Come and Visit MGWA’s New Web Site

The MGWA has moved into cyberspace and some of you have not moved with them.

According to Director Susan Smith, who has undertaken the challenge of getting the MGWA on the Internet, she is still missing the company information for about 15 members of the Association.

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You can contact Susan with questions at 207-839-6637 or send the information she needs to Ssmith104@maine.rr.com.

Don’t miss this opportunity!

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Maine Groundwater Newsletter
“Keeping you in the Flow”

Officers:
President Ted Rolfe
622-4018
VP: Jim Innis
942-5646
Treasurer: Ike Goodwin:
225-2020
Secretary: Pat Pratt:
666-5687
Past President: Ted McLeod: 848-5520

Directors
Term expiring 2012:
Susan Smith - 839-3293
Joe Gallant - 839-3030
Mark Taplin - 374-5447

Term expiring 2013:
Harry Hanscom
825-4983
Tom Mason - 695-2493
Mark Weeks - 465-3753

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MGWA Annual Meeting
pages 2 & 3
FYI: Driller’s Info
page 5
Commission Minutes
pages 6, 7, 8 & 9
Website Update
page 12

To send information for this newsletter or to make inquiries: Contact Ike or Jody Goodwin: Call - 225-2020, Fax - 224-7174, Email to jodyike@megalink.net

Mark Your Calendars
Here are the dates which have been set for various meetings. All are subject to change.

MGWA Director’s are usually the second Monday of each month. They are at The Grand Hotel, 375 Main St. (Exit 130 off Rte.95), Waterville. The next regular Director’s meetings will be March 12 and April 9. The Commission will be meeting on March 14 and April 11. These meetings are held at 286 Water Street, Key Bank Plaza, in Augusta.

For questions on Commission business call Dave Braley at 207-441-5324

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President Ted Rolfe started the discussion at 9:30 a.m. Bill Laframme from the Maine DEP spoke on the subject of erosion control. All drillers will need to be certified in the future.

The annual meeting was called to order by President Ted Rolfe at 11:02 a.m. with the following present:


Here’s an opportunity to have some good come from those deep boreholes in bedrock that didn’t work out for your project! The Maine Geological Survey is working as part of a national consortium of state geological surveys to organize information about the nation’s geothermal resources into a single comprehensive database. The National Geothermal Data System is funded by the Department of Energy and aims to develop a network of distributed databases and data sites that can be seamlessly used for research on geothermal resources. Read about state involvement here: http://www.stategeothermaldata.org/

The first phase of this project, involved MGS compiling available information and is complete. In the next phase of this project, we are seeking to augment the existing information with new data, particularly in geographic areas that lack measurements. When we first scoped the project, we used our water well database to identify deep water wells in certain parts of the state, and particularly in granite bodies. Granites are likely to be more homogeneous through the depth range of a well than metamatamorphic rocks, greatly simplifying estimates of heat flow when rock samples are lacking. But using water wells is complicated by the hassle and cost of pulling pumps, not to mention the inconvenience to homeowners. Thus, we are seeking any unused deep boreholes in bedrock.

While our preference is for boreholes in major granite bodies, we’ll consider any available borehole of 300 feet depth or greater. To fill our geographic gaps we are most interested in boreholes in York County, northern Hancock and Washington counties, southern Somerset and Franklin counties, and central Oxford County, but we will consider boreholes anywhere. If you know of a borehole that might be suitable, please contact Dan Locke at 287-7171, or daniel.b.locke@maine.gov.
Groundwater Awareness Week

March 11-17, 2012 is Groundwater Awareness Week. Now well into its second decade, this week spotlights one of the world’s most important resources — groundwater.

Groundwater is essential to the health and well-being of humanity and the environment. Whether you’re on a public water system or a private well, whether you are a health care official, policymaker, regulator, or someone interested in water resources or the environment in general — groundwater awareness is important to you.

You can find more information on groundwater and water well stewardship by going to NGWA’s Web site for well owners, www.wellowner.org.

The officers and directors of the MGWA just want to remind drillers and pump installers that Maine Water Well Commission meetings are open to the public and everyone is encouraged to attend. As more rules are proposed and passed, it is important that members be involved in the process that affects their business.

