

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
STATE BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF
WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS OPERATORS**

Board Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2008

Board Members Present

John Brutz, Chairman
Mary McElhinny
Matthew Higgins
Mike Kyle
Joe Swanderski
Nicki Kasi
Cheri Sansoni, Board Secretary
Asya Staevska, DEP Legal Counsel

Board Members Absent

John Schombert

Non Board Members Present

Janette Washington, BWSFR
Mary Zeigler, BWSFR
Dawn Becker, BWSFR
Kevin Karmosky, BWSFR
Bill McNamara, BWSFR
Roberta Radel, BWSFR
Mary Lou Barton, DEP Regulatory Counsel
Rick Mather, DEP Deputy Chief Counsel
David Klepadlo P.E.

John Brutz called the meeting of the State Board for Certification of Water and Wastewater Systems Operators to order at 10:10 AM.

Criminal History Reports

Kevin Karmosky presented four Criminal History Cases:
Client #262798, DUI in 1994 and 1999 .and Violation of Drug/Cosmetic Act in 1994.
Client #243339, Disorderly Conduct in 1998 and 2 DUIs, in 1998 and 2007.
Client #262486, DUI and Disorderly Conduct in 1994.
Client #251897, Disorderly Conduct in 1976.
None of these cases warranted investigation. Nicki Kasi moved to issue certificates to these operators based on Kevin's recommendations. Mary McElhinny seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Approval of June, 5, 2008 Minutes

Nicki Kasi moved to approve the June, 5, 2008 minutes as amended. On page 3 under Collection Systems, the second sentence should read 2,000 gallons per day or greater and on page 2 second paragraph last sentence should say to issue **an** order instead of **and** order. Joe Swanderski seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Post Presentation Credit Training Appeal

David Klepadlo P.E., presented his request for a review of the Technical Training Section's decision to deny a post presentation credit application (PPC) for continuing education credits. Mr. Klepadlo is requesting training credit for a Malcom Pirnie Symposium he attended in 2007. He submitted a PPC application and was denied because the application did not meet DEP guidelines. Mr. Klepadlo's water and wastewater licenses expired 6/30/08. He felt this symposium provided information that was more relevant to him as a professional engineer than any of the simple courses currently available. Currently Mr. Klepadlo does not have any DEP approved continuing education hours. After discussion in executive session, Mike Kyle made a motion to concur with DEP's decision to deny Mr. Klepadlo's PPC application as submitted. As part of the motion, consistent with Board guidelines, Mr. Klepadlo was informed that he has until September, 30 2008, to re-submit the PPC application with the necessary information on course content and proof of attendance. If he fails to submit the additional paperwork for training credit by the above date, his renewal application will be denied effective October 1, 2008, and he will no longer be able to make process control decisions at any of the systems he is currently operating. Mr. Klepadlo will need to register to re-take the examinations. If DEP approves his revised PPC application, Cheri will send his renewed licenses to him. Nicki seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. Cheri Sansoni will compose a letter to Mr. Klepadlo to reiterate the above information explained to him at the meeting.

Board Guidelines Discussion

Rick Mather, DEP Deputy Chief Counsel discussed using Chapter 302 proposed regulations as Board guidance until the final regulations are adopted. Rather than release revised Board guidelines for public comment, he proposed that the Board adopt the version of the Chapter 302 regulations that will be submitted to the Environmental Quality Board's (EQB) as proposed rulemaking as Board guidance until final regulations are adopted in 2009. The EQB is scheduled to meet on December 16, 2008 to review these regulations. The current version of the Board Interim Guidelines would be removed from the website and replaced with a link to these regulations. Mary McElhinny seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Consent Order and Agreement Board Duties

This agenda item was tabled until a later date.

New Applications, Upgrades and Reciprocity Requests

The new and upgrade applications were presented to the Board for approval. Mike Kyle moved to approve and issue all new and upgrade certificates. Joe Swanderski seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

The following water reciprocity applications were reviewed:

John Rockwell holds a Grade A water license in Iowa which expires 6/30/09. He worked 1 year 9 months for the Lehigh Cement Co. water system with a flow of 13,000 gallons per day and subclass 12. John Brutz moved to issue a WD 12 certificate. Mary McElhinny seconded. The vote was unanimous and motion carried.

