



**STATE OF MARYLAND
 BOARD OF WATERWORKS AND WASTE SYSTEMS OPERATORS
 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:
 Thursday, February 16, 2017 at Howard County Bureau of Utilities, Columbia,
 Maryland**

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MISSION OF THE MARYLAND BOARD OF WATERWORKS & WASTE SYSTEMS OPERATORS
 The Treatment Systems that provide drinking water for our citizens and handle the wastes generated by our daily activities play an important role in protecting Public Health and the Environment of Maryland. Through the Certification Program established by State Law, the “Board of Waterworks and Waste Systems Operators” sets the education, experience and examination standards for Operators and Superintendents who work in these vital systems.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Russell Kelley	Dee Settar
Nancy Hausrath	Dominic Deludos
Joseph Johnson	Bruce Darner
Doug Myers	Noelle Anuszkiewicz

PRESENT LIASONS & OTHERS

Christine Nagle	Board Secretary
Jay Price	AWWA Representative
Jack Bowen	MRWA Representative
Stephanie Brown	Board Staff
Martin Fuhr	Board Staff
Pam Franks	Board Staff
Aris Evia	Board Counsel

Guests

Hiram Tanner	CWEA Guest
David Swain	MRWA Guest

Not Present

Bill Shreve	Board Chairman
Joseph Haxton	Board Vice Chairman
Burt Curry	WEF Representative
Karen Brandt	MCET Representative
Scott Harmon	CWEA Representative

38 **01. CALL TO ORDER**

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40 Christine Nagle, Board Secretary called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

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42 **02. AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF PROPOSED MEETING AGENDA**

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44 Agenda moved by Joseph Johnson, and seconded by Russell Kelley to approve and adopt the meeting
45 agenda. Motion carried.

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47 **A. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES**

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49 Board Members reviewed the January 19, 2017 draft meeting minutes, and voted unanimously to approve
50 the minutes with the necessary corrections. Moved by Joseph Johnson and seconded by Russell Kelley.
51 Motion carried.

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53 **03. BOARD CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

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55 Board Chairman was not present. Board Secretary chaired meeting, thanked everyone for attending the
56 meeting.

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58 **04. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

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60 **A. Administrative Activities.**

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- 62 1. As of January 31, 2017, appropriations for fiscal year 2017 are \$275,705, expenses
63 are \$134,716.28, revenue is \$115,151, and the encumbrance is \$56,877.06.
- 64 2. Pass/Fail - See attachment A
- 65 3. Question still remains about expired temporary certifications and when they are processed
66 late as opposed to needing to start the process anew.
- 67 4. Board Secretary held a meeting with Board Counsel about ADA Policy and the Septic
68 System Installers.

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70 **B. Exams**

71 Please refer to Attachment A.

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73 **05. REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS**

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- 75 1. **Robert Maxson** – Requested Reciprocity from New Jersey to be a Maryland Water Treatment
76 Class 1 Operator for Monochloramine treatment system. Board Staff recommended that Mr.
77 Maxson be granted the Maryland Class 1 Water Treatment Systems Operator Certification as well
78 as be required to obtain a Water Treatment class 5 Operator-In-Training certification. Joe Johnson
79 motioned to accept Board Staff's recommendation and seconded by Dee Settar. Motion carried.

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- 85 2. **Tyler Puffenberger** - Requesting Education Substitution towards his Class 4 Water Treatment
86 Operator certification. Board Staff recommended that Mr. Puffenberger be granted 7 months of
87 education towards his Water Treatment class 4 Operator Certification. Joseph Johnson motioned
88 to approve Board Staff recommendation and seconded by Bruce Darner. Nancy Hausrath
89 abstained from voting. Motion carried.
90
- 91 3. **Connie Luffman** – Requested Education substitution towards her Wastewater Treatment Class
92 A, 4, and S Operator Certifications. Board Staff recommended that Ms. Luffman be granted 12
93 months. Nancy Hausrath motioned to approve Board Staff recommendation and seconded by
94 Joseph Johnson. Motion carried.
95
- 96 4. **Daniel Pazdersky** – Requested Education Substitution towards his Wastewater Collections class
97 2 Operator’s Certification. Board Staff recommended that Mr. Pazdersky be granted 8 months,
98 which would satisfy his experience requirements. Joseph Johnson motioned to approve Board
99 Staff recommendation and seconded by Nancy Hausrath. Motion carried.
100
- 101 5. **Majid Afshar** – Requested Education Substitution towards his Wastewater Treatment Class 5A
102 Operator’s certification. Board Staff recommended that Mr. Afshar be granted 12 months
103 towards his Operator’s certification, which would satisfy his experience requirements
104 immediately. Joseph Johnson motioned to approve Board Staff recommendation and seconded by
105 Nancy Hausrath. Motion carried.
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107 **06. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