MGWA Annual Meeting, continued from page 2


A motion to accept the January 08, 2011, general meeting minutes was made by Ike Goodwin and seconded by Trevor Gould and was unanimously approved.

A motion to accept the annual treasurer’s report was made by Karl Rudnicki and seconded by Mark Weeks and was unanimously approved. Joe Gallant and Susan Smith reviewed the annual treasurer’s book and everything was in order.

New Business:

Ted Rolfe read the slate from the nominated committee: Ted Rolfe for President, Jim Innis for Vice President, Pat Pratt for Secretary and Ike Goodwin for Treasurer, Mark Taplin, Harry Hanscom, Tom Mason and Mark Weeks for Directors.

Ted Rolfe opened nominations of officers from the floor, hearing none a motion to cease nominations was made by Mark Weeks and seconded by Joe Gallant was unanimously approved.

A motion to nominate Ted Rolfe for President, Jim Innis for Vice President, Pat Pratt for Secretary and Ike Goodwin for Treasurer was made by Susan Smith and seconded by Mark Weeks and was unanimously approved.

Please see MGWA on page 4.

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MGWA Annual Meeting, continued from page 3

Mark Taplin for Director of one year was made by the nominating committee. A motion to cease nominations was made by Ike Goodwin and seconded by Ted McLeod and was unanimously approved. A motion to elect was made by Ike Goodwin and seconded by Ted McLeod and was unanimously approved. Tom Mason, Harry Hanscom and Mark Weeks for two year Directors were made by the nominating committee. A motion to cease nominations was made by Ted McLeod and seconded by Trevor Gould. A motion to elect was made by Karl Rudnicki and seconded by Ted McLeod and was unanimously approved.

There was a discussion on the MGWA holding a DEP Erosion control class. Ted Rolfe will check into it and try to set something up for this winter. We will need a minimum of 15 people and it will cost $25.00 per person. It is a day long class.

(That class is scheduled for Feb. 28 but the RSVP had to be filed by Feb. 10.)

Ike updated the meeting on the endorsements for open and closed loop endorsements. The grandfathering period is over. The rules are in effect. You will need to take an exam for an open loop pump installer’s endorsement. You can call Jessica at the Commission to set up a time. The Commission and MGWA missed having this installer’s endorsement. You can call Jessica Estey at Commission to ask questions. The grandfathering apply to the open loop pump installer’s endorsement. If you read the small section on this in our rules, you should have no problem passing the exam.

A motion made to adjourn at 11:13 a.m. by Kevin Rudnicki and seconded by Ted McLeod was unanimously approved.

Philbrick to inspect Jamie & Beth Guimond’s well. Joe Gallant 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

Finding of Fact:

Ike moves that the Commission finds that Scott Estey has not responded to the Commission’s complaint as requested by chapter 9 paragraph 900.1. Furthermore, he was not present at the Commission meeting as requested. Don Robbins 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

Violation:

Joe moves that the Commission find Scott Estey in violation of chapter 9 paragraph 900.1. Tom Weddle 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

Corrective Action:

Corrective action has been tabled at this time.

New Business:

New Business: Ed Bowie and Joe Gallant are up for reappointment due to the Water Well Commission being a staggered Commission.

Discussion on 401.5 about the casing extension into bedrock wording in the rules has been tabled until the next meeting.

Geothermal:

The geothermal construction rules have been signed and sent to the Secretary of State’s office. They went into effect on January 1st, 2012.

The next Well Drillers Meeting will be: Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 9:00, Key Bank, 286 Water Street, Augusta ME.

Meeting Adjourned 10:30 a.m.

FYI:

Accessing the New Rules

For those wishing to access the new geothermal construction rules and bypass the somewhat complicated Commission site you can go to the new MGWA site at mainegroundwater.org. On the home page, go about halfway down and click on Maine Well Drillers and Pump Installers Rules. You will see it highlighted in blue. This will take you to a copy of the rules which you can print.

If you do not have access to the Internet, you can call Commission Board Clerk Jessica Bishop at 287-5699 to have a copy mailed to you.

January Commission, continued from page 7
Proposed well to be located no closer then 65 feet from the leach field and 63 feet from septic tank and 61 feet from the new leach field on property.

