



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

c/o RI DEM Office of Water Resources, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02908

MEETING MINUTES
February 3, 2021 at 9:30

Members in Attendance: Brenda Cheaye, Paul Desrosiers, Julia Fogue, and Jon Schock

Others in Attendance: Ronald Perreault, West Warwick, WWTF
Dylan Chase, New Shoreham WWTF
Eddie Davies, Quonset and RICWA
Christina Hoefsmit, Esq., and Traci Pena, RIDEM

Due to COVID-19 restrictions the meeting was held via Zoom.

Jon Schock called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

A roll call of Board members and members of the wastewater industry/public that were participating was performed (see above).

The first order of business was the review of the draft January open and executive session meeting minutes.

After discussion and review, Mr. Desrosiers motioned to accept the January draft executive session meeting minutes as drafted. Ms. Cheaye seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call: Mr. Desrosiers, Mrs. Fogue, Ms. Cheaye and Mr. Schock all voting in the affirmative.

After discussion and review, Mr. Desrosiers motioned to accept the draft January open session meeting minutes as amended. Ms. Cheaye seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call: Mr. Desrosiers, Mrs. Forge, Ms. Cheaye and Mr. Schock all voting in the affirmative.

Next to be discussed was exam questions contestation from an exam applicant that sat for the November 2020 Grade 2 exam and received a grade of 69. The exam applicant reviewed his exam with the Wastewater Superintendent from the facility where he is employed. Upon review of his exam, the exam applicant elected to challenge 3 questions. Mrs. Pena offered that the examinee is an engaged and dedicated operator. The examinee's Wastewater Superintendent stated that when he reviewed the exam with examinee, the examinee knew many of the answers he got incorrect and thought he did not do well with written exams. The examinee agreed that it had been many years since he had taken a written exam and was anxious with taking the exam. Messers. Shock and Desrosiers did not feel comfortable with rendering a decision on the examinee's choice of answer, without the ability to review the actual exam questions and exam multiple choice answers.

Mr. Desrosiers made a motion to table the matter pending review of the actual exam questions and answers from the Grade 2 exam as it related to Mr. Perrault's contestations. Mrs. Fogue seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor, as such the motion passed.

The examinee left the virtual Zoom meeting.

Next to be discussed was an advisory opinion for Mr. Dylan Chase, Superintendent of the New Shoreham WWTF. Mr. Chase would like the Board to consider him to be able to sit for the Grade 3 exam. He would like to further his career and promote growth within the facility. Mr. Chase has

about 9 years total experience and 2 years as the superintendent. The Board reviewed the application.

Mrs. Hoefsmit consulted the Regulations and stated he would meet the qualification to sit for Grade 3 under the OIT provision. Mr. Schock would like to see an organizational chart from the facility, position descriptions for facility staff and a narrative of the time he was in direct responsible charge (DRC). If Mr. Chase doesn't have the 3 years of DRC, Mrs. Hoefsmit offered that a 3OIT could be an option to which the Board agreed. Mr. Schock asked if Mr. Chase could submit his application for the May exam and be processed as an OIT pending additional information. No vote by the Board was required as this matter was administrative in nature.

Next was the review of Brad Denault's status as an OIT. Mr. Denault was a previously part-time operator at Zambarano Hospital and recently started full-time at the Woonsocket WWTF. He wanted to know when he could receive a full grade 1. Prior to considering the issuance of a full Grade 1 license, the Board would require information with respect to date on when the applicant passed his Grade 1 exam. That information was not readily available so this will be tabled pending additional information.

The Board then discussed Training course approvals.

After discussion Mr. Desrosiers voted to approve the following courses by Maltz Sales Company:

- 1. Chemical Feed Pumps 201**
- 2. How to Measure Chlorine Residuals**
- 3. Basics of a Chemical Feed System**

And to deny the Chemical Safety course. Mrs. Forgue seconded the motion. The motion passed with all members voting in the affirmative.

In new business, Mr. Desrosiers announced that the RICWA will be hosting the Grade 1 Preparation course in March.

At 10:18 Mrs. Forgue motioned to adjourn. Mr. Desrosiers seconded the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative as such the motion passed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 3rd, 2021 at 9:30 and will be held via Zoom.