

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
STATE BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF
WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS OPERATORS
Conference Call Board Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2016
10th Floor Conference Room**

Board Members Present

Joseph Swanderski, Chairman
Michael Kyle
Mary Roland
Curt Steffy
Phil Consonery, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (BSDW)
Cheri Sansoni, Board Secretary, BSDW
John Cantwell, Legal Counsel

Board Members Absent

Dr. Ronald Neufeld
John Schombert

Non Board Members Present

Scott Sykes, BSDW
Roland Gensel, BSDW
William McNamara, BSDW
Mary Zeigler, BSDW

Mr. Swanderski called the meeting of the State Board for Certification of Water and Wastewater System Operators (Board) to order at 10:02 AM.

Criminal History Report (CHR)

There were no criminal histories to report.

Approval of December 10, 2015 Minutes

Mr. Kyle motioned to approve the December 10, 2015 minutes as written. Ms. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Approval of New and Upgrade Applications

The new and upgrade applications were presented to the Board for approval. Ms. Roland motioned to issue licenses for all new and upgrade applications. Mr. Steffy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Reciprocity Request

One water reciprocity application was presented to the Board for approval. Ms. Roland motioned to approve the reciprocity application. Mr. Swanderski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Annual Status Report for the Operator Certification Program

Mr. Consonery reported there would not be an annual statistics report since extensive statistics and comprehensive electronic survey results were compiled for the Five-Year External Review

Report of the Operator Certification Program. This report was developed during calendar year 2015 through substantial input from the Certification Program Advisory Committee (CPAC), finalized in November 2015, presented to the Board in December 2015, and submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency shortly thereafter.

Mr. Consonery reported that a vacant BSDW position has been permanently lost within the Operator Certification Program during DEP's most recent reorganization. As a result, some of the priority recommendations in CPAC's report will not be addressed in the foreseeable future. Staff will continue to examine statistical trends and revise training modules. DEP has solicited feedback on the report from training providers. Additionally, staff will deliver presentations at professional association conferences in 2016.

Board Chairman and Secretary Elections

Mr. Steffy motioned to reappoint Mr. Swanderski as Board Chairman for calendar year 2016.

Ms. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Mr. Kyle motioned to reappoint Ms. Sansoni as Board Secretary for calendar year 2016. Ms. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Ms. Sansoni informed the Board members with an expiration date of April 29, 2016, that their reappointment letters have been forwarded to the Governor's Office. Ms. Sansoni also stated Ms. Roland's four-year reappointment to the Board has not yet been approved and her expiration date was April 29, 2015. Mr. Kyle suggested amending the Board's Bylaws to ensure a member is still active regardless if their reappointment is not approved timely. Mr. Swanderski requested the Bylaws and member meeting attendance be agenda items for the April 12, 2016, meeting.

Board Secretary Report

Mr. Consonery announced his retirement from state service effective February 19, 2016. Ms. Sansoni informed the Board that a recommendation has already been initiated to replace him on the Board. The DEP Secretary designee will assume Mr. Consonery's term until it expires in April 29, 2017.

Old and New Business

The Board discussed Operators using water processes, specifically subclass 13 ultraviolet disinfection (UV), in an industrial wastewater system and applying for subclass 13 on a water application using wastewater experience. Recently, the Board had approved a few UV applications that had experience at a wastewater system. It is the Board's desire to ensure accuracy of this approval process and ensure that in the future, only experience with subclass 13 UV at a water system will count as experience toward a water certification with UV. The Board agreed on a firm process going forward.

Mr. Kyle questioned the status of the ethics course that was discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Consonery explained that it was made into a DEP Fact Sheet to encourage best practices among the water and wastewater industry and will become part of future training material.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Swanderski motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:52 AM.