Proposed well to have a minimum of 70 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock or as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type steel core seals with bottom seal a minimum of 70 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight.

Exams Requested: None
Examinations Passed:
James D. Watson passed his Journeyman Well Driller’s Exam.

New Business:
Upon further review, Judd Goodwin has been submitting drill logs to the MGS. The Commission will not be sending a letter that says that drill logs are required to be submitted to the MGS.

Maine Groundwater Association will start working on the matrix for specialty well applications at the beginning of the year.

Discussion was held over having a general e-mail set up so that Commissioners had a Commission e-mail instead of having a personal e-mail published. There will be more discussion on this in the future.

Geothermal:

The governor’s office received the geothermal construction rules. They have now been sent to the AG’s office for review. The AG’s office and David Braley will be going over the rules, mostly for grammatical errors and will then submit them to the Secretary of State’s Office.

David Braley will draft a letter to all driller’s that will say possible effective date of new rules will be January 1, 2012.

The next Commission Meeting will be Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at 9:00, Key Bank, 286 Water Street, Augusta ME.

Meeting Adjourned 11:03 a.m.

Commission Meeting Dates for 2012

January 11, 2012
February 8, 2012
March 14, 2012
April 11, 2012
May 9, 2012
June 13, 2012
July 11, 2012
August 8, 2012
September 12, 2012
October 10, 2012
November 14, 2012
December 12, 2012

All meetings are subject to change

Open-Loop Geothermal Endorsement required for Pump Installers

Anyone installing or servicing a pump in an open-loop geothermal well must have a Pump Installer’s Open-Loop Endorsement in addition to their Pump Installer’s license. Any Master or Journeyman Pump Installer may obtain the endorsement from the Maine Water Well Commission by taking a short 20 question exam.

You may obtain a copy of these Rules from the Maine Groundwater web site at mainegroundwater.org.

To arrange to take the exam, contact the Commission’s Clerk, Jessica Bishop, either by calling her at 287-5699, or by email at Jessica.Bishop@maine.gov.

Ike Goodwin

The terms of two Commissioner’s on the Maine Water Well Commission have expired and are up for reappointment by the Governor.

Ed Bowie, a water well driller member of the Commission, will continue to serve on the Commission until either he or a replacement is appointed by the Governor. Ed informed the other Commissioner’s at their February meeting that he has not yet decided if he will ask the Governor to reappoint him or not. However, he wanted to make sure that other driller’s were aware that his term was up for reappointment in case anyone else had an interest in filing an application with the Governor’s office.

The second Commissioner’s position that is up for reappointment is the public member of the Commission, currently filled by Don Robbins. Don indicated to the other Commissioners at their February meeting that he was planning on asking the Governor to reappoint him to another five year term.

Ike Goodwin

December Commission, continued from page 6

The Commission is not charging anyone to take the exam. All of the exam questions are limited to the Chapter 5, “Open-Loop Geoxchange Wells” section of the Well Drillers and Pump Installers Rules.

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Ike Goodwin
Water Well Commission Minutes for December
Minutes of December 14, 2011 Meeting

Members Present: Ed Bowie, Chairman; David Braley, DHHS; Ike Goodwin, well driller; Dwight Doughty, DOT; Joe Gallant, well driller; Tom Weddle, MGS; and Don Robbins, public member.

Others Present: Paul Gauvreau, AAG; and Jessica Bishop, board clerk.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:13 a.m.

Approval of November 9, 2011 meeting minutes: Don Robbins motions to approve the November 9, 2011 minutes. Ike Goodwin 2nd the motion. Commission unanimously approves.

PENDING COMPLAINTS:

Complaint received from: Ron Poulin
Allegation: Ferrous smell, very low pH and poor water quality.
Well Drilling Company: James Philbrick Well Drilling
Responsible Master Driller: James Philbrick
Commission Action: James Philbrick requested a fair hearing, which will be held at 1 P.M. Mark Randlett will be the hearing officer for the fair hearing.

Complaint received from: Anonymous
Owner is Cynthia Austin.
Allegation: Well Drilled does not meet the minimum requirement of no closer than 100 feet to the leach field.
Well Drilling Company: Affordable Well Drilling
Responsible Master Driller: James Bisson
Commission Action: The Commission has not received any notification from Affordable Well Drilling in writing yet that corrective action has been completed. It will be discussed at the next meeting if no notification has been received.

