

**BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS
OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES**

Members in Attendance: Janet Baldwin, Julia Forgue, Frank McLynch, Bill Patenaude and Jon Schock

Others in Attendance: Christina Hoefsmit, Esq., Traci Pena - RIDEM
Harrison Songolo and Mike Bedard - W. Warwick WWTF

Meeting Minutes - May 18, 2020

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the Board held a teleconference meeting.

Mr. Patenaude called the meeting to order at 9:00 p.m.

Mr. Patenaude performed an audio rollcall of Board members and those members of the public/wastewater industry that were also participating. (See above.)

The item discussed was a request from the Town of West Warwick for the Board to host a one-on-one Grade 4 examination for Mike Bedard. Facility superintendent Harrison Songolo submitted a letter dated May 7, 2020 with the request. The letter explained that allowing Mr. Bedard to take the Grade 4 exam would allow him to formally hold the position of assistant superintendent. Mr. Patenaude informed the Board that should the request be granted, all social distancing and PPE protocols would be met, and proctoring would be administered by DEM staff. Mr. Bedard thanked the Board for the opportunity and time. Mr. Patenaude noted that in the letter submitted, Mr. Songolo referred to Mr. Bedard as the Assistant Superintendent, whereas the Board referred to him as being "in training".

Having no further discussion, Mr. Schock motioned to allow Mr. Bedard to sit for a one-on*one Grade 4 exam. Mrs. Forgue seconded the motion, which passed with the following roll call in favor: Janet Baldwin, Julia Forgue, Frank McLynch, and Jon Schock. Mr. Patenaude recused himself from the vote.

At 9:15 Messers Songolo and Bedard left the call.

In new business, Mr. Patenaude asked if the Board had received Financial Statements from the Secretary of State's office. It seemed to be a new process for some, and others have received them in various capacities.

Next was a discussion on the Regulations meeting. Mr. Patenaude would like to resume. After discussion, meetings will continue as the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 9:30. However, the next one will be Thursday, May 18th at 9:30.

At 9:23 Mr. Patenaude motioned to adjourn. Mr. Schock seconded. The motion passed with the following roll call: Janet Baldwin, Julia Forgue, Frank McLynch, Bill Patenaude and Jon Schock

all voting in favor.

The next Regulation meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. and will be held by teleconference or via a video platform.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. and will be held by teleconference or via a video platform.