



BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

Meeting Minutes: Wednesday, April 3, 2019

Members in Attendance: Janet Baldwin, Julia Forgue, Frank McLynch, Melissa Orpen-Tuz, Bill Patenaude and Jon Schock

Others in Attendance: Christina Hoefsmit, Esq. and Traci Pena, RIDEM
Harrison Songolo and Mike Bedard, West Warwick WWTF
Scott Goodinson, Warwick WWTF

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

The Board reviewed the draft March 6th meeting minutes.

After review, Mr. Schock motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Forgue seconded the motion. The motion passed with all eligible members voting in favor. Dr. Baldwin abstained as she was not present at the March meeting. Ms. Orpen-Tuz did not vote as she was not eligible at the time.

The Board then reviewed the draft March 20th special meeting for Regulations.

After review, Mr. Schock motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Patenaude seconded the motion. The motion passed with all eligible members voting in favor. Dr. Baldwin, Ms. Forgue and Mr. McLynch abstained as they were not present at the March special meeting. Ms. Orpen-Tuz did not vote as she was not eligible at the time.

Next, Mr. Patenaude officially welcomed the newest Board member, Melissa Orpen-Tuz to the Board. She is the Director's designee from the RI Department of Health.

The Board reviewed information submitted on behalf of Michael Bedard to attest to time for credit towards his required period in Direct Responsible Charge. The information included a letter from Peter D. Eldridge a former West Warwick Superintendent. The letter did not contain quantitative time in which Mr. Bedard served in direct responsible charge. (There was no information prior to 2010 due to the records being destroyed in flooding.) After discussion the Board asked to have provided DRC documentation and a timeline. Mr. Patenaude will contact Mr. Eldridge to get such information.

Mr. Songolo and Mr. Bedard left the meeting at 9:50a.m.

Next, Mr. Patenaude introduced Mr. Scott Goodinson, Warwick WWTF superintendent. Mr. Goodinson provided the Board an overview of NWPCA's recent plant tours. On March 29th, the following plants

held an open house: Westerly, Woonsocket and East Providence. On March 30th, Bristol and Warwick had open houses. Mr. Goodinson reported that the tours went well. The Warwick plant had some 200 visitors, which Mr. Goodinson attributed to flyers being inserted in utility bills.

Next Mr. Patenaude provided the Board with an update on Quonset. He has yet to draft the approval letter, per the previous meeting's vote, as he first wanted the minutes of that meeting to be approved (for accurate language for the letter). He also noted at the previous meeting the Board had not concluded on an exact title Board-recognized title to Mr. Edward Davies. After discussion, it was decided to assign Mr. Davies the title "Acting Superintendent" and Mr. Dennis Colberg the "Superintendent of Record." Mr. Patenaude noted that a recent DEM inspection of the QDC facility indicated that Mr. Davies was transitioning well into this new position.

The next item was the request from NBC-Fields Point to extend the required time for Mr. Daryll Sirleaf to obtain his Grade 1 license. Mr. Sirleaf's OIT expires on April 29th, 2019. He is enrolled in the basic wastewater course, which will be giving the final exam on that date. NBC further requested that if Mr. Sirleaf does not pass the course that he be allowed an extension until the Board's exam on May 21st or 22nd.

After discussion Mr. Shock motioned to grant the extension request. Ms. Forgue seconded. The motion passed with all members voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to convene into executive session per §42-46-4 and 42-46-5(a)(4) to discuss matters of potential criminal or civil misconduct. Ms. Forgue seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call: Mr. Patenaude, Ms. Forgue, Mr. Schock, Dr. Baldwin, Ms. Orpen-Tuz and Mr. McLynch voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to seal the April 3, 2019 executive session meeting minutes. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion. The motion passed with following roll call: Mr. Patenaude, Ms. Forgue, Mr. Schock, Dr. Baldwin, Ms. Orpen-Tuz and Mr. McLynch voting in the affirmative.

Next discussed were the Regulation Revisions. Mr. Patenaude gave an overview of the special Regulation meeting held on February 20th. Discussion ensued on mandatory training for renewal and DEM staff capacity to meet the goals of expanded Board oversight of training and other activities. Mr. Patenaude encouraged the Board to write a letter to DEM's director to request additional DEM staff time to focus on Board administration should the Board determine that such an expansion in requirements is needed.

Next, the Board reviewed the Maltz Sales Company: Submersible Pump Training course.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to approve the course for 3.5 hours under the condition that it would not be a sales pitch. Mr. McLynch seconded. All members voted in favor as such the motion passed.

Next discussed were the issuance of honorary licenses for Fred Kurdziel, the former Board member from the RIDOH who has retired and to Alex Pinto, who accepted a new position in DEM's OWR Design Review section.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to grant the honorary licenses to Messers. Kurdziel and Pinto. Mr. Schock seconded. The motion passed with all members voting in favor.

In new business, the NWPCA Awards Banquet will be held on May 14, 2019 at 6:00 at the Potowomut Golf Club.

At 11:30 Mr. Patenaude voted to adjourn. Mr. Schock seconded. All members present voted in favor and as such the motion passed.

The next meeting regarding the Regulation Revisions will be scheduled for April 17th, at 2:00 at the RIDEM – Office of Water Resources, Room 280 located at 235 Promenade St., Providence, RI 02908.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at the RIDEM – Office of Water Resources, Room 280 located at 235 Promenade St., Providence, RI 02908.