WATER WELL COMMISSION MINUTES FOR JANUARY
Minutes of January 11, 2012 Meeting

Members Present: Ed Bowie, Chairman; Ike Goodwin, well driller; Joe Gallant, well driller; Tom Weddle, MGS; and Don Robbins, public member.

Others Present: Mark Randlett, AAG; Jeff Philbrick, well driller; Ron Poulin, homeowner; and Jessica Bishop, board clerk.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m.

Approval of December 13, 2011 meeting minutes: Don Robbins motions to approve the December 13, 2011 minutes. Tom Weddle 2nd the motion. Commission unanimously approves.

PENDING COMPLAINTS:

Complaint received from: Ron Poulin
Allegation: Ferrous smell, very low pH and poor water quality.
Well Drilling Company: James Philbrick Well Drilling
Responsible Master Driller: James Philbrick
Commission Action: Scott Estey
Commission Action: The Commission is waiting for response from the driller on the well.

SPECIALTY WELL APPLICATIONS: None
SPECIALTY WELL APPLICATIONS DONE “IN HOUSE”

Marc Stevens, Hatch Well Drillers, Inc.: Richard Savage, 76 Lemay Road, Enfield, ME. 04493

Proposed well to be located no closer then 75 feet from the leach field and 50 feet from septic tank on property.
Proposed well to have a minimum of 70 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock or as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type steel core seals with bottom seal a minimum of 70 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight.

Richard Dunham, Merti “Sam” Dunham Inc.: Deborah Gleason, 2 Balsam Lane, Friendship, ME. 04547

Please see Jan. Commission on page 9
**Water Well Commission Minutes for December**

Minutes of December 14, 2011 Meeting

**Members Present:** Ed Bowie, Chairman; David Braley, DHHS; Ike Goodwin, well driller; Dwight Doughty, DOT; Joe Gallant, well driller; Tom Weddle, MGS; and Don Robbins, public member.

**Others Present:** Paul Gauvreau, AAG; and Jessica Bishop, board clerk.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:13 a.m.

**Approval of November 9, 2011 meeting minutes:** Don Robbins motions to approve the November 9, 2011 minutes. Ike Goodwin 2nd the motion. Commission unanimously approves.

**Pending Complaints:**

**Complaint received from:** Ron Poulin
**Allegation:** Ferrous smell, very low pH and poor water quality.
**Well Drilling Company:** James Philbrick Well Drilling
**Responsible Master Driller:** James Philbrick
**Commission Action:** James Philbrick requested a fair hearing, which will be held at 1 P.M. Mark Randlett will be the hearing officer for the fair hearing.

**Complaint received from:** Anonymous
**Owner is Cynthia Austin.
**Allegation:** Well Drilled does not meet the minimum requirement of no closer than 100 feet to the leach field.
**Well Drilling Company:** Affordable Well Drilling
**Responsible Master Driller:** James Bisson
**Commission Action:** The Commission has not received any notification from Affordable Well Drilling in writing yet that corrective action has been completed. It will be discussed at the next meeting if no notification has been received.

**Complaint received from:** Earl Strandell
**Allegation:** Does not have clear water.
**Well Drilling Company:** Merl “Sam” Dunham Inc
**Responsible Master Driller:** Richard Dunham
**Commission Action:** The Commission clerk received notification from Earl Strandell that he was withdrawing his complaint but before the complaint can be officially closed, the Commission must receive notification in writing.

**New Complaints:**

**Complaint received from:** Jamie & Beth Guimond
**Allegation:** Possible cracked casing in well.
**Well Drilling Company:** Estey Water Well Inc
**Responsible Master Driller:** Scott Estey
**Commission Action:** The Commission is waiting for response from the driller on the well.

**Specialty Well Applications:** None

**Specialty Well Applications done “in House”**

Marc Stevens, Hatch Well Drillers, Inc.: Richard Savage, 76 Lemay Road, Enfield, ME. 04493

Proposed well to be located no closer then 75 feet from the leach field and 50 feet from septic tank on property.

