

WEF Residuals and Biosolids Committee Meeting

WEFTEC 2012

Morial New Orleans Convention Center New Orleans, LA

Wednesday, October 3, 2012 7:30 – 8:30 am MCC - Room 263

Todd Williams, *Chair* Jim Welp/Chris Peot, *Vice-Chairs*

Agenda

Α.	Introduction & Welcome	T. Williams
В.	Review of Agenda	T. Williams
C.	Review of RBC 2012 Specialty Conference Minutes	C. Peot
D.	Identify and Welcome New Committee Members/YPs	T. Williams
E.	RBC Specialty Conference Subcommittee Update	G. Woodward
F.	Outreach and Education Subcommittee Update	N. Sierra
G.	Sustainable Residuals Use Subcommittee	B. Davis
H.	Bioenergy Technology Subcommittee Update	D. Parry
I.	Carbon Resource Subcommittee Update	J. Kepke
J,	Student & Young Professionals Ad-Hoc Vice-Chair Update	T. Datta
K.	Technical Practice Committee Update	J. Welp
L.	RBC WEFTEC Workshop Submittals	J. Willis
М.	WEF webcasts – NBP Biosolids Program Updates	S. Hadeed/J. Cox
N.	WERF Coordination & TCR Project Update	A. Pramanik
Ο.	EPA Office of Water Biosolids Update	R. Bastian/Rick Stevens
Р.	New Business	T. Williams
Q.	Next Meeting:	T. Williams
	- 2013 Residuals Specialty Conference - Nashville, TN: N	May 8
R.	Recap and Action Items	J. Welp
S.	Adjourn	



WEF Residuals and Biosolids Committee Meeting

2012 Residuals & Biosolids Specialty Conference
Raleigh Convention Center
Room 304
Raleigh, North Carolina
Wednesday March 28, 2012

Meeting Minutes

Introduction & Welcome – Chairman Todd Williams and Vice-Chairman Chris Peot Todd reviewed the committee mission statement and presented membership breakdown. Chairman Williams urged the attendees to join the RBC if not a member currently and provided details for becoming a member. All attendees were requested to introduce themselves. Todd Williams welcomed all new attendees and also recognized all S&YP's in attendance. An attendance sign-in sheet was passed around and a copy of that list is appended to these minutes. Vice-Chairman Peot called the membership to the attention of the minutes from Los Angeles and asked for any comments. Hearing none, the minutes were accepted for the record.

A word from the WEF President – Matt Bond

Todd acknowledged and thanked Matt Bond and previous WEF presidents Jeanette Brown and Dick Kuchenrither for being in attendance at the conference. Todd invited Matt to share a few words about the recently released WEF Strategic Plan. Matt reviewed the three critical objectives of the WEF Strategic plan and how we as members can all work to achieve these objectives. Matt thanked RBC members for their innovations and forethought exemplified by the effort of the WWTP rebranding task force chaired by Chris Peot of this committee.

Specialty Conference Subcommittee – Vice-Chair Jeff LeBlanc

Jeff indicated that this conference attendance was well above budget at approximately 850 total attendees. He thanked Richard Tsang and the planning committee and WEF staff for such a great success at this conference. Jeff reported that Greg Yarosz and Bob O'Dette will be chairing next year's conference in Nashville, Tennessee and that the dates for that conference are May 5-9, 2013. Plans are being made for another Water-For-People golf tournament on Saturday and the YP Wastewater Challenge (WWC) competition to be hosted at this event. WEF is also planning to include the Energy conference from May 7-10 at the same venue. Details are being worked out by WEF staff. The 2014 conference location was changed to Austin, Texas and will be Co-

Chaired by Lynne Moss and others. The 2015 conference will be located in Virginia Beach, Virginia and Co-Chaired by Rhonda Bowen and Todd Williams. A western US venue is being considered for 2016.

Agricultural & Industrial Byproducts Subcommittee – Chair: Lynne Moss Lynne provided a report out of the subcommittee. Topics discussed are on the power point enclosed.

Bioenergy Technology Subcommittee – Vice-Chair: Bob Bates

Bob reported on the successful pre-conference workshops at RBC which were well attended. 55 people attended the subcommittee meeting on Tuesday. Task force reports are provided in the subcommittee meeting minutes. Amy Hambrick of the EPA attended the meeting as well and answered questions from multiple members of the subcommittee concerning the new MACT standards for incinerators. Bob reminded everyone that a webcast on April 25th on Thermal Hydrolysis is being sponsored by the subcommittee.

