

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

Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2003

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Julia Forgue, Fred Kurdziel, Bill Patenaude, Tom White and Ray Wright

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Michael Madden and Steve Carson, Synagro
Elizabeth Stone, DEM – Legislative Liaison
Traci Lima, DEM

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

The first order of business discussed was the matter of Michael Madden, of Synagro Sludge Incineration. Mr. Madden was requesting a Grade 2 license through reciprocity. Synagro is a Grade 2 facility. Mr. Madden currently possess a Class I Operator in the State of Connecticut.

After reviewing Mr. Madden's credentials a motion was made by Mr. Patenaude to issue Mr. Madden a Rhode Island Grade 1 license through reciprocity and to allow him to sit for the Grade 2 exam. Mr. Madden will also be issued a Grade 2 Provisional license to expire 6 months from his date of hire. Mr. Kurdziel seconded the motion. All other members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

After the motion was made Messers. Madden and Carson left the meeting.

The next item discussed was an update on legislation – 2003 H 5848 Relating to Wastewater Treatment Facilities. Elizabeth Stone, DEM's Legislative Liaison was present at the meeting and provided a summary and process of the 2004 Legislative Package proposals. Should the Board decide to propose any amendments to Statute 42-17.4 – Wastewater Treatment Plants, Ms. Stone suggested submitting an in depth memo and an outline on what the proposed changes would be. The memo should include 1) a brief description of the proposed amendments 2) a brief characterization as to why the amendments is needed and what benefit(s) it will likely provide and 3) the likely budgetary impacts of a proposal. Mr. Patenaude informed Ms. Stone that the Board would have some information by the October Board meeting, but would likely not have all the information necessary as they had to come together to discuss the proposals. Ms. Stone informed the Board that a placeholder could be used if the Board did not meet the deadline. Mr. Patenaude asked the Board to get ideas for the changes to the statue and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.

After this discussion Ms. Stone left the meeting.

The next item on the agenda discussed was the draft June 25, 2003 meeting minutes.

After Board review, minor changes were discussed. Mr. Patenaude motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Forgue seconded the motion. All other members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

The next item discussed was the Guidelines for Licensure Enforcement. It was noted that feedback from some Superintendents indicated that they were opposed to the guidelines; it appeared that the opposition was due to a misconception that the guidelines would be used directly and automatically, without a formal review of a particular enforcement case by the Board, and that the guidelines would be used by DEM officials. Mr.

Patenaude noted that these guidelines are for internal use only and are to be only used by the Board should any future enforcement proceedings take place.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to accept the Guidelines for Licensure Enforcement as an internal document for use by the Board. Mr. Wright seconded the motion, all members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

The next item discussed was an administrative update. An operator from the Narragansett Bay Commission received a 68 on his spring 2003 exam; later he came in to review his exam. After this review he was inadvertently sent a Grade 2 license then a Grade 2 OIT license. When contacted by the Board about this error, the operator contacted a lawyer to resolve the discrepancies. Mr. Patenaude is now corresponding with the operator's attorney, and is waiting to hear what the next course of action will be. The Board is expecting the erroneously sent material to be returned.

Next was an update on Francis Hartley, an employee from Brown & Sharp who is required to attain a Grade 1 license. Since the last meeting, Mr. Hartley's supervisor informed the Board that Mr. Hartley will be given an honorary high school diploma from the Town of Exeter for his service to the community and his career in the military. Mr. Hartley will then submit an application to the Board for Grade 1 licensure.

The next issue discussed was the matter of Thomas Potvin of the Woonsocket WWTF. Mr. Potvin is seeking Grade 2 licensure through reciprocity. Currently, he has a Massachusetts Grade 5C.

A motion was made by Mr. Patenaude to issue Mr. Potvin a Grade 2 license through reciprocity. Mr. White seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

The next item was an update on the classification of Clariant Corporation. Clariant Corporation was ranked as a Grade 3 facility. As of this time Clariant is requesting an extension to gather information on how it will proceed to meet the demands such a classification will place on the company. The request has been granted as they now have at least two operators that are grandfathered in their positions, allowing the company to be in compliance for the time being.

With no further business Mr. White motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Kurdziel. All members present voted in favor of adjournment and the motion passed.

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 1, 2003 at 9:30 a.m. in conference room 280C in the Office of Water Resources on the 2nd floor of the Department of Environmental Management, 235 Promenade Street, Providence.