

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
STATE BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF
WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS OPERATORS
Board Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2017
10th Floor Conference Room**

Board Members Present

Joseph Swanderski, Chairman, Penn State University, Wastewater Operator
Mary Roland, PA American Water, Water Operator
John Schombert, General Public
Curt Steffy, Aqua PA Inc., Official of Private System
Rachel Brennan, Teacher/Professor
John Cantwell, Legal Counsel
Ed Chescattie, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (BSDW), DEP Secretary Designee
Cheri Sansoni, Board Secretary, BSDW

Board Members Absent

Michael Kyle, Lancaster Area Sewer Authority, Employee of a Political Subdivision

Non-Board Members Present

David Long, BSDW
Jeff Allgyer, BSDW
Robert Digilarmo, Bureau of Clean Water (BCW)
Mary Zeigler, BSDW
Shalini Lenka, BSDW

Mr. Swanderski called the conference call meeting of the State Board for Certification of Water and Wastewater System Operators (Board) to order at 10:00 AM.

Approval of June 21, 2017 Minutes

Mr. Swanderski motioned to approve the June 21, 2017 minutes as written. Ms. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Approval of New and Upgrade Applications

The new, 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

Four water, and two wastewater reciprocity applications were presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Swanderski motioned to approve the reciprocity applications as presented. Ms. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Water

Frankie Campagne - holds a Georgia Class 1 water certification that expires June 30, 2019. He has 19 years' experience at various class A facilities using subclasses 1,4,8,11,12,14 and distribution. He obtained his Georgia certification through reciprocity with Puerto Rico. He received his original certificate in Puerto Rico.

The Department's recommendation is to issue a WAE 1,4,8,11,12,14.

Yasser Abouaish - holds a Colorado Class A water certification that expires June 29,2019. He has 16 years' experience working at Minnesota water works which is a Class A facility using subclasses 1,6,7,8,10,12. Minnesota verified his exam information since he originally obtained certification from there, although that certificate has expired.

The Department's recommendation is to issue a WA 1,6,7,8,10,12 certificate.

William Deter - holds an Ohio Class 1 water certificate that expires December 31, 2018. He has 2 years, and 11 months' experience at the Shadyside facility which is a Class C system, using subclasses 8,11, and distribution. Ohio uses the standardized ABC exams.

The Department's recommendation is to issue a WCE 8,11 certificate.

Richard Vazques - holds a Puerto Rico potable water certification that expires February 17, 2020. He has 7 years' experience working at RJ Reynolds Tobacco Company, in Puerto Rico which is a Class C system using subclasses 4,5,6,8,11,12. RAI service company has verified his employment.

The Department's recommendation is to issue a WC 4,5,6,8,11,12 certificate.

Wastewater

Frankie Campagne - holds a Georgia Class 1 wastewater certificate that expires June 30,2019. He has 9 years' experience working at various class AE, and BE facilities using WW1 activated sludge and WWE4 collections. He obtained his Georgia certification through reciprocity with Puerto Rico, which uses ABC exams.

The Departments recommendation is to issue a WWAE 1,4 certificate

Richard Vazques - holds a Puerto Rico wastewater certification that expires February 17, 2020. He has 7 years' experience working at RJ Reynolds Tobacco Company, in Puerto Rico, which is a Class C system using WW1 activated sludge. RIA service company has verified his employment.

The Departments recommendation is to issue a WWC 1 certificate.

Board Secretary Report

Ms. Sansoni presented the following two extension requests:

Stephen Marcino - is requesting an extension of his water WAE 1-14, renewal cycle which expired June 30, 2017. He completed 28 hours of the required 30 hours. He took a wastewater course approved for wastewater certification only. Since his extension reason does not meet the Boards criteria, Ms. Roland motioned to deny the extension request. Mr. Swanderski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Brian Book - is requesting an extension of his wastewater WWAE 1-4, renewal cycle which expired June 30, 2017. He completed 10 hours of the required 30 hours. Due to his medical condition, he was approved for a six-month extension or until December 31, 2017, to obtain the remaining 20 training hours. Mr. Swanderski motioned to approve. Ms. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Old and New Business

Ms. Sansoni presented the Board with some updates to the reciprocity form used to verify the operator's certification from the licensed state. Specifically, questions were added to obtain exam subject matter, experience summary, and to inquire if the operator has pending actions to revoke or suspend the out of state certification.

At the last Board meeting, the Board discussed obtaining a criminal history record (CHR) from the originating state or country for reciprocity. Mr. Cantwell stated we cannot currently require a CHR from outside Pennsylvania.

Criminal History Report

Ms. Sansoni, presented the review committee's recommendation for the following operator certification applicant with a CHR. Client ID 333486, in 1995, 1996 charged with felony, manufacture of a controlled substance by person not registered, or a practitioner not registered creating, etc. a controlled substance. Pled guilty. None of these charges were related to a water or wastewater facility. They have been employed since June 2016 at the same municipal authority. The review committee recommended that the Board approve certification for this applicant. Ms. Roland motioned to issue the license. Mr. Steffy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public/no public present.

The Board went into executive session at 10:34 AM and came out of executive session at 11:30 AM.

Consent Assessment of Civil Penalty

During Executive Session, the Board reviewed the Consent Assessment of Civil Penalty between the Department and Steven Sauers (Sauers). Following the conclusion of Executive Session, the Board determined that it will accept the Consent Assessment of Civil Penalty signed and executed by both parties.

Consent Order and Agreement (CO&A) Review

During Executive Session, the Board discussed the Department's request that it approve or disapprove CO&As between the Department and certified operators. Following the conclusion of Executive Session, the Board determined that it will continue to receive any CO&A signed and executed by the Department and a certified operator. After discussion and review, the Board will then make a motion to accept or reject the terms and conditions of the CO&A.

Posting of Documents on the Board's Public Participation Website

During Executive Session, the Board discussed posting CO&As, petitions, and its adjudications orders on the Board's public participation website. Following the conclusion of Executive Session, the Board determined that it will table this matter until its next scheduled meeting.

Request for Exam Accommodation

During Executive Session, the Board discussed a request for an accommodation made under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA Request). The ADA Request was made by a prospective operator scheduled to take the certification exams. Following the conclusion of Executive Session, the Board determined that it will offer a testing accommodation to the prospective operator.

Mr. Swanderski motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 AM.