

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
STATE BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF  
WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS OPERATORS  
Board Meeting Minutes  
December 12, 2018  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**

**Board Members Present**

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

**Non-Board Members Present**

Scott Sykes, BSDW  
Bill Mcnamara BSDW  
David Long, BSDW  
Shalini Lenka, BSDW  
Jeff Allgyer, 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 10:00 AM.

**Approval of October 17, 2018 Minutes**

Mr. Kyle requested the wording for Nathan Pennisi's Reciprocity on page 2 be amended to "The Board conditionally approved the application until more information was obtained". "More information was obtained, and his license was issued." Mr. Kyle requested to change "Operator" to "Applicant" on page 4 under Criminal History Report. Mr. Kyle motioned to approve the October 17, 2018 minutes as amended. 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. Mr. Peter Johnson's initial application was brought to the Board by the Department because it was his second incomplete application; but, additional supplemental information was provided by Mr. Johnson for Board consideration. After discussion Board members summarized that he did not have a certified operator signature on his application, the section of the application to document process control experience was left blank on both applications, and his supplemental information focused on experience related to design. As a result, the board concluded that process control experience necessary to grant a license, as specified in 302.704 was inadequately documented. Mr. Kyle motioned to approve an Operator-in-Training (OIT) for Mr. Peter Johnson. Mr. Swanderski seconded the motion.

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

### **Reciprocity Requests**

Mr. Kyle motioned to approve the two reciprocities, Ms. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

### **Water**

**William Douglas** - holds a West Virginia water class IV license that expires October 31, 2019. He has 7 year and 5 months working for Weirton area water and 4 months at Fullunsbee. Both are class B systems using subclasses 1,7,8,9,10,11,13. His application was tabled at the October 17, 2018 Board meeting for more information regarding his treatment process experience which he did provide.

The Department's recommendation is to issue a WB 1,7,8,9,10,11,13 certificate.

### **Wastewater**

**Joseph Miskovich Jr.** – holds a New Jersey wastewater N3 Industrial treatment license that expires September 30, 2019. He has 6 years' experience working at Dupont-Parlin GWTP plant which is a class C system using collections WWE4. He also holds a NJ water and PA water WC 1,4,8,10 which he obtained through reciprocity on December 16, 2015.

The Department's recommendation is to issue a WWE4 certificate.

### **Old and New Business**

Mr. Chescattie discussed the draft statement concerning the Department of Correction (DOC) request for the Board's input on the DOC's proposed career development project. This is a follow-up discussion from the previous Board meeting. An edit to the draft statement was suggested by Mr. Kyle; more specifically, to add the language "unrelated to the operation of a water or wastewater system. Mr. Chescattie read the revised statement aloud for the Board members to vote on. The revised statement is...*The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Commonwealth), State Board for Certification of Water and Wastewater Systems Operators (Board) conveys its full support for the Commonwealth's Department of Corrections' (DOC) Water Operator Certification Career Development Project. The Board's support assumes that this project will be implemented in the manner that DOC staff briefed the Commonwealth's Department of Environmental Protection during a meeting held on October 16, 2018. Generally, the Board would look favorably upon operator certification applications from properly trained individuals including a candidate with a current criminal history report that verifies only a first-time felony drug offense(s) unrelated to the operation of a water or wastewater system.*

*Once the DOC career development project is underway, the Board suggests that DOC provide a summary of their efforts to organizations such as the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association, Pennsylvania Water Environment Association, Pennsylvania Rural Water Association, Pennsylvania Section – American Water Works Association, and the Water Works Operators' Association of Pennsylvania. These organizations are comprised of potential employers for properly trained operators who complete the DOC Water Operator Certification Career Development Project. The Board believes that these organizations would be a valuable resource for DOC."*

Mr. Chescattie motioned to approve this Statement of Support (as summarized in italicized text) from the Board to be conveyed to DOC. Mr. Kyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Mr. Chescattie summarized that DEP staff will now move forward and share this statement with DOC management. Board members concurred.

**Board Secretary Report**

Ms. Sansoni had no issues to report.

**2019 Operator Exam Schedule**

Ms. Sansoni presented the draft 2019 Operator Exam schedule to the Board. Mr. Swanderski motioned to approve the 2019 Operator Exam Schedule. Ms. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

**Criminal History Report**

There were no criminal histories to report.

**Comments from the Public**

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Swanderski motioned to adjourn the meeting at 12.00 PM.