



**2023 MSAWWA—MWEA JOINT MEMBERSHIP  
DRAFT Meeting Minutes  
Thursday April 27, 2023—7:30 am  
Copper King Hotel/Copper I & II**

**Opening:** MWEA President—Barb Coffman.  
MSAWWA Chair—Keeley Barry called meeting to order.

**Old Business** — Approval of Spring 2022 Joint Membership Meeting Minutes, a motion was made by Rodney Lance, John Alston seconded, and the minutes were approved.

**New Business —**

1. MWEA Delegate's Report— Barb Coffman provided the Delegate's report from Dave Aune, WEF is working on diversity, inclusion, equity issues (DEI), which a top of priority for the National organization. The house of delegates is being evaluated to ensure it aligns with the strategic initiatives.
2. MSAWWA Director's Report—John Alston provided an update from National AWWA. Membership levels are over 50,000 members and AWWA is financially strong. Water 2050 is a new initiative from AWWA. John and Carrie attended the Winter board meeting for AWWA. John is passing the Director torch to Carrie Gardner this year.

**Joint Committee Reports (Board Oversight):**

1. Cross Connection Control – MSAWWA Sec/Treasurer—David Carlson/MWEA Sec/Treasurer—Rika Lashley Barb provided an update, reported that Montana has about 200 certified backflow testers in the State. The list is published through Montana Rural Water. Barb is continuing to provide backflow training throughout the State.
2. Exhibitors – MSAWWA Sr. Trustee—Matt Mudd/MWEA Sr. Trustee—Rickey Schultz Keeley provided an update that both boards were recruiting a chair for this committee.
3. Host City – MSAWWA Chair—Keeley Barry/MWEA Sec/Treasurer—Rika Lashley Robin provided an update, and noted that Shanna Adams did an outstanding job setting up host committee.
4. Information Management – MSAWWA Jr. Trustee—Jarrett Moran/MWEA Jr. Trustee—Matt Waite David Carlson provided an update on the committee activities this year.
5. Lifetime Achievement Award – MSAWWA Natl. Director—John Alston/MWEA Natl. Delegate—Dave Aune Rika Lashley recapped that Anna Miller received the Todd Teegarden Award, and the Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Nancy Cormier and Terry Campbell.
6. Program – MSAWWA Chair—Keeley Barry/MWEA President Barb Coffman Amy Deitchler provided an update to bolster the program abstracts for next years conference. Rika noted that she was considering an idea for incorporating a workshop style session.
7. Public Outreach—MSAWWA Vice Chair—Jason Fladland/MWEA Pres. Elect—Collette Anderson Collette noted that Rika Lashley is looking for a new chair for this committee.
8. Scholarship – MSAWWA Past Chair—Carrie Gardner/MWEA Past President—Neil DeZort Carrie noted that the committee has strong sponsorship and raffle ticket sales. The Committee is considering increasing the annual scholarship to \$2,000 and potentially another award.
9. SYP – MSAWWA Past Chair—Carrie Gardner/MWEA Past President—Neil DeZort Carrie noted that committee continues be very active, poster committee, social activities, increasing poster competition.

**MWEA Business:** Barb Coffman, MWEA President

1. President's report
  - a. Budget Report – Barb noted that the board has been working on Bylaw updates. At next year's annual membership meeting the members will be presented new Bylaws for approval. The board is considering hosting a WEFMAX conference in the future.
  - b. Budget Approval

Rika presented the proposed budget and financials for the MA. Barb noted that the Board voted to increase the membership dues from \$10 to \$30, which historically haven't been raised in decades. Rodney made a motion to approve, Amy seconded, the budget was approved.

2. Committee Reports
  - a. Beneficial Reuse – Neil provided that committee is looking for a committee chair.
  - b. Education – 85 signups for the preconference, which was well attended.
  - c. Grants For Teachers – Amy noted that teachers are getting back to normal, and starting to engage with teachers moving in 2023.
  - d. Honors/Awards – Jeremy noted strong nominations this year for recipients to good recipients.
  - e. Long Range Planning – Barb provided an update on the long-range planning updates.
  - f. Membership – Collette provided a report from Laura Gundlach is helping, the association has 122 members currently.
  - g. Pretreatment – Rika provided that committee is looking for a committee chair.
  - h. Stockholm Jr. Water Prize – Barb provided a report that the final student selection is near completion, and the winner will be announced in the near future. There were 4 candidate nominations and the committee is connecting with the students.
  - i. Stormwater – Mace provided a report that committee was active in the Montana Stormwater Conference, and continues to network with all the MS4 Communities.
3. Junior Trustee Nominations/Election  
Barb asked for nominations for Junior Trustee, Collette nominated Rodney Lance. Rodney accepted the position. Members voted to confirm Rodney Lance as the Junior Trustee.
4. National Delegate Nominations/Election  
Barb asked for nominations for National Delegate. Mace Mangold nominated Scott Buecker. Members voted for Scott Buecker to National Delegate.
5. Progression of MWEA Board
  - a. Incoming President Collette Anderson
  - b. Outgoing President Barb Coffman
6. Other Business – no other business was discussed.

**MSAWWA Business:** Keeley Barry, MSAWWA Chair

1. Chair's Report – Keeley provided a Section update, MSAWWA participated in the 2050 time capsule, conducted the EPA training this year.
  - a. Budget Report – Robin presented the 2023 budget to the members.
2. Committee Reports
  - a. Awards – Keeley reminded the members about the operator meritorious award.
  - b. Education – No Committee Report Needed.
  - c. Legislative – Nate provided an update that the section has been providing MT legislative reports. The committee participated in the DC Fly-in to represent Montana. Hot topics continue to be WIFIA, PFAS, Cybersecurity.
  - d. Membership – Matt provided a strong membership growth, the Section has currently 240 members.
  - e. WFP – Carrie noted strong WFP fundraiser.
  - f. Fuller Award – John noted Carrie Gardner was the award winner.
3. Junior Trustee Nominations/Election – Logan McInnis nominated Andy Schultz. John Alston nominated Ben Rigby. Matt Mudd nominated Chris Koblski. Nominees introduced themselves, Andy Schulz was voted as the new junior trustee after the membership conducted elections.
4. Progression of MSAWWA Board
  - a. Incoming Chair Jason Fladland
  - b. Outgoing Chair Keeley Barry
5. Other Business – no other business was discussed.

**Adjourn**

John Alston made a motion to Adjourn, Rodney Lance seconded, meeting adjourned.