Bernard Wormuth holds a Grade IIB-GW Treatment Plant Water System Operator license in New York which expires 3/31/10. He has worked for the Hancock Water Dept since 3/2004 (4 years 5 months). This is a Class CE facility with a flow of 500,000

gallons per day and subclasses 7, 8, 12. John Brutz moved to issue a WCE 7, 8, 12 certificate. Matthew Higgins seconded. The vote was unanimous and motion carried.

The following wastewater reciprocity applications were reviewed:

Bernard Wormuth holds a Grade 2A Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator license in New York which expires 9/10/12. He has worked for the Hancock Wastewater Treatment Plant since 5/2002 (6 years 3 months). This is a Class CE facility with a flow of 350,000 gallons per day and subclasses 1 and 4. Mike Kyle moved to issue a WWCE 1, 4 certificate. Mary McElhinny seconded. The vote was unanimous and motion carried.

Sean Murtagh holds an N3 Industrial Waste Treatment certification in New Jersey which expires 9/30/08. He has 3 years 1 month experience working at Bristol-Myers Squibb industrial wastewater system. This is a Class C facility with a flow of 120,000 gallons per day. Gary Moyer verified that the treatment process is activated sludge. Joe Swanderski moved to issue a WWC 1 certificate. Mike Kyle seconded. The vote was unanimous and motion carried.

Gerald Harris was issued a Wastewater Certificate (SC1) in Pennsylvania thru reciprocity from Virginia in November 1985. He worked at the Advanced WWTP for 3 years and 3 months. This is a WWA 1 facility with a flow of 80 million gallons per day. His PA license lapsed because he moved to Colorado. In Colorado he currently holds a Class C Wastewater Operator license with expires 4/5/2010. He passed a written exam for this certification. He has 6 years 3 months experience working at the City of Idaho Springs WWTP. This is a Class C facility with a flow of 600,000 gallons per day. The subclass is 1 (activated sludge). Joe Swanderski moved to issue a WWB 1 certificate. John Brutz seconded. The vote was unanimous and motion carried.

John Douglas Nice requested reciprocity for Water Distribution and Collection Systems from South Carolina. He works for South Island Public Service District since August 2003. He has 5 years experience in Collections and Distribution. Issues with his water application included:

- The original application was received June 9, 2008 requesting reciprocity for both water and wastewater on one application with one check, with one valid water certificate that expired June 30, 2008.
- Letter sent to Mr. Nice dated June 24, 2008 returning the application due to the above reasons.
- Revised application received July 3, 2008 with a CHR that was 10 months old. Per a phone conversation with Mr. Nice's wife, she claims it took 8 months to obtain the CHR from the state police. The date of request on the CHR we received was 8/23/07 and dissemination date was 9/18/07.
- Email was sent July 16, 2008 requested a new CHR
- By the time we received the new CHR, his water certificate from South Carolina had expired.

WASTEWATER APPLICATION ISSUES

- Mr. Nice holds a **voluntary** Collections System license for which he took an examination. The exam questions are not from ABC.
- This voluntary license was issued 4/26/05 and, expired one year after issuance. South Carolina says he was active until 6/30/08.

- In South Carolina, wastewater treatment operator licenses are mandatory, and wastewater collection system operator certifications are voluntary. The voluntary licenses are issued by the Water Environment Association of South Carolina.
- Mr. Nice worked for South Island PSD as an Installation Repair Operator since 8/14/2003.
- On 4/15/2005 he took his Voluntary Certification for wastewater collection system operator "D" exam and passed with a score of 84 (70 is passing)
- On 4/13/2006 he took his Voluntary Certification "C" exam and passed with a score of 79 (70 is passing).
- He was an active level "C" operator until 6/30/08.
- His application states he has experience in subclasses 1, 3 and collections.

John Brutz made a motion to issue a WE (distribution) certificate and to deny the Collection System (WWE4) request because the Board does not recognize the Water Environment Assoc. of South Carolina as an approved registry for exams. Nicki Kasi seconded. The vote was unanimous and motion carried.

