



BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

Meeting Minutes: February 6, 2013

Members in Attendance: Paul Desrosiers, Julia Fogue, Fred Kurdziel, Frank McLynch and Bill Patenaude
Others in Attendance: Gregory Schultz, Esq., RI Attorney General's Office
Marisa Desautel, Esq. and Traci Pena, RIDEM

The first order of business was the review of the Executive Session January 2013 draft minutes.

After review, Mr. Desrosiers voted to approve the closed minutes as presented. Mr. Kurdziel seconded the motion. The motion passed with all eligible members voting in favor.

The next order of business was the review of the open January 2013 minutes.

After review, Mr. Kurdziel motioned to approve the open minutes as presented. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion. The motion passed with all eligible members voting in favor.

The next agenda item was a Grade 4 Question Review Petition by Mr. Kevin Regan, a Grade 3 operator from the Smithfield WWTF who sat for and reviewed the December 2012 Grade 4 exam. Mr. Regan's scored a 69 on the exam. (The score had been reported as a 68 but was adjusted to the correct score when an error on the master answer sheet was identified.) Mr. Regan now brought two exam items to the Board's attention for consideration. Mr. Patenaude reminded the Board that in such a discussion, the Board's intent is to determine if in answering the question for the particular reasons stated that the applicant demonstrated the intended knowledge of the questions being answered. The Board and Mr. Regan than discussed the two exam questions. The Board concurred that one of the two questions brought before them was appropriate to answer as Mr. Regan answered.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to award Mr. Regan the point for one of the two questions that were petitioned by Mr. Regan. Mr. Patenaude also noted that he would revise the exam question. Ms. Fogue seconded the motion. The motion passed with all members in favor voting in the affirmative.

The next topic were the draft Rules and Regulations for Wastewater Treatment Facility Operators. Mr. Patenaude reported that he edited formatting errors for the public notice. A change to the layout includes the capitalizations of words defined in the Definition section. Mr. Patenaude will then put together a package that will go out to public notice.

Mr. Patenaude then gave an update on membership. A candidate is being considered for the vacant academic professional position once occupied by Dr. Gene Park. The candidate being considered is Dr. Janet Baldwin from Roger Williams University. Dr Baldwin possesses an impressive background

which would be an asset to the Board. Dr. Baldwin's membership is currently at the Office of the Governor for consideration.

The next item was Burrillville Staffing Determination. The Board reviewed a letter from John Martin, Superintendent of the Burrillville WWTF, regarding responsibilities and supervisory authority of a Sr. Wastewater Treatment Operator/Laboratory Technician.

After review, Mr. Patenaude motioned to acknowledge that the position is in Direct Responsible Charge as defined by the Board's regulation. As such, any Grade 2 licensee in that position would be eligible to sit for the Grade 3 exam or, if holding an "If and When" status, be upgrade to a Grade 3 OIT. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion. The motion passed with all members present voting in favor.

In new business, Mr. Patenaude received a request from NEIWPPC requesting addresses of Rhode Island wastewater operators so they could be notified of a survey for training effectiveness. After discussion, Mr. Patenaude stated he would inform NEIWPPC that the Board's policy is to not provide such personal information.

With no further business, Mr. Patenaude motioned to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kurdziel. With all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 6, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. at the RIDEM office located at 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI.