

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS
OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES**

*MEETING MINUTES FOR
DECEMBER 3, 2003*

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Julia Forgue, Fred Kurdziel, Bill Patenaude, Tom White and Ray Wright

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Alex Pinto and Traci Lima, DEM
Michael Madden and Steve Carson, Synagro

Mr. Patenaude called the meeting to order at 9:35.

The first order of business was the draft November 5, 2003 meeting minutes.

After Board review, Mr. Patenaude motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. White seconded the motion. All other members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

The next item on the agenda were the Application Updates. The first was a Tony Cinquegrana. In his application he submitted, his duties indicate that he is a "wastewater worker" at the South Kingstown Wastewater Treatment Facility. These positions often work side-by-side with the operators and are able to perform limited operating duties. Mr. Cinquegrana took the Operator I course and passed. Mr. Cinguegrana fell into the same category as a Mr. Todd Gaudlap, an applicant discussed at the November 5, 2003 meeting. Based on this information, Mr. Patenaude will approve the application. Mr. Cinquegrana will need to provide the Board with the Operator I course certificate of passing.

The next applicant discussed was Earl Salisbury. Mr. Salisbury is interested in taking the Grade 4 exam. A review of his application and subsequent education credit information indicated that he did not possess the necessary amount of experience and education to take the Grade 4 exam.

Mr. Patenaude made a motion to deny Mr. Salisbury to sit for the Fall 2003 Grade 4 exam, based on his education and experience. Mr. Kurdziel seconded the motion, all other members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

The next item was an update on Robert Evans. He has not come in to review his Grade 2 exam. He has applied and been approved for the Fall 2003 exam.

Another application discussed was that of a Mr. Francis Thomson. His application was on hold pending notification from his Superintendent on Mr. Thomson's experience.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to approve Mr. Thomson's application pending notification from EarthTech. Mr. Kurdziel seconded the motion. Ms Forgue abstained from the vote. All other members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

At this time there are no new updates on Clariant Corporation.

There are 5 applications that were submitted from people requesting reciprocity. Mr. Patenaude will review and determine status.

Pursuant to RI General Laws §42-46-5(a), Mr. Patenaude requested that the Board convene in executive session to discuss the Synagro Spill Investigation and an issue in the Town of West Warwick

Mr. Patenaude motioned to adjourn into closed executive session, pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws §42-46-5(a)(4) to discuss operators in Rhode Island wastewater treatment plants, and the review of possible civil or criminal matters involving two Rhode Island wastewater treatment operators. Seconded by Mr. Wright all members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

The meeting then adjourned into executive session, with Messers. Pinto, Madden and Carson present.

After completing the specific business in closed executive session, the meeting reopened into open session with a motion by Mr. Patenaude to postpone the matter of a spill investigation pending additional information and legal counsel review. Tom White seconded the motion, all members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

The other motion taken by the Board, made by Mr. White, in closed session was to also postpone the an incident at a Rhode Island wastewater treatment facility pending additional information. Ms. Forgue seconded the motion, all members present voted in favor of postponement and the motion passed.

The third and final motion was made by Mr. Patenaude to seal the December 3, 2003 meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Forgue, all other members voted in favor and the motion passed.

The next item discussed was new business. Mr. Patenaude informed the Board the ABC was interested in planning a visit to the different Certification Boards. Some time ago the Board voted to suspend its membership with ABC. Mr. Patenaude informed the Board that he would be sending Stephen Ballou of ABC a letter stating that the Board would not be interested in such a visit.

With no further business, Mr. Patenaude voted to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. White and Ms Forgue. All other members voted in favor and the motion passed.

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 7, 2003 at 9:30 am in conference room 280C in the Office of Water Resources on the 2nd floor of the Department of Environmental Management, 235 Promenade St., Providence.