Proposed well to have a minimum of 70 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock or as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type steel core seals with bottom seal a minimum of 70 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight.

Richard Dunham, Merl “Sam” Dunham Inc.: Deborah Gleason, 2 Balsam Lane, Friendship, ME. 04547

**Water Well Commission Minutes for January**

Minutes of January 11, 2012 Meeting

**Members Present:** Ed Bowie, Chairman; Ike Goodwin, well driller; Joe Gallant, well driller; Tom Weddle, MGS; and Don Robbins, public member.

**Others Present:** Mark Randlett, AAG; Jeff Philbrick, well driller; Ron Poulin, homeowner; and Jessica Bishop, board clerk.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m.

**Approval of December 13, 2011 meeting minutes:** Don Robbins motions to approve the December 13, 2011 minutes. Tom Weddle 2nd the motion. Commission unanimously approves.

**Pending Complaints:**

**Complaint received from:** Ron Poulin
**Allegation:** Ferrous smell, very low pH and poor water quality.
**Well Drilling Company:** James Philbrick Well Drilling
**Responsible Master Driller:** James Philbrick
**Commission Action:**

The Commission deliberated over evidence presented at the fair hearing held at the request of James Philbrick. Ike recused himself from all deliberations pertaining to this case as his company worked on the project.

Mark Randlett will draft a decision that will be sent to all Commission members to look over and see if any corrections need to be made. Ike will not be making any comments on the draft.

**Complaint received from:** Jamie & Beth Guimond
**Allegation:** Possible cracked casing in well.
**Well Drilling Company:** Estey Water Well Inc
**Responsible Master Driller:** Scott Estey
**Commission Action:**

Don Robbins moves that the Commission send Dave...
Anyone installing or servicing a pump in an open-loop geothermal well must have a Pump Installer’s Open-Loop Endorsement in addition to their Pump Installer’s license. Any Master or Journeyman Pump Installer may obtain the endorsement from the Maine Water Well Commission by taking a short 20 question exam. The Commission is not charging anyone to take the exam. All of the exam questions are limited to the Chapter 5, “Open-Loop Geothermal Wells” section of the Well Drillers and Pump Installers Rules. You may obtain a copy of these Rules from the Maine Groundwater web site at mainegroundwater.org.

To arrange to take the exam, contact the Commission’s Clerk, Jessica Bishop, either by calling her at 287-5699, or by email at Jessica.Bishop@maine.gov.

The terms of two Commissioner’s on the Maine Water Well Commission have expired and are up for reappointment by the Governor.

Ed Bowie, a water well driller member of the Commission, will continue to serve on the Commission until either he or a replacement is appointed by the Governor. Ed informed the other Commissioner’s at their February meeting that he has not yet decided if he will ask the Governor to reappoint him or not. However, he wanted to make sure that other driller’s were aware that his term was up for reappointment in case anyone else had an interest in filing an application with the Governor’s office.

The second Commissioner’s position that is up for reappointment is the public member of the Commission, currently filled by Don Robbins. Don indicated to the other Commissioners at their February meeting that he was planning on asking the Governor to reappoint him to another five year term.

Ike Goodwin

Open-Loop Geothermal Endorsement
required for Pump Installers

Two Commissioner’s Terms are Expiring

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Ed Bowie, a water well driller member of the Commission, will continue to serve on the Commission until either he or a replacement is appointed by the Governor. Ed informed the other Commissioner’s at their February meeting that he has not yet decided if he will ask the Governor to reappoint him or not. However, he wanted to make sure that other driller’s were aware that his term was up for reappointment in case anyone else had an interest in filing an application with the Governor’s office.

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Ike Goodwin

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To arrange to take the exam, contact the Commission’s Clerk, Jessica Bishop, either by calling her at 287-5699, or by email at Jessica.Bishop@maine.gov.

December Commission, continued from page 6

Proposed well to be located no closer then 65 feet from the leach field and 63 feet from septic tank and 61 feet from the new leach field on property.

Proposed well to have a minimum of 70 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock or as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type steel core seals with bottom seal a minimum of 70 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight.

Exams Requested: None
Examinations Passed:
James D. Watson passed his Journeyman Well Driller’s Exam.