Carbon Resource and Recovery Subcommittee – Chair: Trish Scanlan

Trish provided an overview of the Subcommittee activities. The Carbon Resources Subcommittee meeting was attended by 14 people. The results of the electronic survey (developed by Ned Beecher) were discussed. The survey had 108 responses from WEF members. Survey results indicated that useful actions for the subcommittee included providing information on GHG research, updates on GHG regulations, information on how to conduct a GHG inventory, and basic information on GHG emissions.

Based on the survey results and discussion during the meeting, the subcommittee identified one of the most useful actions as providing links to information. Based on this concept, the sub-committee will work with WEF to develop a website that directs users to existing websites and resources (maintained by others). WEF currently has a "Climate Change" page – desire is to minimize new material posts and maximize linking to existing web pages and resources in WEF, WERF, TCR, GWRC, etc.

The sub-committee has committed to deliverables in support of the WEF strategic plan and is working with Sam Hadeed to identify potential actions to address the plan's goals.

Outreach and Education Subcommittee – Chair Rhonda Bowen

Rhonda provided a report out of the Subcommittee's activities. The topics covered are included in the power point enclosed.

Technical Practice Committee (TPC) Update – Paul Bizier

Paul was not present and no report-out was provided.

RBC WEFTEC Workshop Task Group Update – John Willis

John was not able to attend, but Todd reviewed the workshops that have been accepted for WEFTEC 2012 and also the submittal procedure that has been formally adopted by

the RBC (see ppt). Todd indicated that WEFTEC 2013 workshop proposal ideas need to be submitted to John Willis ASAP and abstracts sent to John no later than July 15th.

WEF SSI MACT Rule Update – Jim Welp

Jim Welp gave an update on the SSI MACT rule activities, including Amy Hambrick's, presentation at the opening ceremony and Q&A at the Bioenergy Technology Subcommittee meeting. Amy led the EPA's effort for this rulemaking.

EPA is planning on publishing its formal rejection of both NACWA's and the Sierra Club's petition for reconsideration in the Federal Register around the middle of April. It is anticipated that NACWA will submit its written briefs on it challenge to the MACT Standards Rule to the DC Circuit Court of Appeals this summer, with oral arguments early in 2013, and a court decision sometime in 2013.

Bob Dominak is looking into some of the site specific operational limits that were contained in the final ruling but were not completely addressed in our earlier correspondence with the EPA and that he will be needing the assistance of WEF's MACT Task Force on a number of issues. Bob also noted that the interest in incineration has increased, not decreased, and that new FBIs are currently being constructed at two POTWs and under consideration for other POTWs.

Peter Brady observed that most new facilities are planning some aspect of energy recovery in the plans. He also noted that we have the cleanest emissions in the world and we need better recognition of the energy opportunities.

Jim Welp confirmed that the MACT Task Force is willing to help NACWA on any technical issues.

WEF Update – Sam Hadeed

Sam provided an update of the two webcasts that were scheduled for the first half of 2012. The January 7 webcast on biofuels was very well-attended with some 400 participants. The April 25 webcast will be on thermal hydrolysis and feature the DC Water experience with the Cambi process, the largest utility in the U.S. to employ this process. Other quarterly webcasts are being scheduled for the rest of the year. Sam highlighted the RBC Strategic Plan that is under development to coincide with the new WEF Strategic Plan for alignment, including the Water's Worth It campaign. Sam discussed briefly the ABBA meeting on Monday with the regional associations, WEF, NBP, and others on biosolids issues as part of the annual meeting of the group in addition to the quarterly conference calls of the ABBA group.

NBP Update – Jim Cox

Jim provide an update of the NBP Program including recent training class activities, the NBP Steering Committee and the revised work plan associated with the EPA Cooperative Agreement (now scheduled to be complete 12/31/12) and the NBP SC strategic plan.

The 12-member training class has progressed with WEF field assistance and monthly team teleconferences and will be convening the first week in April for their second and final group training, in this case on auditing. Nine of the 12 members will have achieved their Bronze Recognitions which will be awarded April 4 in Alexandria. The majority of the organizations have committed to third-party audits and the training will officially conclude by August, 2012. The NBP website has been completely updated with additions to the auditor guidance, the WEF Recognition Program and the guidance for the Mentor Program. Several smaller details remain to be completed in an on-going fashion this spring.

