

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

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 5, 2003 MEETING

Members in Attendance: Rick Dionne, Julia Fogue, Fred Kurdziel, Bill Patenaude, Jon Schock, Tom White and Ray Wright

Other in Attendance: Joel Burke, Warwick Sewer Authority
Greg Schultz, Esq. DEM Legal Services
Traci Lima, DEM

Mr. Patenaude called the meeting to order at 9:30.

The first order of business discussed was the matter of the Warwick Wastewater Treatment Facility's Assistant Superintendent position. Mr. Joel Burke was present to discuss an applicant for the position. Eight to ten applicants applied for the job, three qualified applicants were interviewed. The applicant chosen was Mr. Earl Salisbury, an employee of the Warwick Sewer Authority. Mr. Burke reviewed Mr. Salisbury's credentials. Mr. Burke inquired to the Board if it's possible that Mr. Salisbury's credentials meet that of an Assistant Superintendent's position. Presently, Mr. Salisbury has a Grade 2 operator license. He will need a Grade 4 license. Mr. Burke asked, would the Board have a problem if Mr. Salisbury were to obtain his Grade 4 license without having his Grade 3 license? The Board would need to consider Mr. Salisbury's time in direct responsible charge, education and experience. While Mr. Burke would need to send additional information, it was apparent that with the Grade 2 license, Mr. Salisbury could hold a lower level position of direct responsible charge until such time as he attained the necessary experience to sit for a Grade 4 exam. The Board will send Mr. Burke a letter explaining this position. Mr. Burke then left the meeting.

The second item to be discussed was the December 4, 2002 draft meeting minutes.

After Board review, Mr. White motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Dionne seconded the Motion. Mr. Schock abstained, as he was not present at the December meeting. All other members voted in favor and the motion passed.

Another issue on the agenda was an update of Mr. Timothy Barry. Mr. Barry completed the necessary training to Mr. Patenaude's satisfaction, as a result of the Consent Agreement that had been executed. Mr. Patenaude will be sending Mr. Barry a letter stating that this matter is now closed.

Another update on the agenda was Mr. David Gaipo. Mr. Gaipo completed the Grade 3 exam and passed. Currently, he is in possession of a Grade 3 OIT license.

Another item on the agenda was Mr. Octavio N. Bizzarro. Mr. Bizzarro was requesting a Grade 3 license through reciprocity. Mr. Bizzarro holds a Massachusetts Grade 5C OIT license. Reviewing Mr. Bizzarro's application, Mr. Patenaude determined that Mr. Bizzarro was not eligible for a Rhode Island Grade 3 license and a Rhode Island Grade 2 license would be more appropriate given Mr. Bizzarro's experience and current job duties.

A motion was made by Mr. Shock to issue Mr. Bizzaro a Grade 2 license through reciprocity given his experience. Mr. White seconded the option. All members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

The next item discussed was the Governor's Executive Order 03-01 "Ethics and Integrity in State Government". Board members reviewed the order and made themselves familiar with it.

The last item on the agenda was new business. DEM's Operation & Maintenance Section referred an issued to DEM's Office of Criminal Investigations regarding operator(s) acting inappropriately, possibly falsifying plant documents relating to DEM's Operations and Maintenance program. Mr. Patenaude wanted to make the Board aware of the issue, just in case the issue was brought in front of them.

The next new business was the CCRI course. The course offered this semester had been cancelled by CCRI as only 5-6 students signed up. Mr. Patenaude asked the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission if they wanted to take over the financial responsibilities for the course, thereby offering more opportunities for the class to be given. Mr. Schock had concerns of getting the information to people outside the wastewater business. Perhaps an advertisement could be placed in the Providence Journal Bulletin and a press release could be issued. Mr. Wright thought something might be able to be set up in conjunction with the University of Rhode Island College of Continuing Education (CCE). Mr. Patenaude asked for additional information on CCE so that that option could be explored further.

Mr. Patenaude drafted letters congratulating recipients of the Narragansett Water Pollution Control Association (NWPCA) awards. The Board thought this was a good idea.

Mr. Schock motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Patenaude. All members voted in favor and the motion passed.

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 5, 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 Street, Providence.