



## **BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES**

**Members in Attendance:** Paul Desrosiers, Frank McLynch and Melissa Orpen-Tuz

**Others in Attendance:** John Dulmaine - Newport WWTF  
Carlos Figuerora and Shawn O'Neill - E. Greenwich WWTF  
Christina Hoefsmit, Esq., Traci Pena and Matt Puglia – RIDEM

### **Meeting Minutes: Wednesday, September 4, 2019**

At 9:32 a.m., the meeting was called to order. Without quorum, no votes could be taken nor did present members opt to discuss in length any matter that would benefit from a greater attendance.

The Board members reviewed draft June 18, 2019 special regulatory meeting minutes. No action was taken. The Board then reviewed the draft July 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting minutes. No action was taken.

Under new business, Mr. Shawn O'Neill wished to discuss the education of a new operator, Mr. Carlos Figuerora, who it is reported had obtained a high school diploma from his school in Guatemala, though he does not possess a copy of the actual diploma. Mr. O'Neill stated that it may "be next to impossible" for Mr. Figuerora to obtain a copy. Mr. O'Neill stated that he would appreciate consideration from the Board to allow Mr. Figuerora to work at the facility and take his licensure exams without proof of a high-school diploma while he obtained his GED. Ms. Orpen-Tuz related that the Water Certification Board allows self-attestation as proof that an individual has a GED or a high school diploma. Mr. O'Neill was informed that his testimony would be taken under advisement and would be included on the agenda for the next scheduled Board meeting.

Mr. John Dulmane was informed that the Board did not have a quorum, therefore could not vote on any matters brought before it. Mr. Dulmane agreed to attend the next Board meeting to discuss his matter of concern.

The August exams had not yet been corrected by the Department of Administration, so no updates were available. A discussion ensued about the late mailings of notification letters for the August exam. Ms. Orpen-Tuz stated that the Water Certification Board e-mails out a notice that an application was received to each applicant. At that time, the applicant is also given a link to study materials. Ms. Pena stated that it may be necessary to reduce the exam application period to allow for more time for administrative functions. This item is tabled until the next Board meeting.

The scheduling of an oral exam for Nigel Yattaw has been tabled until the next Board meeting.

Ms. Pena stated that there were three individuals who had expressed interest in becoming the next instructor for the NEIWPC basic wastewater course. Ms. Pena stated that only one individual, Mr.

Edward Davies, complied with the application requirements. This item will be tabled until the next Board meeting.

Mr. Puglia reported that he had not yet received the August performance report regarding the Superintendent of the Quonset Point WWTF, but all of his interactions there continue to be positive.

With no other discussions, the meeting ended at 10:10am.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 4, 2019 at 9:30 a.m. at the RIDEM – Office of Water Resources, Room 280 located at 235 Promenade St., Providence, RI 02908.

The next meeting regarding the Regulation Revisions will be scheduled for Tuesday, September 17, 2019, at 2:00 at the RIDEM – Office of Water Resources, Room 280 located at 235 Promenade St., Providence, RI 02908.