

**North Carolina Pretreatment Consortium
December 15, 2005 Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Sharon Miller, Sherry Bagwell, Amy Varinoski, Leon Holt, Jimmy Pridgen, Debra Collins, Scott Pickard, Reggie Hicks, Jo Ellen Gay, Monica Hayes, Cheryl Tilley, John Gibson, Rickie Stutts, Dolores Bradshaw, Scott Austin, Kipp Glazier, David Gardner, Joe McNeely, Burrell Brock, Victor Quick, Bill Gintert, Martie Groome
[It was sleeting/snowing during the meeting!!]

The meeting was called to order by the NCPC chairman, Sherry Bagwell. Group introductions were made by John Gibson using the "Let's see if I can remember everyone's name" method. We appreciate John's being a good sport!

Sherry Bagwell read the minutes from the last meeting. Scott Pickard made a motion to approve the minutes as read; Jimmy Pridgen seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

2005 Conference Committee Report: Martie Groome and Scott Pickard

- The comments on the evaluation forms from the 2005 NCPC conference in Charlotte were very good overall.
- The hotel was singled out in the comments as an excellent conference facility.
- The conference will continue to rotate between 3 locations as per the vote at the 2005 conference.
- A 2005 conference committee member plaque was presented to Jimmy Pridgen since he was not in attendance at the conference. Scott Pickard has several plaques that were not picked up at the conference [Carol Bell's given to Sherry-There is also one for Joan Wall]. If you were on the committee and did not receive yours, contact Scott at 336-570-6721.

2006 NCPC Conference

- The 2006 conference will be held **September 17-19, 2006** [Sun-Tues] **in Asheville at the Crown Plaza Hotel** [formerly the Holiday Inn Sunspree]. The room rate will be \$94.00, which is in line with the last Asheville Conference. The Crown Plaza was the only hotel in Asheville that was willing to give us a reasonable hotel room rate.
- Many thanks to Bill Gintert for negotiating the hotel contract. It has been signed.
- The hotel has been recently remodeled and an outdoor area has been added that could perhaps accommodate our reception.
- Currently, no one has volunteered to chair the 2006 Pretreatment Conference. Bill Gintert has been asked to chair, but he has not accepted at this point.

2006 NCPC Meetings/Plans: Scott Pickard

- Meetings will be held in February 2006, April 2006, June 2006, September 2006 [at annual conference], October 2006 and December 2006.
- Potential Meeting Ideas:
 - Streamlining [Jan Pickrel [EPA Washington] and/or David Phillips [EPA Region IV] and possibly DWQ
 - Carey Johnston from EPA Washington Effluent Guidelines on Possible New Categoricals [Airport Deicing and Drinking Water Plant Discharges]
 - Emerging Pollutants** [endocrine disruptors, estrogen, caffeine, pharmaceuticals] **May be a separate meeting inviting lots of folks.
 - Joint LabNet/NCPC Meeting with Industrial Sampling topic of some sort

- Guy Aydlett and/or Bernie Strohmeyer from HRSD on Restaurant Database Results, New Pretreatment Information Management System [PIMS], 50 POTW Study [removal rates] update, “What’s Next From EPA?”
- DWQ Meeting – Hot issues
- Scott and Martie will be sending out an email survey to ask members to rank the topics of most interest. Several of the topics will involve paying transportation costs for meeting speakers; however, the budget is sufficient for that.
- Leon Holt was approached about holding a one-day FOG seminar here in North Carolina for Consortium members. Registration fee would cover lunch only. Consortium would cover all other costs. This would more than likely not be a regular NCPC meeting, but would be a seminar.
- Sherry suggested getting the FBI agent from Charlotte to give a meeting presentation on Ecosolve case as soon as it is closed.

