



## RICWA

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

The Rhode Island Clean Water Association held a General Business Meeting May 11, 2023. President Peter Connell called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

Board members in attendance: President Peter Connell, Vice President Jeff Chapdelaine, Secretary Kim Sandbach, Scott Goodinson, Paul Desrosiers, Eddie Davies, David Perrotta, Kevin Regan, Eli Hannon, and Tracy Santoro.

All in attendance reviewed the April 2023 minutes. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Mr. Goodinson and seconded by Mr. Davies. All members voted in favor of the motion.

### **Officers Report**

**President** - Mr. Connell will be commenting throughout.

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

**Treasurer** –Ms. Lough was excused from the meeting. Mr. Connell presented the April budget along with the RICWA paypal yearly summary. Mr. Hannon will forward information to Mr. Connell and Ms. Lough on other website payment options. Members of the board agreed that an email for the monthly budget is preferred with the yearly budget summary updated in Google sheets. .A motion to accept the budget was made by Mr. Desrosiers and seconded by Mr. Perrotta. All members voted in favor of the motion.

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

**State Director** - Mr. Davies attended the GAC meeting which focused on the DC fly-in. He also attended a NEWEA Awards Committee meeting. NEWEA is still accepting nominations

**Certification Director** – Mr. Desrosiers attended the latest Certification board meeting where it was announced the results of the DEM Salary Survey will be on the DEM website. The RICWA board is looking forward to meeting with Mr. Jack Segal about discussing funding for future bootcamp recipients. Going forward, all persons who wish to enroll in the bootcamp class will be required to submit a letter of intent. Mr. Connell will be speaking on behalf of RICWA at the retirement party for Mr. Bill Patenaude.

### **Old Business**

1. Awards banquet – As of now, 150 people have signed up the banquet. The Google sheets for the exchange of information on the banquet is working well. Mr. Connell announced the Cranston Country Club has replaced the speaker system. He will also be printing programs for the banquet.
2. Earth Day clean up – RICWA spent \$658.17 on the clean up with \$625.00 reimbursement from the grant we received. Next year, RICWA will apply for the full grant amount of \$1000.00. The clean up had 48 people signed up and approximately 350 pounds of trash was collected. The final report will be submitted to the Narragansett Bay Commission along with pictures. Suggestions for next year include a new location, renting bathroom facilities, and snacks.

3. Ops Challenge– The team will be attending a Veolia sponsored training in Long Island, New York, before heading to the NYWEA/NEWEA competition. Mr. Davies will start fundraising after the spring conference.
4. Training – Evaluations for the Sanitary Equipment training were positive. Suggestions for fall trainings include a CCTV training but more suggestions are needed. Ms. Lough is planning on hosting a bacteria training with IDEXX at the annual tradeshow in September.
5. Website – Ms. Lough is requesting the final vendor contract and the flyer to upload to the website. She is also looking to build the Ops challenge and sponsor page in the next month or so.
6. Golf outing – The price of the golf outing did not increase this year. Mr. Connell is expecting to sell out in the next week or two. He emailed the board a donation letter for raffle prizes.

### **New Business**

1. Scholarship – Ms. Sandbach will be sending out the scholarship notice to the members. The list of past winners is needed for the website.
2. Chowder cook off – A new location is still needed to host the cook off.

### **Open Forum**

1. Cornhole – Mr. Chapdelaine got a quote for \$260.00 for a cornhole set with the RICWA logo on it. Mr. Goodinson made a motion to approve the purchase and was seconded by Mr. Perrotta. All voted in favor.
2. 2024 NEWEA Spring Conference– Mr. Goodinson announced the 2024 NEWEA Spring meeting will be held at the Newport Viking Hotel in Newport, Rhode Island.
3. Mr. Chapdelaine made a motion to adjourn at 6:31 pm and was seconded by Mr. Goodinson.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kim Sandbach  
Secretary