

MINUTES OF THE
TENNESSEE ONSITE WASTEWATER ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
November 10, 2009

The Tennessee Onsite Wastewater Association (TOWA) met on November 10, 2009, at the Lentz Public Health Center, Nashville, TN. Members present were: Spencer Hissam-President-Elect, Brian Corwin-Treasurer, Gregg Clingerman-Secretary, Directors – Jim McClain, Tom Petty, Christopher Michie and call in members Theo Terry-President, Directors - Kevin Raley, Bob Conrad, Dr. John Buchanan, Tim Burcham.

1. The Board Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by President-Elect Spencer Hissam. The agenda for the November 10th Board Meeting was presented.
2. **Minutes** from the September 8, 2009 Board Meetings were presented. Kevin Raley made a motion for approval of the September 8th minutes as submitted, Christopher Michie seconded the motion. After a full discussion the minutes were approved by the Board.
3. **Treasurers Report** was presented to the Board by Brian Corwin. It was reported that one payment for \$60.00 was made to twoyanks.com for the web site updating. The current balance as of November 10, 2009 was \$11,113.83. Tom Petty made a motion for approval of the Treasurers Report as presented, Gregg Clingerman seconded the motion. After a full discussion the treasurers report was approved by the Board.

4. **Committee Reports**

Web Site – Spencer Hissam reported that the counter to record the number of hits on the web site has been added. There were 33 hits on the web site in October. Spencer will create a “site plan” to help get more exposure and availability on various search engines.

Conference – Spencer Hissam reported that the contract with the Embassy Suites, in Murfreesboro for the TOWA conference to held on March 21, 22, and 23, 2010 has been finalized and signed. The conference will revolve around the new Regulations that will allow Advanced Treatment Units for single family residences. It was suggested that one day be spent on the theory of ATU's and the second day used to discuss how drip irrigation can be used on a single family lot. It was also suggested that we have someone from the State present the new regulations to the attendees and explain how and these regulations will effect regulators, engineers and installers. A soil scientist from the State office was also suggested to explain how the soils will be classified for drip irrigation. Spencer will begin work on securing speakers

and present a draft agenda to the Board and the January Board meeting. Dr. Buchanan made a motion that Spencer has the authority to spend up to \$1,800.00 to secure speakers for the conference, Tom Petty seconded the motion. After a full discussion the motion was approved by the Board.

Newsletter – It was reported that only one article has been submitted for the newsletter. It was suggested that the new State Regulations on on-site sewage disposal systems be presented in this newsletter covering technology issues, training requirements and O&M requirements. It was suggested to contact the State after the new Regulations have been adopted to see about getting an article from them to use in the newsletter. Dr. Buchanan will provide an article on O&M training for Advanced Treatment Units, and it was suggested to get article on drip irrigation, ATU's and media filter units. Tom Petty suggested we go back to the printed issue for this newsletter and send it out to everyone on the current mailing list as previous issues were done. Spencer Hissam said that he has cleaned up the mailing list and that there are approximately 2,550-2,600 contacts. The newsletter will be sent out in late January or early February 2010 to also promote the upcoming March Conference. Tim Burcham made a motion to mail out a printed newsletter, Brian Corwin seconded the motion. After full discussion the motion was approved by all Board members except for Theo Terry.

Director Representing Pumpers – Theo Terry presented the Board a suggestion to change the by-laws to eliminate the Director Representing Pumpers and to add a new position called Director Representing Service Providers at the September 8, 2009 Board Meeting. His research of the by-laws indicates that this could be done by a Board vote, with simple majority approval required. The only stipulation is that proper notice must be provided regarding the meeting for this vote. Theo Terry will try to get the by-laws rewritten for review and possibly approval by the Board at the January Board Meeting. This new position would be filled during the 2010 elections.

NOWRA – Theo Terry sent out information he had received from NOWRA on seeing if any affiliates that dropped out of NOWRA would be interested in joining in 2010. The cost would be \$40/member with no new offerings or changes from the previous years for assisting member organizations. Tim Burcham stated that the Board had already vote not to renew our affiliation with NOWRA and it was agreed that we wait to see how NOWRA performed under new management before we discuss about re-joining.

Old Business – No old business was presented to the Board for discussion.

New Business – Dr. Buchanan reported that an O&M Training certification class will be held on December 16th and 17th and a drip installation training class on December 18th. This training will be provided by the State. Dr. Buchanan stated that TOWA has a chance to provide training programs for the

continuing education requirements that will have to be maintained by the ATU and drip irrigation installers.

No further business came before the Board. The next Board meeting is January 12, 2010 from 4 -6 p.m. at the Lentz Public Health Center. Mr. Hissam adjourned the meeting at 5:25 p.m.