108 **A. Training Review Committee - TRE**

109 Dee Settar commented about the need for group training that is guided towards Water Treatment
110 class G and Disinfection Byproduct certifications. Currently ETAD is providing one-on-one
111 training for Class G Operators. There was further discussion about having the Process Rule
112 encompass all certification categories and classes. Dee suggested reevaluating the training for
113 Water and Wastewater Operators to improve Plant compliance. The objective is to ensure that the
114 training is more specific and process related to increase job knowledge. Nancy Hausrath
115 suggested the Board chose a designee for the TRE committee. Christine Nagle suggested the
116 Board discuss going back to 50/50 Non Process and Process training requirements for all
117 Operators.
118

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120 The next TRE Committee meeting will be held on March 8, 2017.
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122 **B. Magazine**

123 Nothing to report.
124

125 **07. ON-GOING BUSINESS**

126 **A. Proposed Legislation**

127 The Attorney General’s office is proposing legislation for the 2017 legislative session that will
128 require additional “state” supervision of appointed Boards that have a majority of market
129 participant Board members. Each State Board which has members that are market participants
130 will have to forward any of the decisions that could be considered anti-competitive to the
131

132 Attorney General’s office for review. Regulations created for the proposal will have more details
133 on what subjects will be supervised. Board discussed conflict with closed session and making a
134 final motion, questioning if the person supervising the decisions would be able to have foresight
135 on the matter in question. Board Counsel mentioned that if this piece of legislation goes through,
136 then the effective date will be June 1, 2017, and the regulations will be completed by October 1,
137 2017.

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139 **B. Certification of Septic System Service Providers**

140 There is no update on this topic.

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142 **C. Feedback on Revised Forms**

143 Board reviewed the revised forms, brought to the December 15, 2016 meeting for any further
144 updates. Board made suggestions on verbiage on Experience Credit application; Nancy Hausrath
145 suggested removing minimum of fifteen credit hours from application.

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147 **08. NEW BUSINESS**

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149 **Applications for Renewal**

150 Christine Nagle, Board Secretary will discuss further at future meeting.

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152 **09. DISCUSSION WITH BOARD LIAISONS AND GUESTS**

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154 Hiram Tanner-CWEA– Requests submissions of recognition of individuals from Maryland,
155 Washington D.C., or Delaware area that deserve to be recognized for a job well done.

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157 Jack Bowen- MRWA – Introduced guest, Mr. David Swain from Maryland Rural Water
158 Association. He has worked at MRWA for 15 years.

159 David Swain – voiced concerns about operators being unprepared to take the Wastewater 5A
160 exam. Referencing RBC and trickling filters questions. Mr. Swain. After speaking with others
161 who sat for the 5A exam, the individual was supported in his claim. Mr. Swain questioned as to
162 why these questions were placed on the examination when those two treatment processes are
163 processes for Wastewater Treatment class 4 Certification. Mr. Swain also addressed verbiage
164 included in MCET’s guide to take exams based on ABC’s certification process which describes
165 typical processes as “activated sludge and oxidation ditches, but those processes are not included
166 in COMAR. Mr. Swain requested the Board members to review this error and to discuss further
167 at future meetings.

168
169 Jay Price-AWWA – Informed the Board of small System free training. Short Course training to
170 include: advanced water distribution, advance Wastewater, Backflow, Legionella and a 1 day
171 Superintendent Class. Registration begins April 1st, 2017 with Steve Fox Instructor. Also looking
172 for Water 2 Instructors WWA-15 and AWWA- 15 submissions of recognition of individuals from
173 Maryland, Washington D.C., or Delaware area that deserve to be recognized for a job well done.

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175 **10. ADJOURNMENT**

176 Nancy Hausrath motioned to adjourn meeting at 11:28 A.M. The next meeting will be held on
177 March 16, 2017 10:00 A.M. at Patapsco Wastewater Treatment Plant, Baltimore, Maryland.