Adrian Hill's reciprocity application was approved at the June 5, 2008 Board Meeting. He was approved for a WWAE 1, 2, 4 certificate. After further research, it was discovered Adrian Hill had been granted a WWAE 1-4 reciprocity license in 2004 and let his license expire without taking continuing education. Cheri Sansoni called Mr. Hill on June 11, 2008 and informed him that he needed to renew his license and prove 15 hours of continuing education or re-test to become certified again. A letter was sent to Mr. Hill returning his reciprocity application and verifying the information told to him over the phone. The Board needs to amend the vote from 6/5/08 meeting to disapprove this application based on the above information. Nicki moved to deny his original reciprocity request because his PA certification expired due to lack on con-ed on September 30, 2007. He cannot apply for reciprocity for 3 years from his expiration date. Mary McElhenny seconded. The vote was unanimous and motion carried.

Denials of Applications for Certification Renewal

A list on denials due to lack of con-ed was presented to the Board as follows:

Expired: March 2008

Wastewater

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Facility #</u>
Brian Gifford	WW	240716	0	Not in eFACTS
Rodney Bowers	WW - GP	232970	1.00	PA0027197
Neil Buck	WW - GP	234363	0	Not in eFACTS
Barry Esser	WW - GP	234537	0	Not in eFACTS
Long Ho	WW - GP	227562	0	PA0027189
John Hollaway	WW - GP	227078	6.00	2802401
Homer Lawrence	WW - GP	227536	4.00	PA0046868
Joseph Davis	WW - GP	235244	0	2302401
Thomas Cooke	WW - GP	227783	0	Not in eFACTS
Dennis Dittrick	WW - GP	226970	0	Not in eFACTS
David Proctor	WW - GP	219078	4.50	552134

Water

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Facility #</u>
Ray Argot, Jr.	W	195436	0	Not in eFACTS
Thomas Opiary	W	199167	0	Not in eFACTS
Julius Schratt	W	196565	0	Not in eFACTS
Ernest Smith	W	199044	13.00	Not in eFACTS
Clair Cashner	W	198802	12.00	4180049
James Burchell	W - GP	225395	0	2640896
Timothy Emmick	W - GP	225764	0	3060356
Roger Hope	W - GP	215276	0	2080345
John Heron	W - GP	226423	0	1150349
Joseph Kramer	W - GP	226280	0	3480874
Robert Kudrich	W - GP	227958	0	2350312
Maureen Leaswitch	W - GP	217149	0	3480347
Gregory Monn	W - GP	226314	2.00	7010349
Teresalyn Burns	W - GP	226266	2.00	1091097
Erique Blanco	W - GP	225853	0	3480947
Dale Landis	W - GP	226938	6.00	7360813
Louis Green	W - GP	215312	6.00	5100988
John Petcovic	W - GP	221385	1.50	5040851
Jeffrey Granitz	W - GP	225367	0	7220365
David Frey	W - GP	225365	0	7220365
Leanne Grace	W - GP	225810	6.00	2400971

W – Water**WW – Wastewater****GP – Grandparented**

Mike Kyle moved to deny the licenses. John Brutz seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Progress Report on Governor’s Infrastructure Task Force

Nicki Kasi gave an overview of the report to the Board. She suggested the Board members review the report. Comments need to be submitted by September 15th to the Task Force to be considered..

Board Secretary Report

Donald Rucinski and John Forster voluntarily surrendered their licenses for 20 years as part of a consent order negotiated with DEP because they submitted false DMR reports to DEP. Nicki Kasi made a motion to have Cheri send a letter to each operator requesting their licenses. Mike Kyle seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Old and New Business

New Business

The following people were nominated to the ABC 2009 Board of Directors:

Vice President—Jenny Chambers

Treasurer—Brent Herring

Collections—Chris Wisniewski

Wastewater Treatment—“Bill” Hyslop

Mike Kyle made a motion to approve the nominations. John Brutz seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Old Business

Chapter 302 Proposed Regulations:

Nicki Kasi reported that in putting the package together for submittal to the EQB, she found the certification fee analysis done a few years ago was no longer completely accurate. It appears the fees as proposed will cover the administrative costs of the certification program but not the costs for administering the training program. Options to address this are under discussion.

The exam questions will be reviewed by a committee sometime before December 2008 with the intention of developing revised examinations for use in 2009. Nicki Kasi will be in contact with Board members to schedule dates to complete this review.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15pm.