



Granite State Onsite Wastewater Association – May 28, 2024

Attending: (All on Zoom) Chris Albert, Bruce Fillmore, Tom Canfield, Aaron Wechsler, Carl Hagstrom, Jim Hanna, Larry Maznek (audio issues) **Absent:** Micah Denner, Kevin Kent **Staff:** Matt Gatzke, Mike Dennehy

Meeting started at 4:40 p.m.

Minutes of March 26, 2024 Board Meeting: Matt to fix several items including typos and clarification of separation of water table. Pop-up discussion about how board feels about this change brought up by the new bill. Mounding analysis mentioned. Tom made a motion to accept. Bruce seconded. Motion was approved.

Review of March 30 and April 31 Financial Reports: Matt commented on both month's reports as March shows high revenues for March and payment of conference-related bill so balance drastically lower for April. A motion was made to approve the March and April reports by Bruce. Seconded by Carl. Motion carried. Matt shared P & L for the conference. Total of \$19,364.78 income from the event, including the hats. SEP program P & L was shared with discussion of what instructor stipends should be. Matt to confirm what was paid in past year. Motion was made by Chris that stipends should not exceed \$4K. Seconded by Bruce. Motion carried. Consider the purchase of a portable screen. Tom had some technical issues with PowerPoint.

Education/Conference Recap: Matt to secure March 31-April 1, 2025 conference date. Balance between weather concerns and start of construction season. Vendors were sent attendee list. We will void any unpaid conference invoices and record who they are to capture next year at registration time. Need to get the planning committee going earlier for 2025. Matt had shared list of potential speakers from John Buchanan. General discussion about John's excellent pump session.

Legislative and Rules: No major news. Bill about reduction of separation is about to go through. Need to do a press release on this. Matt to get an update from Mike to share with all. Some complaints from system makers about the change which could impact their sales. General comment about more GR support from the office.

Old Business: No old business heard.

New Business: Matt asked about names of members who wanted to possibly be on the board, Surette, Herrick, Jones, etc. We need to pull an election together. Most of your terms expire in 2025 with the exception of Kevin Kent who is serving out Chris Kent's vacated seat. General discussion about finding more people to serve, including on committees. Need to invite possible board candidates to attend a few meetings.

Mentioned idea of a strategic planning meeting. Maybe form a subcommittee. Tom Burack should be asked to meet the board and come up with the scope of services. Aim for July to have Tom attend. Challenging to get younger people interested to give time outside of work. Jim asked about Rob Tardif to serve.

Vice Chairman Reports (Designers): Carl reported that he is working with David Aiten to get a meeting in the Jaffrey area for designers and installers. One hour from state and two on OSHA and trench safety. Possible safety speaker from EJP.

Vice Chairman Report (Installers): Jim reported that Josh Bartlett is averaging 8 inspections a day. A few clients with composting toilets and having issues with not enough bacteria action. With separate systems for laundry only, should we be adding things to those system due to lack of bacteria. Add brewer's yeast possibly every six months or so. No solids typically in those situations but need to check on scum layers.

Jim brought up the issue of returning the newsletter and what the cost would be. Costs have gone up to do paper newsletters (printing and mailing). Where would content come from? Pay someone on the outside? Matt reminded group of the need to get participation from board members and others in the industry to provide content. We could consider an e-newsletter. An example of an important article will be the new rule about water table separation reduction. Needs to come from someone in the industry. Also need to report out topics addressed at board meetings.

Vice Chairman Report (Pumpers): Larry had issues logging on so no report.

Vice Chairman Report (Evaluators): SEP program was discussed earlier. Matt sent the list of those who took the class a couple of weeks ago. OPLC to schedule the exams with them. GSOWA no long has representation on the evaluator board, though Larry represents the pumpers community. Tom mentioned issue that if Larry goes on the evaluator board, he cannot be paid to serve as one of our instructors. No other report given.

Meeting Adjournment: Motion was made by Bruce and seconded by Jim to adjourn meeting at 5:46 p.m.