



BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

Meeting Minutes: Wednesday, August 2, 2017

Members in Attendance: Paul Desrosiers, Dr. Janet Baldwin, Frank McLynch, Jon Shock, Bill Patenaude

Others in Attendance: Gregory Schultz, Office of the Attorney General
David Gaipo, Suez

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

The Board reviewed the draft June 7, 2017 open meeting minutes.

Mr. McLynch motioned to approve the minutes with one grammatical edit. Mr. Desrosiers seconded the motion. The motion passed with all eligible members voting in favor. Dr. Baldwin and Mr. Schock abstained as they were not present at the June meeting.

Mr. Patenaude recused himself from deliberations within executive session and returned at the request of the Board.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to convene into executive session per §42-46-4 and §42-46-5(a)(4). Mr. Schock seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call: Mr. Patenaude, Mr. Desrosiers, Mr. McLynch, Dr. Baldwin, and Mr. Schock voting in the affirmative.

Dr. Baldwin motioned to resume the meeting into open session. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion. The motion passed with all present voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Gaipo left the meeting prior to the re-opening in open session.

The next order of business was a request from Cole Publishing to attain contact/address information of the state's wastewater operators for marketing *Treatment Plant Operator* magazine. Mr. Patenaude noted that he explained to the Cole representative that the Board has historically not granted access to this personal information for advertising purposes. The Board concurred and did not move to grant the request.

The next item on the agenda was draft revisions to the Board's Rules and Regulations. Mr. Patenaude provided copies of the regulations as re-codified as part of ongoing statewide regulations standardization. This new format does not change any text, rather reformats it into a new statewide standard numbering/formatting system. Mr. Patenaude noted that before this statewide procedure

began, the Board had drafted edits to the regulations, which he now provided to the Board. These draft changes included word choice (referring to “score” to designate an exam result, rather than “grade,” which is reserved for licensure classifications); revision of the renewal process to align the regulations with statute by indicating that licenses automatically expire at the end of every odd calendar year, rather than creating a process that revokes them. As part of this, the regulations allow a grace period and late fee for renewal after December 31st. The original draft provided a grace period until February 1. Dr. Baldwin questioned if that was sufficient; Mr. Desrosiers suggested that the date instead be February 15th. All Board members agreed. In addition, draft edits to the voluntary training for a Tier 2 renewal status had struck language which precluded acceptable training when it is mandated by an employer. Keeping in mind the voluntary nature of the training program, the Board opted to maintain that restriction.

Mr. Schock motioned to move the draft regulations, as edited, to the promulgation process, which includes public/professional notice, etc. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion. The motion passed with all members voting in favor.

Mr. Patenaude updated the Board on a possible Boot Camp class beginning this October. He noted that nineteen individuals have been nominated. This would make the class the biggest one in the history of Boot Camp. He is awaiting additional information from partners as to if the program can run this year.

Mr. Schock motioned to adjourn. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion. The motion passed with all members present voting in favor.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at 9:30 at the RIDEM – Office of Water Resources, Room 280 located at 235 Promenade St., Providence, RI 02908.