New Business:
Upon further review, Judd Goodwin has been submitting drill logs to the MGS. The Commission will not be sending a letter that says that drill logs are required to be submitted to the MGS.

Maine Groundwater Association will start working on the matrix for specialty well applications at the beginning of the year.

Discussion was held over having a general e-mail set up so that Commissioners had a Commission e-mail instead of having a personal e-mail published. There will be more discussion on this in the future.

Geothermal:

The governor’s office received the geothermal construction rules. They have now been sent to the AG’s office for review. The AG’s office and David Braley will be going over the rules, mostly for grammatical errors and will then submit them to the Secretary of State’s Office.

David Braley will draft a letter to all driller’s that will say possible effective date of new rules will be January 1, 2012.

The next Commission Meeting will be: Wednesday, January 11, 2012 at 9:00, Key Bank, 286 Water Street, Augusta ME.

Meeting Adjourned 11:03 a.m.

Commission Meeting Dates for 2012

January 11, 2012
February 8, 2012
March 14, 2012
April 11, 2012
May 9, 2012
June 13, 2012
July 11, 2012
August 8, 2012
September 12, 2012
October 10, 2012
November 14, 2012
December 12, 2012

All meetings are subject to change

Ike Goodwin

Ike Goodwin

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A family business since 1992, located in Central Mass,
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Geotechnical and Construction drilling.
We represent many manufactures and have most everything you could possibly need for your drilling project.
Let us help you find what you need!
Contact Ed, Andy, Rob, Gary, or Pat with any questions.

Ike Goodwin

Ike Goodwin

December Commission, continued from page 6
MGWA Annual Meeting, continued from page 3

Mark Taplin for Director of one year was made by the nominating committee. A motion to cease nominations was made by Ike Goodwin and seconded by Ted McLeod and was unanimously approved. A motion to elect nominations was made by Ike Goodwin and seconded by Ted McLeod and was unanimously approved. Mount Mason, Harry Hanscom and Mark Weeks for two year Directors were made by the nominating committee. A motion to cease nominations was made by Ted McLeod and was unanimously approved. Scott Estey made by Karl Rudnicki and seconded by Trevor Gould. A motion to elect Ted McLeod was unanimously approved.

There was a discussion on the MGWA holding a DEP Erosion control class. Ted Rolfe will check into it and try to set something up for this winter. We will need a minimum of 15 people and it will cost $25.00 per person.

(Fourth class is scheduled for Feb. 28 but the RSVP had to be filed by Feb. 10.)

Ike updated the meeting on the endorsements for open and closed loop endorsements. The grandfathering period is over. The rules are in effect. You will need to take an exam for an open loop pump installer’s endorsement. You can call Jessica at the Commission to set up a time. The Commission and MGWA missed having that at the Commission to set up a time. The Commission and MGWA missed having the grandfathering apply to the open loop pump installer’s endorsement. If you read the small section on this in our rules, you should have no problem passing the exam.

A motion made to adjourn at 11:13 a.m. by Joe Gallant and seconded by Ted McLeod and was unanimously approved.

Finding of Fact:

Ike moves that the Commission finds that Scott Estey has not responded to the Commission’s complaint as requested by chapter 9 paragraph 900.1. Furthermore, he was not present at the Commission meeting as requested. Don Robbins 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

Corrective Action:

Corrective action has been tabled at this time.

New Business:

Ed Bowie and Joe Gallant are up for reappointment due to the Water Well Commission being a staggered Commission.

Discussion on 401.5 about the casing extension into bedrock wording in the rules has been tabled until the next meeting.

Geothermal:

The geothermal construction rules have been signed and sent to the Secretary of State’s office. They went into effect on January 1st, 2012.

The next Well Drillers Meeting will be: Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 9:00, Key Bank, 286 Water Street, Augusta ME.

Meeting Adjourned 10:30 a.m.
Groundwater Awareness Week

March 11-17, 2012 is Groundwater Awareness Week. Now well into its second decade, this week spotlights one of the world’s most important resources — groundwater.

Groundwater is essential to the health and well-being of humanity and the environment. Whether you’re on a public water system or a private well, whether you are a health care official, policymaker, regulator, or someone interested in water resources — groundwater awareness is important to you.

