

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

**Board Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2016
10th Floor Conference Room**

Board Members Present

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

Board Members Absent

Rachel Brennan

Non Board Members Present

Roland Gensel, BSDW
Mary Zeigler, BSDW
William McNamara, BSDW
Gary Moyer, BSDW
Robert Digilarmo, Bureau of Clean Water (BCW)

Mr. Swanderski called the meeting of the State Board for Certification of Water and Wastewater System Operators (Board) to order at 10:01 AM.

Criminal History Report

Mr. Moyer presented one CHR on behalf of the review committee.

Client # 313688, a wastewater applicant, was arrested 3/6/2015 for one count each of Endangering the Welfare of a Child, Corruption of Minors, and Indecent Assault (F3). These charges have been completely dropped as it was shown that false accusations were made against him. Client currently has pending new charges—6/19/16 Simple Assault (M2) and Harassment (S); and 7/27/16 Stalking (F3) and Harassment (M3). Client is going through contentious divorce and in lieu of the other charges being dropped and current charges not related to water or wastewater, Mr. Moyer recommended that the certification be approved for the applicant. Ms. Roland motioned to approve. Mr. Schombert seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Approval of April 12, and June 16, 2016 Minutes

Mr. Steffy motioned to approve the revised April 12, 2016 minutes. Ms. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Mr. Kyle motioned to approve the June 16, 2016 minutes as written. Mr. Swanderski 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 Requests

Five water and three wastewater reciprocity applications were presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Kyle motioned to approve the recommended reciprocity applications. Ms. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Board Secretary Report

Ms. Sansoni presented the following extension request:

Michael Starr – is requesting an extension of his wastewater WWCE 1-4, renewal cycle which expired June 30, 2016. He completed 25.5 training hours of the required 30 training hours to renew. He is requesting an extension due to other extreme circumstances. Ms. Roland motioned to grant the extension until September 30, 2016. Mr. Steffy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

A copy of the Mohamad Farvardin Consent Order and Agreement was provided to Board Members for their information. Mr. Farvardin was charged with violations under the Clean Streams Law.

Old and New Business

Mr. McNamara updated the Board on the ethics course for water/wastewater certified operators. The Clean Water program conducted several workshops in 2015 that encompass Clean Water professional responsibilities, NPDES permits, best practices, and asset management. The Safe Drinking Water program began development of a course that focuses on Chapter 302, Subchapter L “System Operation”. This subchapter includes the duties of operators, duties of owners, process control decisions, SOPs, and “operator in responsible charge”. As discussed with the Board, the course will include examples of actual operator cases that are now public information. The course is being developed for web-based delivery with a planned release in 2017.

Board members went into executive session at 10:26 AM to discuss the Pipito hearing. The executive session ended at 12:22 PM.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Swanderski motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12:22 PM.