



# RICWA

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[ricwa.org](http://ricwa.org)

The Rhode Island Clean Water Association held a General Business Meeting January 10, 2023. President Peter Connell called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

Board members in attendance: President Peter Connell, Vice President Jeff Chapdelaine, Secretary Kim Sandbach, Treasurer Nora Lough, Scott Goodinson, Paul Desrosiers, Eddie Davies, David Perrotta, Ryan Desrosiers, Kevin Regan, Janine Burke-Wells, and Tracy Santoro.

All in attendance reviewed the November 2022 minutes. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Mr. Chapdelaine and seconded by Ms. Lough. All members voted in favor of the motion.

## **Officers Report**

**President** - Mr. Connell welcomed the newly elected Board members and would be commenting throughout.

**Vice President** – Mr. Chapdelaine will comment throughout.

**Treasurer** – Ms. Lough presented the November and December budgets, and a motion to accept both budgets was made by Ms. Burke-Wells and seconded by Mr. Perrotta. All members voted in favor of the motion. For 2023, she will present the monthly reports on a new format with better access and understanding for the board members.

**Secretary** - Ms. Sandbach will comment throughout

**State Director** - Mr. Davies forwarded an email form Workforce Development that included a voluntary survey.

**Certification Director** – Mr. Desrosiers stated that the December 2022 and the January 2023 meetings were cancelled.

## **Old Business**

1. Holiday party – The holiday party brought in about 595 pounds of food which was taken to the RI Food Bank.
2. Board Elections – New board members were elected at the holiday party. Ms. Janine Burke-Wells, Mr. Kevin Regan, and Mr. Ryan Desrosiers were all elected to the Executive board. Ms. Tracy Santoro was elected to the position of Director of Vendor Consultant.

## **New Business**

1. Calendar of events – the 2023 calendar was presented. Mr. Goodinson made a motion to accept and seconded by Ms. Lough. All members voted in favor of the motion.
2. 2023 Budget – The 2023 budget was presented showing increases due to inflation. Ms. Burke-Wells made a motion to accept the 2023 budget as presented and was seconded by Mr. Chapdelaine. All members voted in favor of the motion.
3. Board Committees – The following committees were formed with their respective chairs:

Committee	Chair	Support
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Membership	Kim	Nora, Ryan, Tracy, Ed
Golf Outing	Peter	Scott, Bernie, Bill, Kim, Paul, Eli
Trade Show	Jeff	Eli, Tracy, Kim, David, Janine
Holiday Party	Eli	Kevin, Kim, David, Ryan
Awards Banquet	Paul	Scott, Kim, Jeff, Nora
Scholarships	Kevin	Ryan, Janine, Kim, Tracy
Legislative Event	Janine	Scott, Nora, Amy, Ed, Jen
Web Site	Nora	Kim, Tracy, Eli, Jeff
Operator Training	David	Nora, Kim, Kevin, Jeff, Ed, Janine, Tracy
Ops Challenge	Ed	Riley, David, Kim, Scott
Nominations	Scott	Jeff, Nora, Kim

4. Legislative Event – The Legislative Event will be held at the RI State House on February 7, 2023, 1-3 pm. The Clean Water Legislator of the Year Award will be presented to Representative David Bennett. Guest speakers and a panel discussion will also be held during the event.
5. NEWEA Conference – The Annual NEWEA Conference will take place January 22-25, 2023, in Boston MA. Mr. Goodinson notified the board that this will be the last year NEWEA will offer discounted tickets to Operator Day for RICWA members.
6. Training – Jen West from DEM has expressed interest in training classes for the RICWA membership. The training committee will work with her on future training classes. Some training ideas that were suggested for the future includes Phosphorus removal and collections trainings. Mr. Davies will be holding a Grade I Operator Certification Prep class starting in March and may hold a Grade III review class in the spring.
7. Website – Ms. Lough presented the updates on the new website. Mr. Dilorenzo will be working with her to finish the website with hopes to go live soon.

### **Open Forum**

1. Hand Sanitizers – Mr. Connell presented quotes for hand sanitizers and lapel pins for the membership. Ms. Santoro offered to help with another quote for the pins. The Board voted not to purchase hand sanitizers and instead, order the lapel pins.
2. Earth Day Clean Up – The board was presented with an idea to host an Earth Day Clean Up in April 2023, with help from a grant from the Narragansett Bay Commission. An application will

be filled out and submitted to the NBC by February 15, 2023. Mr. Chapdelaine made a motion to move forward with the application to host a cleanup and was seconded by Mr. Davies. All members voted in favor of the motion.

3. Mr. Connell received a bill from last year's boot camp for \$250.00. He informed the board he will send a check for \$250.00 to Half Full, Inc.
4. Mr. Perrotta made a motion to adjourn at 7:12 pm and seconded by Mr. Chapdelaine.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kim Sandbach  
Secretary