



Committee/Officer Report Submission

1 message

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To: mail@newea.org

Wed, Nov 16, 2022 at 12:05 PM

Executive Committee Meeting Date

November

Name of Committee or Office

Director - Vermont

Activities/Decisions Since Last Executive Meeting

This year, as part of the Operator Exchange Program, Vermont exchanged Operators with Rhode Island. The visiting Rhode Island Operator was Dave Perrotta, who is the Asst. Superintendent of the East Greenwich Treatment facility.

Dave spent last Tuesday and Wednesday touring treatment plants with Jennifer Garrison (GMWEA Board Member and Lab Director for the So. Burlington, VT WWTF) in Vermont. On Tuesday they visited the Montpelier WWTP and the Sugarbush Ski Resort Treatment facility.

On Wednesday, they visited the Shelburne WWTP, the Essex Junction WWTP, and the South Burlington Airport Parkway WWTP, where Jennifer works.

Dave stayed through Thursday to attend the GMWEA Fall Tradeshow, and then he drove back to Rhode Island in the afternoon as it concluded.

Dave reported that he enjoyed the tours and that the pace of the itinerary worked very well. He also enjoyed our Fall Trade Show. In conclusion, Dave's feedback was very positive.

Will Sheffer (Asst. Chief Operator of Airport Parkway WWTP in South Burlington) was the Operator from Vermont who visited Rhode Island during the week of the RI Tradeshow, back in September. Will also reports a very positive experience.

Next year's exchange for Vermont is with New Hampshire.

Meetings/Conference Calls Held

On November 10th, GMWEA held its fall conference and trade show in Burlington, VT. The show was very successful, had a final attendance of 404 people and had 75 vendors with booths. While the final numbers are not yet in, we believe that the show was profitable for GMWEA.

General Comments

Vermont struggles with identifying participants for the NEWEA Operator Exchange Program. Many of the smaller communities where these operators work do not have the budget or time to allow the operator to participate. In many cases, the operators are asked to use their vacation time. I understand that this may be a similar situation in other New England states. As such, I am wondering if the Executive Committee can work in an agenda item, at some point in the future, to discuss possibly operating TCHs for operators who participate in this program. Since communities who employ these operators need to provide operator training as part of their budget, TCHs may be an incentive as communities need to pay for operator continuing education anyway. This is a valuable program and promotes information and experience exchange between states.

Report Submitted by

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Date Submitted

11/16/2022