Schools Council

MEETING REPORT – 11-12-13

NC AWWA-WEA, PLANT OPERATION & MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Date 11/12/2013 Time 1 pm – 2 pm
2013, 93rd Annual Conference
Embassy Suites Charlotte - Concord Golf Resort & Spa
Kitty Hawk Room
Concord, NC

Minutes recorded by David Hamilton
Attendance Sheet attached

1. INTRODUCTIONS AND CHAIRMAN’S REMARKS (Robert Fritts/Dell Harney)
   a. Bob F. thanked the Plant Operations & Maintenance Committee for the past 5 years as a committee officer. Bob thanked everyone for the hard work that went into the development and execution of the complete Maintenance Technologist Certification Program and for all of the Seminars, Spring Conferences, Meetings, etc. Bob expressed that he learned so much from each and every one in the group
   b. The gavel was passed to the new Committee Chair Dell Harney
   c. The entire committee gave a heartfelt thanks to Bob for his tireless leadership over the years

2. OLD BUSINESS
   a. Review of Last Meeting Minutes – approved without comment

3. Maintenance Technologist Schools
   a. Review of 2013 schools
      i. Testing results from 2009 to 2013

      | Class   | Examined | Passed | %  |
      |---------|----------|--------|----|
      | Class 1 | 449      | 380    | 85 |
      | Class 2 | 184      | 162    | 88 |
      | Class 3 | 118      | 67     | 57 |
      | Total   | 751      | 609    |    |

      ii. The scores within a given Class are generally trending downward each year, but so is the age of the students; the Committee recognizes that the first few batches of students were senior staff with more experience and therefore scored higher
      iii. Math scores were relatively low, even though math tutoring and the emphasis on math in all classes is increasing; kudos to Regina Cousar, Instructor
      iv. Predictive Maintenance scores were relatively low as well
      v. Student feedback on the Instructors has been increasingly more positive in recent years, esp. with regard to coverage of the Needs to Know (NTK) topics
   b. 2014 schools proposed
      i. Morganton (Western) School, Maintenance Technologist Certification – Classes 1 & 3 – approved
      ii. Raleigh (Eastern), Maintenance Technologist Certification – Classes 1 & 2 – approved
      iii. Catrice to verify actual school dates for Morganton in July & Raleigh in September.
   c. Catrice to work with ABC for Testing Proctor addition: new committee Chair Dell Harney.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE BUSINESS REPORTS
   a. Communications Subcommittee – David Hamilton
      i. Plant Spotlight needed for 1/4/14 deadline (NC Currents Spring issue) – All to let David know of ideas
      ii. Committee Webpage Q/A forum – David working with Nici Banks to develop; hope to complete in Q1 2014
b. **Curriculum Development Subcommittee** – Robert Fritts
   1. Will be sending out NTK agenda for subcommittee work for updating with the side by side comparisons with all 4 classes. **All – Please reply to Bob with any input you have**

c. **Instructor Support Subcommittee** – Toni Branson
   1. 2013 Schools Report
   2. Recommendations for 2014 Schools are noted above in item 3.

d. **Maintenance Technologist Award Subcommittee** – John Hodges
   1. Recommended maintaining current subcommittee structure, including John Hodges continuing as 2014 Chair – approved
   2. Awards Banquet on 11/12/13 acknowledged the new Safe Water Maintenance Technologist of the Year Excellence Award “David Cox” Wastewater Treatment Plant Mechanic from the City of Charlotte
   3. Still need to promote MT award opportunity at Operators Meeting, Schools, conferences, etc.

e. **Spring Conference Subcommittee** – Brandon Garner/Wendy Banks
   1. Spring Conference 2014 will be April 6-8, in Wilmington. Theme is “Utility Rehab.” Training sessions are set, look for upcoming brochures for schedule
   2. Have Monday and Tuesday presenters confirmed already, but will need volunteers to help as monitors, moderators, and table staff
   3. Will resume planning discussion in January

f. **Maintenance Technologist Certification Oversight** – Mark Wessel
   1. A requirement is being added in 2014 that Certified MT’s obtain 6 CEU’s per year to maintain certification
   2. Class 4 testing may not be developed/administered by ABC. Our choices include combinations of self-performing the development and/or administration or contracting with others (i.e. California WEA)
   3. Mark and Lindsay to meet with ABC in January to discuss situation
   4. Regardless of outcome, NC AWWA-WEA is committed to continuing and improving the MT program

5. **OUTREACH AND LIAISON REPORTS**
   a. Automation Committee – no report
   b. Committee Liaison – Mark Wessel – no report
   c. Board Liaison / Risk Management – Paul Jackson – no report
   d. Communication Committee – David Hamilton – no report
   e. Professional Wastewater Operators Committee – Tony Mencome – Tony has been announcing PO&M topics and promoting the MT program at PWOC events
   f. Seminars & Workshop Committee – Catrice Jones – no report
   g. Wastewater Schools Committee – no report

6. **NEW BUSINESS**
   a. Coordinating Council Chair – John Kiviniemi – no report

7. **FUTURE MEETING DATES/VENUES**
   a. **January 21st 2014**, Tuesday, Greensboro Operations Center, 10 am – 2 pm
   b. **April 1st 2014**, Tuesday, Greensboro Operations Center, 10 am – 2 pm
   c. Spring Conference
   d. **June 17th 2014**, Tuesday, Greensboro Operations Center, 10 am – 2 pm
   e. **August 19th 2014**, Tuesday, Greensboro Operations Center, 10 am – 2 pm
   f. **October 14th 2014**, Tuesday, Greensboro Operations Center, 10 am – 2 pm
   g. Annual Conference