

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
Board of Certification of Operators of Wastewater Treatment Facilities

Meeting Minutes December 7, 2005

MEMBERS in ATTENDANCE: Rick Dionne, Julia Forgue, Fred Kurdziel, Bill Patenaude and Ray Wright

OTHERS in ATTENDANCE: Traci Pena

Mr. Patenaude called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

The first item was the draft November 2, 2005 minutes.

Mr. Dionne motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Patenaude seconded the motion. With all other member present voting in favor, the motion passed.

The next item on the agenda to be discussed was a review of the draft November 16, 2005 minutes.

Mr. Kurdziel motioned to approve the minutes as given. Mr. Patenaude seconded. Ms. Forgue, Mr. Dionne, Mr. Wright and Mr. Dionne abstained, as they were not present at the meeting.

The next item on the agenda was the matter of enforcement actions.

Mr. Patenaude made a motion to convene into executive section per §42-46-5(a)(4) in order to discuss a settlement issue for a former Rhode Island operator. Mr. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call voting in the affirmative: Mr. Patenaude, Mr. Dionne, Mr. Kurdziel, Mr. Wright and Ms. Forgue.

A motion was made by Mr. Patenaude in executive session to offer an individual the opportunity to partake in DEM's Mediation Program. The Mediation Program would offer an individual the possibility of settling his or her case with the Board without a formal hearing process. Ms. Forgue seconded the motion, all members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

Another motion made by Mr. Patenaude in executive session was to schedule a hearing for a Mr. George Mantaian with the offer of mediation for February 1, 2005 meeting at 9:00 in room 280. Mr. Dionne seconded the motion, all members present voted in favor and the motioned passed.

Mr. Patenaude made a motion to resume the meeting into open session. Mrs. Forgue seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call voting in the affirmative; Ms. Forgue, Mr. Patenaude, Mr. Dionne, Mr. Kurdziel and Mr. Wright.

The next item on the agenda was the Grade 2 Preparatory class. Mr. Charles Conway of the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission offered a 3-night preparatory course. About 15 students registered and the class went very well. Hopefully, results should be seen when the exam results for the Fall 2005 exam are received.

The next item on the agenda discussed was an application from a Richard Mello of the Narragansett Bay Commission's Fields Point WWTF. Mr. Mello is a process monitor and is in an "acting" position and it is not clear how long he will be in the position, or whether it will be made full-time. Mr. Patenaude noted that Mr. Mello meets all of the qualifications of Section (12)(f) and his supervisors seem to be pleased with the job he is doing.

Per Section 12(f), Mr. Patenaude made a motion to allow Mr. Mello to sit for the Grade 3 exam. Ms. Forgue seconded the motion with all members present voting in favor the motion passed.

The next item discussed was an update on Mandatory Retraining. An enclosure was included in the renewal notice. The goal was to let the operators know that there was a possibility of Mandatory Retraining legislations. To date, only one letter, from the New Shoreham superintendent, Ray Boucher, has been received. Mr. Boucher comments were in favor of mandatory retraining.

In new business, Mr. Patenaude sent a letter on behalf of the Board to the widow of Mr. Robert Markieliwicz expressing his condolences and praising his dedication to the wastewater profession.

With no further business, Mr. Patenaude motioned to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Dionne seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor and the motion passed.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 4, 2006 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 280 of the DEM Office of Water Resources, 235 Promenade St., Providence, RI.