You can find more information on groundwater and water well stewardship by going to NGWA’s Web site for well owners, www.wellowner.org.

MGWA Dates for 2012

MGWA meetings are set up for Mondays for the following dates.

February 13
March 12
April 9
May 14
June 11
We take off July and August
September 10
October 8
November 12
December 10

MGWA Annual Meeting, continued from page 2


A motion to accept the January 08, 2011, general meeting minutes was made by Ike Goodwin and seconded by Trevor Gould and was unanimously approved.

A motion to accept the annual treasurer’s report was made by Karl Rudnicki and seconded by Mark Weeks and was unanimously approved. Joe Gallant and Susan Smith reviewed the annual treasurer’s book and everything was in order.

New Business:

Ted Rolfe read the slate from the nominated committee: Ted Rolfe for President, Jim Innis for Vice President, Pat Pratt for Secretary and Ike Goodwin for Treasurer, Mark Taplin, Harry Hanscom, Tom Mason and Mark Weeks for Directors.

Ted Rolfe opened nominations of officers from the floor, hearing none a motion to cease nominations was made by Mark Weeks and seconded by Joe Gallant was unanimously approved.

A motion to nominate Ted Rolfe for President, Jim Innis for Vice President, Pat Pratt for Secretary and Ike Goodwin for Treasurer was made by Susan Smith and seconded by Mark Weeks and was unanimously approved.

Please see MGWA on page 4.
MGWA holds Annual Meeting
Erosion control discussed and officers elected


President Ted Rolfe started the discussion at 9:30 a.m. Bill Laflamme from the Maine DEP spoke on the subject of erosion control. All drillers will need to be certified in the future.

The annual meeting was called to order by President Ted Rolfe at 11:02 a.m. with the following present:


Deep unused boreholes wanted!

Here’s an opportunity to have some good come from those deep boreholes in bedrock that didn’t work out for your project! The Maine Geological Survey is working as part of a national consortium of state geological surveys to organize information about the nation’s geothermal resources into a single comprehensive database. The National Geothermal Data System is funded by the Department of Energy and aims to develop a network of distributed databases and data sites that can be seamless-ly used for research on geothermal resources. Read about state involvement here: http://www.stategeothermaldata.org/

The first phase of this project, involved MGS compiling available information and is complete. In the next phase of this project, we are seeking to augment the existing information with new data, particularly in geographic areas that lack measurements. When we first scoped the project, we used our water well database to identify deep water wells in certain parts of the state, and particularly in granite bodies. Granites are likely to be more homogeneous through the depth range of a well than metamorphic rocks, greatly simplifying estimates of heat flow when rock samples are lacking. But using water wells is complicated by the hassle and cost of pulling pumps, not to mention the inconvenience to homeowners. Thus, we are seeking any unused deep boreholes in bedrock.

While our preference is for boreholes in major granite bodies, we’ll consider any available borehole of 300 feet depth or greater. To fill our geographic gaps we are most interested in boreholes in York County, northern Hancock and Washington counties, southern Somerset and Franklin counties, and central Oxford County, but we will consider boreholes anywhere. If you know of a borehole that might be suitable, please contact Dan Locke at 287-7171, or daniel.b.locke@maine.gov.
Come and Visit MGWA’s New Web Site

The MGWA has moved into cyberspace and some of you have not moved with them.

According to Director Susan Smith, who has undertaken the challenge of getting the MGWA on the Internet, she is still missing the company information for about 15 members of the Association.

This is the perfect opportunity to get your business out there to the general public - some of whom may be looking to get a well drilled.

It has become common knowledge that a large portion of the population now does most of their business “Online.” They look for businesses, they research them and, in many cases, contact them all online.

If you do not have a presence, you could be missing out on new customers which mean new business opportunities.

The new MGWA Web Site is a perfect opportunity to make your presence known for those potential customers who haven’t picked up the yellow pages for 10 years.

You can contact Susan with questions at 207-839-6637 or send the information she needs to Ssmith104@maine.rr.com.

Don’t miss this opportunity!

This newsletter is funded by the Maine Groundwater Association through member dues and advertising. Any member of the Association wishing to receive a newsletter may contact the president or treasurer of the Association listed on the front of the newsletter.