



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
STATE BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS**

**FINAL
MINUTES
September 1, 2021**

The State Board for Certification of Sewage Enforcement Officers (Board) was called to order at 10:11 a.m. on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, by Board Chair, Samuel D’Alessandro. The meeting proceeded as a quorum was present. The teleconference meeting was held via Microsoft® Teams with participants calling in from remote locations.

Meeting Attendees:

- Mr. Samuel D’Alessandro (telephone)..... Board Chair
- Mr. Gordon Sheetz (telephone) Board Vice-Chair
- Mr. John Seamans (telephone)Board Member
- Mr. John Wagman (telephone).....Board Member
- Mr. Luke Helsel (telephone)Board Member
- Mr. John CantwellBoard Counsel, DEP
- Ms. Amy Forney.....Board Secretary, DEP
- Mr. Brian Chalfant DEP, Policy Office
- Ms. Leda LacombaDEP, Program Counsel
- Ms. Janice Vollero..... DEP, BCW

Guest Attendees:

- Mr. James Rudnicki, SEO Candidate
- Mr. Patrick West, SEO Canddiate

1. Board Chair, Samuel D’Alessandro, requested feedback from the Board regarding consideration of the contents and approval of the September 30, 2020, meeting minutes. Board members noted a change to John Seaman’s comment regarding the NERO communications. No other issues or problems were brought forth. John Wagman motioned to approve the minutes with the change noted. Vice-chair Gordon Sheetz seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.
2. Board Secretary, Amy Forney, noted that the SEO Precertification Academy held at the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) from August 16th through 20th, 2021, 17 candidates took the exam, and 16 passed. Two (2) candidates were present during the Board meeting, one (1) of which, was the candidate who had failed. As a reminder, the Board made mention to those in attendance the criteria for passing the SEO Certification Exam, which is that a candidate must pass each of the four (4) groups of questions with at least 50% correct as well as an overall final score of at least 70%. Vice-chair Sheetz motioned to

approve the 16 candidates that passed. John Wagman also motioned to pass the 16 candidates. John Seaman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

3. Ms. Janice Vollero provided the breakdown of the addition of Soil Hub's Precertification Soils courses for August, 2021. The August 4th class at IUP was cancelled due to lack of interest. The August 12th class at Bloomsburg University had 16 people. Six (6) additional examinees were retesting from previous course failures, for a total of 22 final examinees. Four (4) examinees failed, one of which was a candidate who had failed twice before.

With DEP's input and review throughout this summer's courses, DEP has noted more consistent training by the various trainers in the pits. Final soils examinations scores have increased as well as increased scores on the soils portion of the Precertification Exam. DEP will continue to monitor the field portion and exam of the Precertification Soils course.

Soil Hub has added one additional course opportunity on October, 18th & 19th, 2021, at Shippensburg Quarry.

4. Chair D'Alessandro, requested the Board skip item #4 of the Agenda to discuss later and move to item #5, 'Proposed remaining 2021 Board meeting and Certification Exam dates.' Ms. Forney noted that PSATS added an additional SEO Precertification Academy November 1-5. DEP will offer an SEO Certification Exam on November 5, 2021. To allow for adequate time to score the exams and provide to the Board, DEP requested the Board meeting date to be moved to Thursday, November 18, 2021.
5. Chair D'Alessandro called for any new business. DEP offered no new business.
6. At 10:39 a.m., Chair D'Alessandro called the Board into Executive Session, dismissing all attendees except for the Board members, Board Counsel and Board Secretary.
7. At 11:28 a.m. the Board closed the Executive Session, wherein, Board Counsel, John Cantwell, recalled the meeting, noting that the Board had discussed and deliberated Agenda item #4, the review of and possible reinstatement of Mr. R. Singer as an SEO.

Luke Helsel motioned that the Board require Mr. Singer to take the SEO Precertification Exam, the Precertification Soils course and all other criteria in the Consent Order and Agreement entered into by Mr. Singer with the regional office. John Seaman seconded the motion. The vote was 4 ayes, 1 nay, by Chair D'Alessandro. Motion carries.

8. The next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Vice-chair Sheetz motioned to adjourn. John Wagman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 11:33 pm.