

Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2026 at 11:00 AM

Hybrid

Microsoft Teams and Donohue & Associates, Indianapolis, IN

1. Attendees

Karen Saavedra - American Structurepoint*
Emily Tenaglia - Strand Associates
John Burgelin - Donohue & Associates
Kameryn Wright - BF&S
Timothy Stamm - Bowen
Joe McIntosh - Sunbelt Rentals
Douglas Van Hoy - Source Technologies LLC
Emily Wehmeyer - Donohue & Associates
Derek Davidson - F.A. Wilhelm
Jeff McKean - Donohue & Associates (*Attended Virtually*)
Jake Kuhnmuensch - SAK (*Attended Virtually*)
Alex Sharpe - Thieneman Construction (*Attended Virtually*)
Bret Doub - CHA Consulting (*Attended Virtually*)
CJ Arvia - RJN Group, Inc. (*Attended Virtually*)
Ernie Castle - Aqua America (*Attended Virtually*)

*Denotes Committee Co-Chair

2. CSC Subcommittee Reports

A. Construction Observation/Inspector's Course (Steve/Scott) – February 24-26, 2026 at Bowen's office in Indianapolis

- Emily Wehmeyer provided updates regarding the course:
 1. There are currently 75 registrants for the course. This is close to the high record of 90 attendees in 2019.
 2. Volunteers are still needed to help grade starting at lunch time on February 26 from 12-2:30. Lunch will be provided.
 - a. If interested, please reach out to Karen or Emily Tenaglia and a calendar invite can be provided.

B. Collection Systems Certification Exam (Jeff)

- 2026 Collection System Certification Exam Dates
 1. Spring - Applications due on March 24th, 2026 for the April 21st, 2026 Exam.
 - a. Jeff has reached out to Alliance to coordinate on dates and plan training.

2. Fall - Applications due on September 29th, 2026 for the October 27th, 2026 Exam.
- Florida Collection System Certification Reciprocity
 1. The group discussed the Florida Reciprocity evaluation completed by Emily Tenaglia and Jeff McKean. The committee discussed and agreed with the methodology and Collection System Certification Class 1 reciprocity conclusion. A summary of this evaluation is attached to these minutes.
- C. Digester Magazine
- 2026 due dates
 1. Q1- Feb 20-**Topic and Author TBD. If interested, please reach out to Karen as soon as possible. The article is due Friday, February 20th.**
 2. Q2-May 8–Topic is to highlight the February Construction Inspection Course. Kameryn Wright to take photos and provide a write-up following the course.
 3. Q3- Sept 4 – Topic planned is to highlight summer tours and wastewater challenge
 4. Q4- Nov 27- Topic planned is to highlight the IWEA annual conference
- D. Specialty Conference (Troy/Joe B.) – March 5th at Kokomo Merrell Brothers
- Abstracts were due on January 5th and online registration live.
 - Emily Wehmeyer provided an update on the conference:
 1. 88 attendees have signed up as of this meeting and the goal is to reach 100. It was discussed to encourage additional registration to reach this goal.
 2. The three tracks for this conference were discussed in addition to the keynote address by Purdue Professor Linda Lee.
 - Karen noted that if Collection System Committee members are attending, it would be helpful to the committee if photos could be provided of the presentations for potential inclusion in digester magazine articles. **Please reach out to Karen if you are attending and able to provide photos of the collection system tracks.**
- E. Wastewater Challenge (Kameryn), May 18-19, 2026 at South Bend WWTP
- Kameryn provided an update that challenge information has been submitted and events have been chosen. Additionally, awards have been secured for the committee to provide following the challenges.
 - The Collection System Committee will need volunteers to grade these challenges.

F. IWEA Annual Conference 2026, Save the date, August 26-28 Indianapolis Convention Center

- Emily Wehmeyer provided an update that IWEA anticipates sending out a call for abstracts within the next two weeks and that this call will run through late April.

3. Open Discussion

A. Legislation

- SB 277 and HB 1348 and their potential impacts to local governments and engineers were discussed.

4. Presentation and Lunch

Next Meetings

Mar 13 – Virtual Only

April 10 - **Location and Presentation TBD**

May 8 - **Location TBD**; SAK Presentation

Florida Reciprocity Evaluation Summary

The Collection System Committee (CSC) was contacted by IWEA staff in December 2025 to confirm if and how reciprocity would be applied to a Collection System Class C Certification (presumed to correlate to the Level 3 Basic Course) from the Florida Water & Pollution Control Operators Association (FW&PCOA). After contacting the FW&PCOA, it was noted that the following apply to the Florida Collection System Certifications:

1. Collection System Certifications are optional in the state of Florida.
2. The course provided by the FW&PCOA involves a final exam, 100 questions in length, and they must receive a passing grade to receive the certification.
3. The only prerequisites are a high school diploma and one year of experience.

After cross-referencing the table of contents for the class that had been provided by the FW&PCOA with the ABC Testing Requirements used in Indiana's Collection System Certification exams, it was decided that the reciprocity allowed would be Class 1 in Indiana. It was also noted further that if the operator meets the Class 2 experience requirements from IWEA's Wastewater Collection System Operator Certification packet, then the CSC could allow the operator to sit for the Class 2 exam.