊ Traci reported that we won't be holding the Water Reuse seminar in 2024.

Utility Member Representative – Yvette Judge - present

- MDE W/WW Board Liaison – Clark Howells – present
 - ◊ Clark reported on the recent focus on Cyber Security and new requirements for required training.
- Plant O&M and Safety – Tyrus Hunter – not present – no report
- Short Course – Clark Howells – present
 - ◊ Clark submitted and gave his report.
- Training, Review and Evaluation (TRE) – Clark Howells – present
 - ◊ Clark submitted and gave his report.
- Utility Management Conference – Gian Cossa - present
 - ◊ The conference is scheduled for March 10th–12th at LIVE in Hanover, MD.
 - ◊ Gian reported on where we are in the process of selecting the topics.
 - ◊ He will check with the topic chairs and see if they need any assistance.
 - ◊ Gian asked about the 2026 MOU. Yvette answered his question concerning the 2026 MOU.
 - ◊ Ellen reported on the budget meeting discussions.
 - ◊ Gary met with Rachel and Chen-Chi following the budget meeting.
 - ◊ We need to initiate the 2026 MOU meeting, give CSAWWA our list of discussion points, do an availability poll, and get something scheduled.
- YH2O/Mentorship – Dennis Hasson/Moalie Jose – neither present
 - ◊ Traci reported on the hiring event and encouraged employer participation.
 - ◊ The hiring event is planned for November 21 Hiring Event.

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

- Thursday, January 16, 2025
- Thursday, March 20, 2025

ECOLETTER EDITORIAL DEADLINES FOR 2024 WINTER ISSUE

Refer to the Chesapeake WEA Reference Guide for submission guidelines.

2025 Winter issue	2025 Deadlines
1. Deadline to Editors	Tuesday, January 7, 2025
2. Editors submit to CK (editorial deadline & advertising sales close)	Friday, January 17, 2025
3. Page proofs to Chesapeake WEA & WWOA for review	Tuesday, January 28, 2025
4. Edited proofs returned to CK	Tuesday, February 4, 2025
5. Final art to print	Tuesday, February 11, 2025
6. Finish printing	Thursday, February 20, 2025

ADJOURN – meeting adjourned at 11:21 am.

- Motion to adjourn by Ellen, seconded by Yvette. Motion carried.