



Minutes of the 46th Annual General Meeting of the Central Dredging Association, 19 September 2024, online (via Teams) 16:00-16:30 hours

Present:

CEDA Board

Kathleen de Wit (President)
Rogier Kalis (Treasurer)
Polite Laboyrie
Dirk Roukema
Daan Rijks
Mark Lee
Jos Smits
Frederik Roose
Dirk Defloor
Paul Vercruysse

CEDA staff:

Mieke van Loenen (General Manager)
Linda Adams (Secretary - Minutes)

Members and guests

Louwrens Elzinga (Audit Committee)
Filippo Aldà
Stefan Bruggeman
Stef De Hauwere
Dick Heidelberg
Gideon Hohle
Dirk-Jan Karssen
Frans Lijmbach
Johan Pennekamp
Gerard van Raalte
Volker Steege
Ben den Toom
Freddy Wynants

25 participants in total

1. OPENING

On behalf of the Board of CEDA, Ms. Kathleen de Wit, CEDA President, opened the meeting and welcomed the many members and guests to the 46th Annual General Meeting, as follows:

Ladies and gentlemen,

A warm welcome to all of you who join us today for our 46th Annual General Meeting. My first as CEDA president.

Before I continue, a few practical issues. If you have questions, please feel free to put them in the chat. Linda and Mieke will keep an eye on them. Please keep your sound muted but please feel free to keep your camera on.

There were no remarks raised on the minutes of the previous AGM which were distributed along with the invitation, so the minutes of the previous AGM (9 November 2023, Europort, Rotterdam, the Netherlands) were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2023/2024

Kathleen de Wit moved on to report about the previous year:

CEDA currently has 6 commissions, which report to the CEDA Board. They are:

- Strategy Commission
- Communications Commission
- Dredging Management Commission
- Environment Commission
- Decarbonisation Commission
- Young CEDA Commission

Under the commissions, we have several active working groups. These are the

- Certification of Sustainable Marine and Freshwater Infrastructure Projects – has been on hold but expected to be active again in 2025
- Adaptive Management – information paper published in 2024.
- Cables - work in progress
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions and uptake from sediment in dredging – work in progress
- Contaminants of emerging concern in sediment – started in 2024

There is also a joint PIANC-CEDA-IADC Working Group on environmental windows. Their report will be published shortly.

Gerard de Raalte added that there was a delay in the publication of the report, stating that it would now be published in the Spring of 2025.

Under WODA, the three associations making up WODA (CEDA, EADA, and WEDA) there are three WODA Working Groups:

- WODA Reservoir Dredging Working Group – a paper is due to be published in 2024/2025.
- WODA Safety in Dredging Working Group – The WODA Safety Culture Framework was published in February 2024.
- WODA Working Group on Deep Sea Mining – work is ongoing

Polite Laboyrie added that the paper for the WODA Reservoir Dredging Working Group will be published in 2025.

In November 2023, during Europort, we successfully repeated the CEDA Innovation Pitch Talks. Also added to the programme were the presentations of the CEDA Energy Efficiency paper, the Annual General Meeting and a reception.

In 2023, work continued on the CEDA Dredging Days, which took place from 27-29 May 2024 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. I am pleased to inform you that the event was a great success with a record number of 271 participants. We received lots of enthusiastic reactions on the new “revamped” set-up and the clubhouse. The next Dredging Days will take place in 2026 in Antwerp.

Our continued co-operation with IADC includes the CEDA-IADC course “Dredging for Sustainable Infrastructure” based on our joint book with the same title. This first live course took place at the end of 2022 and in total we presented 4 online courses and 3 live courses since 2021. The next live course, which was taking place from 24-26 September in Copenhagen, Denmark, has now been moved to 28-30 January 2025. Location remains unchanged. More details are available on the CEDA website.

Since the acquisition of Dredgepoint in 2021, a group of volunteers has been working hard to keep the database up to date. We would like to thank them for their efforts. Thanks to advertisement income, Dredgepoint still provides a small but steady income for CEDA. Also, it has resulted in new members due to the exclusive benefits for CEDA members.

As always, I want to thank all of our members who volunteer their time and expertise to support us in the various commissions, working groups, and international bodies. Also a big thank you to those organisations who give them the space to do that.

Finally, a huge thank you to all of our Corporate Members, old and new, who continue to support our work.

3. SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT ON THE YEAR 2023

Kathleen de Wit handed over the floor to Rogier Kalis, Secretary /Treasurer to report on the financial year 2023.

Membership

At the end of 2023, CEDA had 227 individual members compared to 236 at the end of 2022.

At the end of 2023, CEDA had 113 corporate members compared to 112 at the end of 2022.

This slide shows the membership numbers over time. As you can see, the number of individual members keeps decreasing, while the number of corporate members is picking up slowly. 2024 numbers show a small increase in corporate members.

Financial result 2023

Moving on to finances, I would like to remind you that the consolidated financial statement of the year 2023 has been included in the AGM invitation. As you can see, we ended the year with a profit.

The following questions were raised:

3.1 Gerard van Raalte asked if a reserve 2-3 times the amount of the turnover is healthy.

Rogier Kalis said it was a good question. He continued to inform the room that this was discussed in the last board meeting and it was agreed that it is good that we have this reserve on the horizon for good initiatives from our members. He invited our members to share any initiatives they have so we can make money available for these, where feasible.

3.2 Dick Heidelberg asked if these figures are only for 2023 or if the costs for DD24 in May 2024 were also reflected in this reserve. Rogier Kalis answered that indeed, those costs were not included here and confirmed that these would be reported in the 2024 report. He did mention that since we had a large amount of participants by the Dredging Days in 2024, we will have a plus on this event too. So if we don't have large expenditures for the remaining part of this year, then the reserves will increase next year as well.

Rogier handed the floor back to Kathleen.

With no objections from the room, Kathleen de Wit confirmed that the Treasurer's report was accepted as a true record of CEDA's finances.

4. REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Members of the Audit Committee for this year were:

- Sebastiaan Stoker, Boskalis
- Hilmer Kodde, Van Oord
- Louwrens Elzinga, Witteveen+Bos

I now give the floor the Louwrens Elzinga, to give his report.

Report Louwrens:

The main role and responsibilities of the CEDA audit committee include:

- *To review the annual report and to check the integrity of the financial statements of CEDA: has the money been managed and spent in line with the budget and serving the purposes of CEDA.*
- *To review significant financial reporting: the books, bank accounts, etc. to determine the physical existence of figures in the ledger.*

The CEDA staff Mieke van Loenen and Linda Adams, assisted the audit committee in the above tasks.

There were no significant findings of the audit committee in relation to the financial statements.

The audit committee recommends to include the financial bank statement of the next year (January) as well to verify that end of year balance and start of next year balance are equal.

Conclusions

The audit committee reviewed and checked the annual report and balance sheets. It was found that the finances were managed appropriately in compliance with the budget for 2023 and the bookkeeping was accurate. The catering was in good order. Therefore, the audit committee proposes to discharge the Board of CEDA from their financial responsibility for the year 2023.

Kathleen de Wit thanked the members of the Audit Committee for the excellent work that they had done on behalf of the members scrutinising CEDA's finances.

There were no objections and therefore, the Audit Committee report 2023 was accepted.

5. APPOINTMENT OF A NEW AUDIT COMMITTEE

Kathleen de Wit informed the meeting that Louwrens and Sebastiaan have indicated that they can do the audit again so we are looking for one more member. Volunteers can contact Mieke.

6. BOARD MEMBERS

This brings me to the next agenda item. There are no members of the board up for re-election and also no other changes so this is a short agenda item.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

I wanted to make use of this opportunity to promote the upcoming WODCON. This will take place in San Diego, USA from 23-27 June 2025. Hope to see many of you there.

The following points were raised:

- 7.1 Gerard van Raalte came back to Rogier's invitation for the members to share their initiatives for using the reserves. He suggested to make the reserves useful for the members and thought that maybe we could use the money to support Young CEDA. He was impressed with this group and their presentations at the Dredging Days in 2024. He thought it may be good to spend reserves on more activities for this group in order to get more Young CEDA members? Maybe offer Young CEDA membership at a reduced rate for our younger members.**

Mieke van Loenen said we can put this on the table at the upcoming strategy meeting.

- 7.2 Dirk Roukema asked if the timing of the AGM was flexible and suggested to hold it in future before the summer, possible in May?**

Mieke van Loenen mentioned that the reason for holding it so late in the year was purely because people were still working on the finances but now we are able to prepare these earlier in the year, we will definitely consider that next year!

8. CLOSING

Kathleen de Witt thanked everyone for attending and for their contributions during the meeting. The meeting was closed at 16:28 hours.