

**MISSOURI SECTION
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MINUTES**

Date: May 6, 2022

Place: Columbia Water Plant, Columbia MO

ATTENDANCE: 11/13 (Quorum secured)

Board Members:

Jenny Doyle	Chair
Bob Parks	Chair Elect
Tony O'Malley	Vice Chair
Mike Klender	Past Chair
Randy Moore	Director (by phone)
Nick Davis	Secretary-Treasurer
Corinne Duckworth	Asst. Secretary –Treasurer
James Okumu	3 rd Year Trustee (by phone)
Kevin Wiggins	2 nd Year Trustee
Heather Gipp	1 st Year Trustee
Tim Ganz	1 st Year Trustee

Committee Chairs:

Mark Bross	Water Industry Coordinating (by phone)
Frank Genovese	Safety & Emergency Planning (by phone)

Guests:

Kirk Rome	Bylaws
Shawn Carrico	Drinking Water Week

Administrative Manager:

Mary Odom

Absent:

Mel Peterein	2 nd Year Trustee
Karen Marie Dietze	3 rd Year Trustee

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Jenny Doyle.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To approve the January 14, 2022 minutes.

Made by: Tony O'Malley

Seconded by: Mike Klender

Vote: No objections, motion passed by unanimous vote.

II. CHAIR'S REPORT- Jenny Doyle

Chair Jenny Doyle discussed the following items:

- Board actions since the last meeting:
 - None
- AWWA DMIC is recognizing Asian American Pacific Islander month. Drinking Water Week is this week. Chelsea Boozer, from the Southwest Section, was named 5 Under 35 by AWWA. Send her congratulations if you know her.
- Section Insurance Review webinar is on May 17th for all board members.
- Supply Chain survey is open now for feedback on access to Chlorine (for utility folks).
- Facelift on AWWA website. We all have access to the section microsite with the database. If any board member does not have access, let AWWA know.
- The Refer a Member Campaign started and will run year-round where members can get prizes for referring.
- New AWWA gear will come out this year for our section branded clothes.
- Jenny will be moving to the city of Glendale AZ in June. Bob will lead a discussion about Jenny continuing on as the Chair. She will not be here in person for the next two board meetings. She also didn't receive good feedback for participation in the in-person July board meeting, so that date and location are in flux.
- Jenny & Amanda Johnson are renegotiating our MOU with MWEA.
- New Travel Policy- discussion of whether we need a policy in writing or if we can just use our budget as a guide. Consensus was that we continue with putting this new language into the board policy manual.

III. RMSO Report – Tony O'Malley/Mary Odom

- 9 sections were represented at this meeting in Savannah, GA.
- Golden Hydrant Society- started by Georgia Section as an alternative to MWEA's 5S Society. It's by invitation only and members receive the pin displayed. AWWA said that any section can start the Golden Hydrant Society.
- Kevin Morley, Manager of Federal Relations is available upon invitation to speak at JAM on cybersecurity
- Summer Workshop is July 28-29 in Denver. This is when our strategic planning and board meeting are scheduled. However, we might want to send at least one or two board members to summer workshop. I asked Nancy about it, and she said as long as we have representatives going to RMSO, Membership Summit, and ACE, we wouldn't need to worry about missing Summer Workshop this year.
- Prohibition Museum is located in Savannah, GA that tells the story of banning alcohol in America and how it impacted society. One cool fact is that the Christian Women's Temperance Union advocated for and started the first drinking fountains in America to encourage people to drink water instead of alcohol.
- Georgia Taste Test competition- Tony O'Malley served as a judge.
- A couple of sections have workforce development programs with high schools that provides internships at water plants. Florida is still doing their high school training program for getting an operator's license by the time they graduate. KCMO Water started a program for high schoolers to get licensed, but don't know if it's still going. Also, community colleges can use the AWWA One Operator Scholarships, however there are no community colleges in Missouri offering a water program. St. Louis Community College would be interested in starting something like this. John Lopez would be a good contact. Chair Doyle encouraged Board members to identify volunteers that would be interested in pursuing starting a new program like this.

