

INTERNATIONAL BOTTLED WATER ASSOCIATION

EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING (via Conference Call)

Wednesday, February 26, 2020
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Minutes

I. Attendance

Committee Co-Chairs:

Glen Davis, Absopure Water Company
Douglas R. Hupe, Aqua Filter Fresh

Committee:

Robert Gelbach, National Testing Laboratories, Ltd.
Nykia Hannah, DS Services of America, Inc. / Cott Corp.
H.R. Hidell, Hidell International
Mark Lindblom, Premium Waters, Inc.
John Mangini, Nestle Waters North America, Inc.
Jillian Olsen, Cherry Ridge Consulting LLC
Kasey Raley, Eurofins Eaton Analytical, Inc.
Robert Smith, Grand Springs Distribution

IBWA Staff Liaisons:

Linda Alfakir, IBWA
Bob Hirst, IBWA
Al Lear, IBWA

II. Approval of November 18, 2019 Education Committee meeting minutes

The minutes of the November 18, 2019 Education Committee meeting were approved.

III. 2019 IBWA Annual Business Meeting Education Programs

Overall rating for the 2019 program was 3.30 out of 4.00, which was down from 3.62 in 2018. The General session's average score amongst attendees was 3.44. The highest scoring session was the plant tour at 4.00 with just 1 vote. The lowest scoring session, also with only one vote, was the CPO study session with a score of 2.00. Attendance at 2019 sessions was in the range of 30-50 attendees per session.

2020 IBWA Annual Business Meeting Education Program

The Committee will meet via conference call in sometime in March to begin planning for the 2020 IBWA Annual Business Conference in Orlando. However, the Committee was invited to begin exchanging ideas for sessions during the conference call. One suggestion was for a session addressing the COVID-19 virus, otherwise known as Coronavirus. Bob Hirst advised the Committee that he

had recently received email messages from the Department of Homeland Security and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one with a questionnaire about how the outbreak may affect our industry, and others offering COVID-19 resources. Bob explained that one of the government's concerns is continuation of operations in the event of a national outbreak, so he suggested that any session on COVID-19 be paired with a review of continuity of operations plans covered by IBWA food defense training seminars around 2005-2006.

IV. IBWA Technical/Regulatory Seminar Program

Bob Hirst reported that one IBWA PCQI Workshop had been planned for March 2020 in southern California, at the request of a member bottler. After scheduling the workshop, a regional association announced a workshop at their annual meeting in the area. The attendees opted to consolidate their travel into the regional association meeting.

Bob Hirst spoke at an Arizona Department of Environmental Quality-sponsored drinking water conference in Pinetop, Arizona on January 23, 2020. Bob was asked to provide an overview of bottled water regulation and to brief the attendees on how the bottled water industry was addressing the PFAS issue. Arizona has several PFAS "hot spots," primarily in the vicinities of commercial and military airports where firefighting schools have been active over the years. PFAS has been identified in community water systems in the vicinities of these airports.

Bob reported that he has begun researching and compiling a list of online learning opportunities, most free or low-cost, and offered by organizations such as the Food Safety Preventive Control Alliance and the National Institutes of Health. Bob will catalog the online sessions and publish them on the IBWA website's education page. These online opportunities will qualify for IBWA CEUs, and some also offer Certificates of Completion.

In a recent IBWA staff review of and discussion about action items for the IBWA strategic plan, it was suggested that IBWA conduct a member survey to identify topics of interest for the education program, both for online opportunities and for the annual business conference. Staff will prepare an online survey and distribute it in the next 2 months.

V. IBWA Publication Update

The IBWA Audit Handbook was revised and completed in January 2020 with input from IBWA bottler members, audit contractors, and the Audit Program Evaluation Team. The new edition includes revisions of the Tier 1 audit checklist that address concerns expressed by members regarding the previous version's handling of food defense at bottling facilities. The revision also contains expanded reference materials, most of which are cited in the audit checklist. The new Handbook is available via a link published in News Splash of by request. Contact Bob Hirst, Al Lear, or Linda Alfakir for a copy.

The revised IBWA Code of Practice is about ready for Board review. The revision was delayed while staff worked to incorporate new sampling and testing protocols for PFAS.

The Plant Technical Reference Manual continues to be delayed die to the volume of revisions and new material. The committee requested that staff distribute the list that had previously been developed with assignments to groups or individuals on a committee tasked with revising the manual. Bob Hirst will locate and re-distribute that list.

VI. Certified Plant Operator Program Update

2019 End-of-Year Report

Total Exams:	95	
Total Passed:	62	(65%)
Total Failed:	33	(35%)
Cut Score:	70%	
Average Score	72.7%	
Total No. of CPOs in program:	584	
No. of CPOs requiring recertification in 2019:	156	(28%)

2020 Year-to-Date Report

Total Exams:	11	
Total Passed:	4	(36%)
Total Failed:	7	(64%)
Cut Score:	70%	
Average Score	70%	
Total No. of CPOs in program:	518	
No. of CPOs requiring recertification in 2020:	178	(34%)

VII. Old Business

No old business was brought to the Committee.

VIII. New Business

The education portion of the draft IBWA 2020 Business Plan was approved by the Committee.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 PM.