Financial Report: Jimmy Pridgen

- Balance last year at this time: \$24,212.34
- Balance as of this meeting date: \$34,810.58
 - 2005 Conference made \$4289.74
 - 2005 Certification made \$6519.37
 - 205 Industry Day made \$722.92
- Sherry says we need to spend some money on equipment/educating our members, etc. Leon suggested spending some of our money on a scholarship to a student studying in the environmental field. Sherry stated that this had been suggested before, but making a decision on who would get the scholarships and what colleges to incorporate was too much trouble. Leon stated that we knew someone who would be willing to come out to discuss how this can be facilitated
- Industrial Day was very successful and was essentially a break-even event. We would like to have more events that the Consortium underwrites part of the expenses. If the Consortium does not start using the money in the treasury to promote training of our peers and the community we could loose our tax exempt status in the future.
- As per our NCPC policy, at the first of the year, all monies from the Conference Account in excess of \$10,000 and all monies from the Certification Account in excess of \$5000 will be moved to the General Fund.

Certification Report: Sherry Bagwell

- Needs to Know for Grade I and Grade II are now on the Consortium website
- Grade I and II will be held this year in RTP

Recognition of “Perfect Attendance”:

- Amy Varinoski [Greensboro] was recognized as having attended all six 2005 Consortium meetings. She was given a gift certificate.

Consortium Pins:

- Consortium Pins [they are gorgeous!...Thanks Sherry] were given to all members present that had attended at least 2 meetings during 2005. [These folks are underlined in the attendance section of the minutes] The following folks earned a pin and can get it from Martie Groome: Stephanie Brixey, Jeff Camp, Gisele Comer, Michele Dawes, Cheryl Douglas, Brian Gay, Steve Haller, Mike Hite, Mae Lofton, Freddie Martin, Beverly Metcalf, Aaron Otten, Dawn Padgett, Ralph Potter, Jimmy Rickert, Frank Skee, Doug Troutman, Jon van Hoff, Charles Van Zandt

Special Recognition:

- Lifetime Honorary memberships were awarded to John Gibson and Rickie Stutts. John is no longer involved in pretreatment and Rickie is retiring as of 12-22-05, but with their honorary memberships they will be welcomed at all future meetings and events!

DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

- In recent PT audits DWQ has mentioned that in the future headworks analysis on BOD, TSS and NH₃H will be based on actual design capacity, not using the typical removal efficiencies/water quality calculations.
- The group present discussed that this could very quickly and very easily end up with many POTWs being over allocated for these pollutants. Granted the old way ended up with huge MAHLs if you had removal rates in the 98-99% range. However, to use the very conservative design calculations is to severely underestimate the capacities of the POTWs.
- In addition, Leon Holt pointed out that if you have a BNR process, you need the higher influent BODs in order for the BNR processes to operate at maximum efficiency.
- The group was very concerned about this situation and a group was formed to go and meet with Jeff Poupart to determine the source of this new “policy”. The committee will consist of Leon Holt [Cary], David Gardner [Rocky Mount] and Sherry Bagwell [Winston-Salem]. The initial information about this change has been in conversation during audits. However, David Gardner has actually received a letter from DWQ rejecting a “headworks tune-up” based on the old calculations. DWQ wrote back and essentially said “Here’s your design capacity.” They were not satisfied with the situation and have hired an engineer to do a treatability study.
- Sherry also recently sent out a Total Nitrogen MAHL draft document from DWQ. The group that meets with Poupart will also include a discussion of this document to see if the two issues are related.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Oil and Grease Course-There will be an Oil and Grease Course in Clearwater Florida on January 12. Email Sherry Bagwell if you are interested in more information.
- NCPC Removal Rate Survey-The Pretreatment Consortium will be conducting a survey on removal rates and pollutant concentrations in activated sludge. There is a possibility that we might be able to use some of our own data rather than the ancient EPA removal rate data. We will not know unless we collect the data. Sherry is heading up this project. She gave out forms at the meeting to those present and will send out an email shortly. PLEASE PARTICIPATE!!!! The deadline is February 1, 2006.
- New Chairpersons – Sherry adjourned the meeting for a wonderful holiday fellowship lunch, but not before turning over the official “notebook” to Martie Groome and Scott Pickard who are the incoming chair and vice-chair.

Respectfully submitted,
Martie Groome