- Succession planning was emphasized which our section has greatly improved through cultivating young professionals.
- Water 2050 will be launched at ACE 22 where people work together to plan a sustainable and resilient future for water.
- AWWA is partnering with Water Now Alliance to train future water leaders. They will take up to 50 people into the leadership program.

IV. Fly-In Report – Bob Parks/Randy Moore/James Okumu

- The team visited 7 different legislative offices and, both senators and 5 representatives. AWWA did an excellent job of preparing the delegation with talking points: cybersecurity in the water sector including a solution similar to the power sector arrangement through a 3rd party regulator. PFAS was also addressed of considering Superfund sites for waste that is high in PFAS. AWWA is asking for an exemption from responsibility for contributing to PFAS in waste because water sector is not responsible for manufacturing PFAS. The 3rd message was a thank you for the infrastructure bill. Randy Moore added that the diversity of our delegation was better than ever before.

V. DIRECTOR’S REPORT- Randy Moore

- AWWA financial situation continues to improve with events now being in person. Water 2050 Initiative is soliciting input from think tanks from around the country and will draw on the diverse expertise of the board member. WUC has added 4 new members and is even stronger now as Bob Parks was added to the council.
- AWWA’s goal for ACE attendance is 6,000, but Randy thinks that there will be closer to 8,000 attendees.

VI. SECRETARY/TREASURER’S REPORT

- Nick Davis presented the Investment Policy edits. Change “security” to “Both Security and Income will be considered for investments”. We also have an investment policy on file with our Investment Company that should be referenced in the policy. That policy is conservative with risk management. In item F, a limit on how much can be invested per fiscal year without board approval was added.

MOTION: To adopt the new Investment Policy edits as presented with the addition of the words “per fiscal year” in item F.

Made by: Mike Klender

Seconded by: Tony O’Malley

Vote: unanimous approval

- Nick will get recommendations from Morgan Stanley and present at the July board meeting. Chair Doyle encouraged leaders to use their budget allowances to move the mission of the Section forward.
- Nick presented the financial position of the Section and noted that the current bank accounts are healthy.
- Joel mentioned that the payout from JAM 22 will be between 50-60K.

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER’S REPORT – Mary Odom

1. ACE 2022 Plans:

- Opening General Session will no longer have areas divided off for the sections. Joel will bring a banner to use for attendees to find our section. We will get a list of attendees for ACE from AWWA.
- Missouri Section Reception- Karen Marie selected Iron Cactus which is about a 10-minute walk from the convention center. The budget is around \$1,500. Date is June 13th at 5:00 – 7:00 pm.
- Email metrics have improved over the past quarter due to a clean up project I've been working on. Last quarter our open rate was 15.1% and now it is averaging 40%. Our click rate last quarter was 3.55%, and now it is averaging 7.15%.
- Our social media accounts continue to grow in both followers and engagement. We have a total of 836 followers for both Facebook and LinkedIn.

Important Dates:

May 1-7	Drinking Water Week
May 17 at 2:00	Section Services Webinar: Section Insurance
June 8 at noon	MO-AWWA Board of Trustees Monthly Virtual Meeting
June 12-15	ACE22 in San Antonio, TX
July 15	<i>Show Me Magazine</i> Deadline
July 27-29	AWWA Summer Workshop, Denver CO
July 28	MO-AWWA Strategic Planning, TBD
July 29	MO-AWWA Board of Trustees Quarterly Meeting, Columbia
Aug 1-3	Transformative Issues Symposium, Cincinnati OH
Aug 10 at noon	MO-AWWA Board of Trustees Monthly Virtual Meeting
Sep 11-14	Water Infrastructure Conference, Portland OR
Sep 14 at noon	MO-AWWA Board of Trustees Monthly Virtual Meeting
Oct 12 at noon	MO-AWWA Board of Trustees Monthly Virtual Meeting
Oct 18 at 2:00	Section Services Webinar: Topic TBA
Oct 23-25	AWWA Council Summit, Denver CO
Nov 4	MO-AWWA Board of Trustees Quarterly Meeting, Columbia
Nov 4	<i>Show Me Magazine</i> Deadline
Nov 13-17	Water Quality Technology Conference, Cincinnati, OH
Nov 15 at 2:00	Section Services Webinar: Topic TBA
Dec 5 week	Member Appreciation Events across the state
Dec 14 at noon	MO-AWWA Board of Trustees Monthly Virtual Meeting
Jan 13, 2023	MO-AWWA Board of Trustees Quarterly Meeting, Columbia
Jan 13, 2023	<i>Show Me</i> Deadline
Jan ?, 2023	AWWA Membership Summit
Feb 8 at noon	MO-AWWA Board of Trustees Monthly Virtual Meeting
Feb ?, 2023	AWWA/WEF YP Summit