Chris Peot and Jim Welp have been added as official members of the NBP Steering Committee. The NBP SC has produced 5-year strategic plan and a follow-up 1-year work plan which was formally adopted while in Raleigh. WEF staff have integrated the 1-year plan into a revised EPA work plan while maintaining emphasis on the training class. Further discussion focused on program sustainability will take place at their next meeting in Philadelphia in July.

A new Biosolids Position Statement (approved by the RBC) was adopted by the WEF Board of Trustees in December, 2011.

Two new organizations – RE-WA, Greenville, SC and Knoxville, TN – were added to the roles of NBP Certified Agencies in the last year. Planning for their celebrations is underway.

WEFTEC 2012 Residuals Symposia Update – Mike Moore

Mike reviewed the residuals technical sessions planned for WEFTEC and indicated the number of abstracts received greatly increased since 2010 and that the overall quality of the abstracts improved. Details of symposia are included in the power point appended to these minutes.

Solids Processing Design Manual Update – Mike Moore

Mike indicated the manual is in the process of being printed and will be released by WEF in the next 2-3 months. Chairman Williams officially acknowledged Mike Moore and Tim Shea and all contributing authors from the RBC on this huge effort and thanked them on behalf of the RBC.

WWTP Rebranding Task Force Update - Chris Peot

Chris reported that RBC members and others chaired and contributed to a WEF Task Force charged with producing a report on the feasibility of re-branding our profession to recognize the recovery of resources along with the protection of human health and the environment. The report was finished and presented to the WEF Committee Leadership Council in January. The CLC agreed to take the findings and recommend moving forward with such an effort to the WEF Board of Trustees. The WEF Board of Trustees recently accepted the task force's report and has directed WEF staff to begin work on these recommendations.

Chris presented several important message points in the power point that utilities need to convey to their rate payers, regulators, and elected officials. In order to gain support, we need to convey value. There is no such thing as waste, only wasted resources.

The WEF Board of Trustees has asked that the Task Force stay intact and serve as a resource for WEF staff. Chris will continue serving as task force chair. A copy of the Task Force Report to the CLC/BOT is appended to these minutes.

WERF Update – Todd Williams

In the absence of a WERF staff member, Todd pointed out that WERF reports are available to anyone for free two years after publication and they can be obtained for a small fee for non-WERF subscribers in the interim. Any questions should be directed to the WERF staff. Details of WERF's many activities are included in the power point appended to these minutes.

EPA Office of Water Update – Bob Bastian

Bob Bastian was not present, so Todd referred the members to the power point appended to these minutes. Todd also informed the membership of EPA's plans to disinvest the Biosolids Compliance Enforcement Office beginning in FY 2013 (October 2012). Todd indicated that Greg Kester recently sent a letter to EPA administrator Lisa Jackson opposing the disinvestment. A copy of this letter is included with these minutes. Todd and Greg encouraged utilities to evaluate this issue to send EPA letters on this topic if they also oppose the disinvestment. This is a very time-sensitive issue so should be addressed immediately.

S&YP Update – RBC Ad-Hoc Vice-Chair Chris Wilson

Chris had to leave the conference early due to a family emergency so no report out was given.

Next Meeting – Todd Williams

Todd reminded that beginning with the RBC meeting at WEFTEC in New Orleans, the meeting will be limited to an hour so as to allow starting people to arrive on time using conference transportation (buses) that start their routes at 7:00 AM. He urged report-outs to be more succinct. The RBC meeting at the Specialty conference will remain an hour and a half long.

Wrap-Up/Action Items – Jim Welp

Jim Welp provided a list of seven things that make an effective committee member. "Seven Steps of and Effective Member"

- 1. Submit and abstract the call for papers for next year is coming soon.
- 2. Apply for membership of R&B committee if you are not already a member. Applications are on the website.
- 3. Engage a young professional encourage them, support them, and budget for them to attend.
- 4. Join an R&B committee and help them prepare a deliverable.

- 5. Friend someone on wef.com (a very good time to engage a young professional).
 6. Lead a workshop proposals are due July 15th.
 7. Participate in a webcast and encourage others too.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 AM.