

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
STATE BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF
WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS OPERATORS
Board Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2017
10th Floor Conference Room**

Board Members Present

Joseph Swanderski, Chairman, Penn State University, Wastewater Operator
Michael Kyle, Lancaster Area Sewer Authority, Employee of a Political Subdivision
Mary Roland, PA American Water, Water Operator
John Schombert, General Public
Curt Steffy, Aqua PA Inc., Official of Private System
John Cantwell, Legal Counsel
Ed Chescattie, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (BSDW), DEP Secretary Designee
Cheri Sansoni, Board Secretary, BSDW

Board Members Absent

Rachel Brennan, Teacher/Professor

Non-Board Members Present

William McNamara, BSDW
Dennis Harney, BSDW
Scott Sykes, BSDW
Jeff Allgyer, BSDW
Robert Digilarmo, Bureau of Clean Water (BCW)
Mary Zeigler, BSDW
Shalini Lenka, BSDW
David Long, BSDW

Mr. Swanderski called the conference call meeting of the State Board for Certification of Water and Wastewater System Operators (Board) to order at 10:05 AM.

Approval of October 17, 2017 Minutes

The October 17, 2017 Board meeting minutes were tabled for revisions to executive session discussion. Mr. Swanderski motioned to approve the edits at the February 8, 2018 Board meeting, Mary 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 Applications

Two water, and two wastewater reciprocity applications were presented to the Board for approval. Mr. Wright, Mr. Westover, and Mr. Fortin were approved. Mr. Maxson's application was tabled until his license is verified from the originating state where he obtained reciprocity. Ms. Roland motioned to approve the reciprocity applications as presented. Mr. Kyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Water

Robert Maxson - holds a Maryland water treatment 1 certification that expires March 1, 2020. He has 4 years, 2 months experience at various class C systems using subclasses 5,7,8,12.

The Department's recommendation is to issue a WC 5,7,8,12 certificate. This application is tabled until verification from original certifying state is obtained.

Emory Wright - holds a class 1 water supply operator certification that expires December 31, 2019. He has 23 years, 6 months experience working at East Liverpool Water Dept. which is a class A system using subclasses 1,7,8,10,11,12 and distribution.

The Department's recommendation is to issue a WAE 1,7,8,10,11,12 certificate.

Wastewater

Doug Westover - holds a West Virginia class III wastewater certification that expires August 31, 2019. He has 2 years, 3 months working at two class A systems, using WW1 activated sludge.

The Departments recommendation is to issue a WWC1 certificate.

John Fortin - holds a grade 4A wastewater certification that expires October 1, 2019. He has over 14 years' experience working at various class A systems using WW1 activated sludge.

The Departments recommendation is to issue a WWA1 certificate.

2018 Operator Exam Schedule

Ms. Sansoni presented the Board with the draft 2018 exam schedule. There was discussion for staff to check data in the rural counties to determine if there is a need to add more exams in these areas. Additional exams may be added based on the outcome of that research. Ms. Roland motioned to approve the 2018 exam schedule. Mr. Kyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Old and New Business

The Board was requested by DEP staff to endorse/approve/disapprove Consent Orders and Agreements after they were enforced and signed by the Operator. After discussion, the Board determined that it will not endorse DEP Regional CO&A's since the Board is not involved in the investigation proceedings or the decision making.

Mr. Cantwell informed the Board that he would try to forward his response on the Pipito matter by January 5, 2018 for their review.

Criminal History Report

Ms. Sansoni, presented the review committee's recommendation for the following operator certification applicant with a criminal history record (CHR). Client ID 331685, arrested in 1994 for one count of disorderly conduct and one count of manufacture of a controlled substance, in which he plead guilty and received 4 to 23 months in county prison for the felony offense. In 1995 arrested for one count of possession of a controlled substance, in which he plead guilty and received 3 to 23 months in county prison for the misdemeanor offense. In 1996 arrested for one count of receiving stolen property and possession of a controlled substance, in which he plead guilty and received 30 days to 12 months in county prison for the misdemeanor offense. In 2004 arrested on one count of manufacture of a controlled substance and one count of possession of a controlled substance, in which he plead guilty and received 1 year and 6 months to 3 years, and fines and all costs. Based on the nature of his offenses not related to water or wastewater the review committee recommended that the Board approve certification for this applicant. Mr. Steffy motioned to issue the license. Mrs. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

The Board went into executive session at 10:47 AM and came out of executive session at 11:33 AM.

Board Secretary Report

Ms. Sansoni presented the following extension request:

Paul Durham- requested an extension due to medical issues. The Board recommended a six-month extension or until June 30, 2018. Mr. Kyle motioned the six-month extension and Mr. Swanderski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Consent Order and Agreements (CO&A)

The Board acknowledges the findings of the CO&A dated November 22, 2017, between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and J. Robert DeSandis which stipulates that on or Before December 31, 2017. DeSandis shall surrender his Wastewater Operator Certificate No. S2600 and Drinking Water Operator Certificate No. W5388 to the Department for the indefinite suspension of said certificates.

The Board acknowledges the findings of the CO&A dated October 25, 2017 between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Environmental Protection and Steven Oliver which stipulates that within 60 days, Oliver shall voluntarily surrender his Wastewater Operator Certificate No. S7476 to the Department for a period of three years from October 25, 2017.

Mr. Swanderski motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:36 AM.