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Director Randy Moore:

Fuller Award- Drew Hess

No report

Membership Engagement- Natalie Dees

- As of March 31st, we have 679 total members. Our year end goal is 712.

- Per the last official accounting by AWWA (end of March 2022), we are at +0.7% growth and our retention rate is still good at 89.2%. On the whole, AWWA Sections are up +.5% on total member count.
- During Drinking water week (this week) we held YP events in both KC and STL. The KC event featured a tour of Tnemec's facility (~12 attendees) and a happy hour (~20-25 attendees). STL even will be held the evening of the 6th.

National Nominations- Tony O'Malley

No report

Water Industry Coordinating Council- Mark Bross

- Lead and Copper Rule Implementation- there are concerns among MPUA & MRWA about how we will pay for it. APRA funds through DNR may have some funds, but they are still discussing how to approach LSL investigations. ARPA has an upcoming webinar on how funds will be distributed.
- PFAS is an ever-evolving issue that the committee is keeping on their radar.
- Cybersecurity with small systems is a big concern. Ransomware insurance policies have become so expensive that small utilities cannot afford it. The small systems are becoming uninsurable. The reality is that a system may not receive a payout even if they have a claim with their insurance. Mark Bross has had an incident to the tune of \$177K from a fraud. Any kind of training or materials that the WICC wants to do, the Section could fund some activities.

Chair Elect Bob Parks:

Annual Conference Management- Bob Parks/Scott Phillips

- JAM 22 was a success, but we are starting to hit capacity limits with the venue. Our technical rooms are at capacity, the expo hall is at capacity, and the meals are at capacity for Monday lunches. We are exploring an ad hoc committee to explore a new venue. However, we are committed to Margaritaville through 2025. Mary will send out survey comments so that stakeholders can discuss at the ad hoc committee meeting. We are considering increasing our room block to guarantee, and adding a room block at another hotel that has a shuttle or would work with us to offer a shuttle for this event. Our close-out meeting with MWEA is forthcoming. Tony would like to attend this meeting. Holiday Inn would be a possibility (not at the Baymont or Red Roof Inn).

Budget- Bob Parks

- No report

Strategic Planning- Bob Parks/Tony O'Malley

- The last time we held a Strategic Planning meeting was 2019. The next one is TBD.

Water Utility Council- Mike Galluzzo (not present)

- Tim Gantz reported that the Missouri Senate just passed a bill that schools have to test water for lead. It hasn't passed the House yet. It's unclear how it will affect utilities.

Vice Chair Tony O'Malley:

Exhibits- Joel Ogle/Ben Freese

- Joel reported that we had a waiting list this year for booths. We shrunk the booths from 10x10 to 8x8 to fit more in. We had a tremendous response for sponsorships (\$31,000).
- MRWA is still in scheduling conflicts with the dates of our conferences. We had several exhibitors break down early to go to the Rural Water conference. When we start looking at a different venue for 2026, we need to tweak our dates so that we don't conflict with their conference.
- Lead generation for exhibitors is still very expensive through Cvent, so no takers on that service.
- We've had an issue with electricity charges. Joel is recommending that we absorb the electricity costs and not let Margaritaville charge the vendor separately. Margaritaville won't give Joel an answer on which vendors were charged for electricity.

Technical Program- Tony O'Malley

- Tony will be working with John Killips who will be doing it again for MWEA one more year. Jenny will crunch the numbers on technical session stats to see what is most popular. How can we get more drinking water presentations? We can request last year's speakers to submit papers for *Show Me* magazine.

