



**New Jersey Chapter**  
**Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers**  
P.O. Box 282  
Mount Freedom, NJ 07970

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**Minutes of ACHMM-NJ Chapter Business Meeting**

- Date:** December 9, 2008
- Occasion:** Holiday Dinner Meeting
- Location:** Willie's Taverne Restaurant  
Route 202 & Hillside Avenue  
Bedminster, NJ 07921
- Topic:** "Our Motivation: A Personal Perspective for Pursuing the Environmental Occupation (Why We Do What We Do)"
- Speaker:** Mike Mandracchia, CHMM (discussing his trip to India)

**Summary of Chapter Business Meeting Proceedings**

**Executive Board Members Present:** Zvi Blank (ZB), John Egan (JE), Patty Forgang (PF), Chandra Jennings (CJ), Dan Levine (DL), Michael Mandracchia (MM), Roman Pazdro (RP), Cheryl Polios (CP), Diane Pupa (DP), Charles Stebbins (CS) and Michael Taormina (MT)

**ACHMM-NJ Chairpersons Present:** Matt Basso (MB), Tom Farrell (TF) and Barry Weissman (BW)

The meeting was preceded by a 10-minute video entitled "Building a Safer World" produced by ACHMM for marketing the CHMM credential.

JE called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM. JE welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to the meeting. Personal introductions of each attendee followed.

**Secretary's Report (CJ/JE)**

Handout of minutes from previous October 21, 2008 joint meeting with ASSE was distributed to members.

Requested Motion to Approve the Minutes.

Motion by Scott Sherman; Seconded by Scott Butterfield; Vote; All in favor.

**Treasurer's Report (MT)**

As of 11/30/08, total Chapter asset balance was \$56,660.12.

Summary of October 21, 2008 Joint Meeting with ASSE at Benjamin Moore in Flanders:

A total of 23 ACHMM-NJ Chapter members attended.

Income was \$0.

Expenditures were \$0 (sponsored by ASSE).

Net profit/(loss) was \$0.



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Requested Motion to Approve the Treasurer's Report  
Motion by BW; Seconded by ZB; Vote; All in favor.

Update on National's Rebranding Initiative (MM/CS)

ACHMM name to be changed to Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals (AHMP).

New brand identity includes new organization name; new logo design and a tag line: "Global Leadership for a Sustainable Future".

The CHMM credential is not affected by this change; only the name of the organization is being changed.

Voting on referendum via email to end on 12/14/08; if proposal is approved, it will take effect on 1/1/09.

President's Report (JE)

Introduced the present members of the Executive Board.

Showed a slide of the EB organization.

Reviewed the accomplishments of the Chapter in 2008:

- Six (6) Chapter Dinner Meetings held with record attendance; technical talks on brownfields redevelopment, public speaking, changes to NJDEP Site Remediation Program, tour of Covanta waste-to-energy facility; and joint meeting with ASSE on eye safety.
- Six (6) Executive Board Meetings held with 10 teleconference calls.
- Conducted EHMM Course in May at NJDEP and facilitated same at National Conference in Minneapolis.
- Twelve (12) Champion of Excellence Award Winners.
- Young CHMM of the Year to Chandra Jennings.
- Pete Cook Award to Al Arnofsky.
- Honor Roll of Champions.
- VP/President Elect (CS) attended the ACHMM National Leadership Workshop in Milwaukee.
- Presentations made at Rutgers Environmental Science/Engineering Club/Career Fair.
- Scholarships: Tom Dalton Memorial awarded to Cecilia Angelone.  
Jim Ross Memorial awarded to Alex Ruiz.  
Nine (9) scholarships awarded to Chapter members to attend National Conference in Minneapolis (new application and ranking system instituted this year for this scholarship).
- CHMMunity: Brief summary with pictures taken of member volunteer efforts at Coastal Habit for Humanity in Neptune and Mercer Habit for Humanity in Trenton. A Safety Checklist being prepared for this type of activity by CP. The Chapter received \$350 from National for initiating these two (2) build projects.

**New Business**

New Chapter Website at [www.achmm-nj.org](http://www.achmm-nj.org) launched on 12/5/08 (MB).

Past President's Award given by JE to Immediate Past President Cheryl Polios for her dedication and service to the Chapter. The award consisted of a plaque and a \$250 American Express gift card.



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Call for Nominations of New Executive Board

The Nominations Committee consisted of Charles Stebbins, Cheryl Polios and Sharon Budney (who replace Roger Watson as the “at-large” member on the committee). The committee proposed the following Slate of Officers for 2009:

- VP/President-Elect – Chandra Jennings
- Treasurer – Michael Taormina
- Secretary – Roger Watson
- Two (2) 2-Year Trustees – Patty Forgang and Roman Pazdro

Requested motion to close the nominations.

Motion by Rich Cestone; Seconded by Nazer Ali; Vote: All in favor.

Request motion to have the Chapter Secretary cast one vote for the nominated slate of officers.

Motion by BW; Seconded by DL; Vote: All in favor.

Swearing-in of New Officers

JE swore in CS as President.

CS swore in CJ as VP/President-Elect, MT as Treasurer, RW as Secretary, and PF and RP as 2-Year Trustees.

Door Prizes

Brian Finch of Insurance Restoration Specialists, Inc. (IRS) donated four (4) door prizes to be chanced off at the meeting. A drawing was held to award the prizes. Nazer Ali and John Ryan won Soccer Mom Chairs, and Matt Basso and Linda Watson won boxes of Gertrude Hawke Chocolates.

Society of Woman Environmental Professionals (SWEP)

During her introduction at the beginning of the meeting, Linda Watson proposed that SWEP and the Chapter host a possible joint meeting in 2009, perhaps the June meeting at NJDEP. She will have Kathy Helmer, Co-Chair of NJSWEP, get in touch with either JE or CS to coordinate this event.

Next Chapter Dinner Meeting

- Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2009
- Place: The Rutgers Club
- Topic: Advanced RCRA Update & Panel Discussion
- Speakers: Michael Hastry & Peter Taylor of NJDEP
- Moderator: Zvi Blank

Adjourned business portion of meeting at 7:10 PM.

**Presentations**



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Michael Mandracchia presented a talk and slide show on the wildlife he saw on his trips to India when the ACHMM helped to start a new chapter there.

Requested motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 PM.  
Motion by ZB; Seconded by CJ; All in favor.