



RICWA

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The Rhode Island Clean Water Association held a General Business Meeting November 14, 2023. President Peter Connell called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

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

Also in attendance were Amy Anderson George, Michael Digiovangiacomo, and Ben Levesque.

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

Officers Report

President - Mr. Connell will be commenting throughout. Mr. Connell welcomed the guests who were in attendance.

Vice President – Mr. Chapdelaine will comment throughout.

Treasurer – Ms. Lough was excused from the meeting. Mr. Connell presented the October budget. A motion to accept the budget was made by Ms. Burke-Wells and seconded by Mr. Hannon. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Secretary - Ms. Sandbach will comment throughout

State Director - Mr. Davies attended several meetings for the month. He is working with Ms. George as she transitions into her role as State Director. Mr. Davies also reported that the RI operator who participated in the Operator Exchange with Connecticut ran into some issues. Mr. Davies contacted the CT State Director to take care of any problems.

Certification Director – Mr. Desrosiers announced he will stay on the Certification Board until the RI governor approves the new appointment.

Old Business

1. Holiday Party – Mr. Connell is seeking donations for the raffle. Tickets for a 50/50 raffle will also be sold. Jacobs has donated their training class refund of \$125.00 to the RI Food Bank.
2. Elections – Mr. Goodinson presented a copy of the ballot he will pass to the members at the Holiday Party. Mr. Digiovangiacomo and Mr. Levesque will be running for positions on the board. He made a motion to accept the ballot and was seconded by Mr. Reagan. All members voted in favor of accepting the ballot.
3. Web Site – Ms. Lough held a web site committee meeting to discuss changes to the site. She will communicate with Mr. Dilorenzo to move forward with the proposed changes.

4. Trade Show– Mr. Chapdelaine held a committee meeting to discuss the results of the survey sent to the membership about the trade show. Most were positive while some requested changing the time of lunch and food options. These will be considered for next year.

New Business

1. Legislative Event – Ms. Burke-Wells will be securing a date in early February. She is researching topics and candidates for awards.
2. Calendar of Events – Mr. Connell secured a date for the golf outing for June 17, 2024, at Potowomut Country Club. The board is looking for suggestions for the Awards Banquet in May 2024.

Open Forum

1. Mr. Connell thanked the board for their time and hard work throughout the year.
2. Ops challenge - Mr. Davies stated this year was very successful in fundraising. He will be researching grants to help fund ops challenge in the future. Quonset Development Corporation will be building a training facility in hopes ops challenge team can use for practice and for NEWEA's Training Day. Mr. Davies has a goal of forming a second RI team comprised of Veolia employees which will be funded entirely by Veolia.
3. Mr. Goodinson is in talks with Veolia about sponsoring NEWEA's Spring Conference in Newport, RI, in May 2024
4. Mr. Chapdelaine made a motion to adjourn at 6:28 pm and was seconded by Mr. Hannon.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kim Sandbach
Secretary