Manufactures/Associates Council- Scott Phillips (not present)

- Dallas Massie with Pedrotti volunteered to serve on MAC

Secretary/Treasurer Nick Davis:

Registration- Natalie Dees/Nick Davis

Joel reported that the issues we had with Cvent for this conference have been discussed with their leadership. Cvent is offering us \$11K in credits, but Joel is going to request additional credits for the mobile app issues. We are contracted for 2 more years, but not for the mobile app again. Alex is looking for an alternative to the Yapp App. Jenny suggested that we look at other registration options for when our 2-year contract is up. Joel wants to pass the registration responsibility on to younger team members that can take over the process. James volunteered to help Joel with this!

Site Selection- John Brummer

No report

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Corinne Duckworth:

SHOW-ME Magazine- Joel Ogle

Joel reported that articles received were not a good fit, so we have one technical article in this issue. Next deadline is July 15th. Joel asked our publisher about doing our conference printed program which wouldn't cost us anything because they would sell advertising. Other sections advertise in their program. Can we reduce the program by removing the abstracts and moving them online? The mobile app wasn't searchable by keyword.

Public Information- Melissa Carver- no report

Webmaster- Mary Odom

The website traffic skyrocketed during early 2022 due to the conference. We have 9,398 visitors in quarter 1 of 2022. I will start soliciting job posting from WICC and WUC committees to increase that service on our website.

Past Chair Mike Klender:

Audit- Elizabeth Robertson

No report.

Education- Kevin Wiggins

No report.

Nominating- Mike Klender

This process will start in a couple of months.

3rd Year Trustee Karen Marie Dietze:

Student Activities- Corinne Duckworth

Karen Marie Dietze reported that 11 abstracts were received and 6 were selected to present at the Joint Conference. Goal is to continue growing the program and promote more student participation in the Conference. Would like to plan for 8-10 posters next year and will budget for this expense.

Winners:

- 1st Place: Weiyi Pan, Washington University in St. Louis "Ability to Evaluate Lead Exposure from Tap Water with Point-of-Use Filters"
- 2nd Place: Apekshya Koirala, University of Kansas "Protein-based Biosorption of Mycobacterium Smegmatis"

- 3rd Place: Zixuan Wang, Washington University in St. Louis “Wastewater Nutrient Medium Extracted by a Microbial Electrochemical System Enhanced Microalgae Cultivation”

Missouri section is sponsoring Weiyi’s participation in the national poster competition at ACE22. Really excited to have Missouri AWWA/Wash U represented on the national scale and for him to showcase his research on lead exposure. If you’re planning to attend ACE, please make a point to visit his poster display in the Exhibit Hall on Tuesday, June 14th

JR Popalisky Scholarship- Mike O’Connell

- We received no submittals for the scholarship for either the J. R. Popalisky Scholarship or the One AWWA Operator Scholarship this spring.
- Per a suggestion from Jenny Doyle, we will be looking to simplify the scholarship application form for the JRP Scholarship and present a proposal to the Board at the next meeting.
- We also recommend that the One AWWA Scholarship and the JRP Scholarships are advertised at all educational sessions provided by the Section.

Research- Karen Marie Dietze

See Student Activities report earlier in the minutes.

3rd Year Trustee James Okumu:

Bylaws- Kirk Rome for Raed Armouti

The Bylaws Committee has opened the Administrative Guidelines for revisions.

Proposed changes include reducing the level of detail, transferring the board policies to a separate Board Policy Manual under direct board control, adding the Sustainability Award, revising the Popalisky Scholarships, adding the Compliance Officer to the Audit Committee, and adding the Philanthropy Committee.

The revision process will follow this general schedule:

- Input from stakeholders (board members, committee chairs, committee members). Leave open for 2 weeks
- Redlining and tracking the proposed changes
- AWWA review by Section Services Manager
- Exposing the changes to the stakeholders (add general membership) for a reasonable time period. Leave open for 2 weeks.
- Recommending the changes to the MO-AWWA Board for approval (confirm with AWWA)

Safety & Emergency Planning- Frank Genovese

James reported on behalf of Frank. No new members have joined. There was a training on April 5th that was well-attended.

