



Southern Maine Regional Water Council

SOUTHERN MAINE REGIONAL WATER COUNCIL
Meeting
March 31, 2015

MINUTES

Convene Meeting: President Labbe opened the meeting at 9:08 A.M. at the KKW Water District Offices, Kennebunk, ME.

Roll Call: Present: *President Labbe – Kennebunk, Kennebunkport & Wells Water District*

Vice-President Knowlton – Maine Water – Biddeford and Saco

Secretary/ Treasurer Hodgdon – Kittery Water District

Director Leach – South Berwick Water District

Director Crovo – Portland Water District

Director Parent – Sanford Water District

Director Lynch – York Water District

Excused: None

Others Present: Keith Levasseur – District Engineer – Sanford Water District
Michael Rogers – Superintendent – Kittery Water District
Don Neumann – Superintendent – York Water District

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes of the Meeting of 10-9-2014:

Director Parent motioned to approve the minutes of the 10-9-2014 meeting as written. Seconded by Vice-President Knowlton. Unanimously Approved.

Reports:

- **President's Report:**

None

- **Secretary/Treasurer's Report:**

1. Secretary Hodgdon distributed the financial report showing a current balance of \$ 11,918.52. He also reported that our Annual Report to the State and our tax form to the IRS have been completed. **Director Leach motioned to approve the financial report. Seconded by Director Crovo. Unanimously Approved.**

- **Purchasing Co-Op Report:**

1. Director Lynch reports that the program is running well again this year. Vice-President Knowlton will get together with Director Lynch to compare bid results and ascertain if the program would be beneficial to the Maine Water Company which would also increase the quantities we order and possibly provide a better price for all.

- **Directors Reports:**

1. Director Crovo reports that the Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission would like some representation from the southern districts to attend a Table Top exercise to prepare for a Category 2 Hurricane. He will forward the meeting information to all our Council members.

Old Business:

- **ME DWP Grant funding for Hydraulic Modeling Project:**

1. Vice-President Knowlton discussed the grant money available to assist districts with completing their system's modeling capacity and access how that could address needs for all of the SMRWC members to interconnect their systems. At this time it appears most of the districts have made applications for some of the grant monies.

New Business:

- **Potential Legislation: DWP moving into the DEP Program:**

1. Director Parent distributed copies of the position paper from MWUA regarding this proposal. Much discussion ensued as to the possible pros and cons of this transfer. It was decided that based on today's discussion President Labbe and Director Parent would put together a position paper from this Council.

- **District Employee Succession Planning:**

1. President Labbe advised that our industry is aging and we should all have a plan for moving the Districts forward as employees retire. He advised that at KKW alone they will be losing 120 years of experience in the next 18 months due to 3 planned retirements. The members discussed recent and current openings in their Districts and how hard it is to find qualified individuals to fill these positions. The Council agreed we should partner with the Management Candidate School sponsored by JETCC and others to provide opportunities for the students to work with our member Districts during the school to get a good insight into the various jobs that need to be done within a district.

- **SMRWC Operator Exchange Program:**

1. The Operator Exchange Program that we had set up previously was discussed. It has been awhile since our last session of this program. Director Crovo will work to get this program up and running again.

- **SMRWC Intern Program:**

1. A proposal to start an intern program that would be sponsored by the Council was discussed. Keith Levasseur from the Sanford Water District, Justin Richardson from the Kennebunk, Kennebunkport & Wells Water District and Glissen Havu from the Portland Water District will work to put a program proposal together.

Other Business:

None

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at the offices of the Maine Water Company – Biddeford /Saco. Time TBD.

Adjournment:

President Labbe adjourned the meeting at 11:28 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Guy Hodgdon, SMRWC Sec. /Treas.