Landmarks- Nick Davis

Nick reported that Florissant was named as a recipient and will be awarded at ACE and then a ceremony afterward. The Jackson award ceremony will be this summer.

2nd Year Trustee Mel Peterein:

Philanthropy- Karen Marie Dietze (not present)

Jenny reported for Karen Marie that we have had a request from Water Buffalos for \$1,000 donation.

MOTION: To donate \$1,000 to Water Buffalos.

Made by: Tony O'Malley

Seconded by: Heather Gipp

Vote unanimous in favor. Motion passed.

Water for People- Mel Peterein (not present)

Chair Doyle reported that Mel still needs to contact Jeff Gratzner about a final count on money raised at the joint conference and breakdown of how the funds were raised. The YP Social at conference was a success. We had 115+ attendees. Beer tasting had 34 participants and raised \$180 in cash sales plus and unknown amount of money from card sales toward Water For People.

Water Equation- Jenny Doyle

A golf tournament is happening during ACE 22 and another fundraiser called We Brace for Water. We also made a \$2,500 donation for Water Equation this year at Jon Shellhorn's request.

Sustainability Initiatives Coordination- Mark Griffin (not present)

No report

Young Professionals- Mel Peterein

See Water for People report earlier in the minutes.

2nd Year Trustee Kevin Wiggins:

Small Systems- Kevin Wiggins

RCAP training on September 22nd, but that will change. Another one is planned for the Marcelene area. We will use our own trainers instead of using MAP trainers. Kevin would like to recruit a small system and pay for their membership, and bring them to an in person training. The next grant meeting on Wednesday will have some changes to the program explained to the Sections.

Retirees- Jenny Doyle

No report

Service Citation Award- George Hausdorf (not present)

No report

1st Year Trustee Heather Gipp:

Diversity & Inclusion- Heather Gipp

Heather reported that she are trying to set up a Water Tower competition in St. Louis. Matt Sainz is a member of the Engineer's Club of St. Louis, and they would like to get them involved as a partner for this event so we can get connected to students. Target is early fall (Sep/Oct). Heather is joining in with the MWEA DEI committee to stay connect with them, currently have 30 on the committee and lots of subcommittees.

Operations Service Awards- Kevin Wiggins

No report

1st Year Trustee Tim Ganz:

Awards- Scott Phillips (not present)

No report

Drinking Water Week- Bridget Gray (not present)

Karen Marie reported via email that social media announcements for DWW poster contest winners happened this week. Coordinated with MDNR to distribute prizes to students (thank you, Nick!)

DWW event in KC

- Tour of TNEMEC facility + Happy hour at Cinderblock
- 12 people at the tour
- 20-25 people at the happy hour

Professional Awards- Tony O'Malley-

Tony reported on the Boyd Award winner at JAM 22. The Kramer Award has not been successful getting applications. Tony is looking for someone to replace him. Corinne suggested that he partner with the Student Poster Contest to get more applications from academics.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- Tim Gantz reported that MDNR (Jeff Pinson & Eric Medlock) reached out to us about a new webpage with resources for replacing lead service lines, testing methods videos. Tim is helping them produce videos and would like MO-AWWA to promote the resources across the state. Joel proposed that we change the coronavirus banner to the lead and copper resource page whenever the webpage is ready. We can also put it on social media and out by email to members and WUC.
- Section Leadership Discussion (Bob Parks)
Chair Doyle explained that she is moving to Glendale AZ in their utility system, water and wastewater. Her new employer is supportive of her continuing to serve the Missouri

Section. Nancy Sullivan has assured her that she can continue to serve as Chair even from Arizona. Jenny would serve virtually throughout her term. There is some precedence set by Nick Burns who moved to Texas during his term. It was a challenge for the Section because digital technologies had not evolved at the point we have now. We would continue to have in person board meetings, and Jenny would be virtual. The Section will support Jenny's decision to stay on as Chair with the caveat that she can change her mind if needed in the future.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT at 1:30 pm

MOTION: To adjourn

Made by: Tony O'Malley

Seconded by: Corinne Duckworth

Vote was unanimous in favor. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Odom, Administrative Manager