



## MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF WELL DRILLERS

### OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday July 22, 2020 @ 9:00 A.M.

Video/ Teleconference via Google Hangouts Meet

Video Link: [meet.google.com/fau-tmoi-iss](https://meet.google.com/fau-tmoi-iss)

Phone: +1 617- 675- 4444 / PIN: 528 540 763 6350#

As of March 5, 2020, the Board of Well Drillers has been operating under a State of emergency and catastrophic health emergency proclaimed by Governor Hogan due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### **Board Members Present**

Hahns Hairston - Chairman / Public At Large  
Larry Brenneman - Vice-Chairman / Western MD  
Mike Hall - Eastern MD  
Brad Hartman -Southern MD  
Dave Kelly - Central MD  
Robert Peoples - MDE

#### **MDE Staff Present**

Gayatri Mostaghimi, Esq. – Board Counsel  
John Boris - On-Site Systems Program  
Dee Settar- Board Oversight/ Water Supply Program  
Duane Johnson- Executive Director

#### **Not Present**

Heather Quinn - DNR

#### **Call to Order**

With a quorum present, Chairman Hairston called the meeting to order via video and teleconference at 9:03AM.

#### **Introduction of Guests**

As the meeting was held by video and teleconference, Chairman Hairston requested if additional guests were participating and received no response.

#### **Review and Adoption of Meeting Agenda**

Chairman Hairston presented the agenda for review and approval. Mike Hall moved to approve the meeting agenda without correction. Brad Hartman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with no abstentions.

#### **Review and Approval of Open Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Hairston presented the minutes of the June 24, 2020 open meeting for review and approval. Chairman Hairston requested two minor corrections. Larry Brenneman made a motion to approve the meeting minutes with corrections. Brad Hartman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.



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### **Board Chair Comments**

Chairman Hairston welcomed all attendees commented he was glad to be back. He expressed hope that everyone stays safe, wears their mask and practices social distancing while enjoying the summer and staying cool.

### **Report by Water Supply Staff Acting in the Capacity of the Vacant Executive Director**

- A. Dee Settar introduced the Board Members to Duane Johnson, who recently transitioned from within MDE to fulfill the Executive Director role. Dee asked Duane to provide his background to the Board and Chairman Hairston requested the Board Members introduce themselves to Duane. Dee will supervise Duane in the Water Supply Program and expressed interest in attending Board Meetings as a guest.
- B. Dee Settar provided the cumulative Revenue and Expenditures Report to the Board for the period of January 31, 2020 thru June 30, 2020. The Executive Director will continue to provide a six month running tabulation of revenue and expenditures. Chairman Hairston asked if MDE was operating in the next fiscal year and Dee confirmed that MDE was operating in FY2021.

#### Revenues and Expenditures - as of June 30, 2020

Appropriation FY 2020	\$114,663.00
Expenses	\$ 63,073.01
Revenue	\$ 10,950.00
Encumbrance	\$ 0.00

### **New Business**

#### **A. Qualifications of Exam Applicants**

Dee Settar read the qualifications for each of the four exam applicants and recommended all four be approved to take exam for which they applied. Mike Hall made a motion for all four applicants to take the examinations without conditions. Robert Peoples seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with no abstentions.

#### **B. Licenses Issued**

Dee Settar updated the Board that four licenses will be issued this week: (1) apprentice pump installer; (2) pump installer; and (2) journeyman well driller licenses.

#### **C. License Inquiries and Updates**

Dee Settar requested Board advice regarding (1) issuing a Letter of Good Standing for a MD-licensed driller who will be seeking licensure out of state and (2) reinstatement of an expired Master driller license. Dee will follow through as the Board directed.

#### **D. Continuing Education Approval**

Dee Settar presented two (2) applications for training for Board approval. Brad Hartman made a motion to approve the courses indicated on the chart below for the license types and credit hours. Robert Peoples seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with no abstentions.



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### *Continuing Education Requests, continued*

<i>Course Number</i>	<i>Sponsor Organization</i>	<i>Name of Course</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>License Categories</i>	<i>Approved Credit Hours</i>
2021-118	National Ground Water Association	Safe Practice in the Groundwater Industry: An NGWA Certificate Program (#1014)	Online	Continuous	All	3.0 hours
2021-119	National Ground Water Association	Introduction to Groundwater Resources (#1012)	Online	Continuous	All	1.5 hours

### **Industry Correspondence/State of the Industry**

Board Members did not discuss any issues related to the state of the industry.

A motion to come out of Administrative Function in order to continue the meeting was made by Mike Hall, Dave Kelly, Larry Brenneman, Brad Hartman, and Robert Peoples. Chairman Hairston abstained.

### **Old Business- Existing Violations and Complaints**

A motion to go into an Administrative Function Meeting to discuss existing violations and complaints was made by Robert Peoples and seconded by Brad Hartman. The motion was approved by the following Board members: Larry Brenneman, Mike Hall, Dave Kelly, Brad Hartman, and Robert Peoples; Chairman Hairston abstained.

Board members discussed multiple existing and new violations associated with two companies.

A motion to come out of Administrative Function in order to conclude the meeting was made by Mike Hall and seconded by Dave Kelly. The motion was approved by the following Board members: Larry Brenneman, Mike Hall, Dave Kelly, Brad Hartman, and Robert Peoples; Chairman Hairston abstained.



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### **Board Vote to Move into Closed Session**

Pursuant to General Provisions Article (“GP”) § 3-305(b), on motion made by Robert Peoples and seconded by Brad Hartman, the following Board members voted in favor to move into closed session on July 22, 2020 at 10:09 AM via Google Hangouts video/ teleconference for the purpose of complying with certain provisions of the Open Meetings Act: Larry Brenneman, Brad Hartman, Dave Kelly, Mike Hall, and Robert Peoples; Chairman Hairston abstained. The motion carried.

Specifically, the Board discussed correspondence and violation status associated with two license holders in closed session pursuant to the General Provisions Article (“GP”) as stated below:

GP § 3-305(b)(2) - To protect the privacy and reputation of the license holders; and

GP § 3-305(b)(8) - To consult with staff and others regarding potential litigation.

Board members voted unanimously to request each license holder attend a Board meeting in the near future to discuss the violations.

A motion to conclude the closed session was made by Mike Hall and seconded by Dave Kelly. The following Board members voted in favor: Larry Brenneman, Brad Hartman, Dave Kelly, Mike Hall, and Robert Peoples; Chairman Hairston abstained. The motion carried; the closed session was concluded at 11:28 PM and the Board returned to open session.

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### **Adjournment**

Larry Brenneman motioned to adjourn the open meeting. Dave Kelly seconded the motion. The motion passed at 11:30 a.m. The motion was approved unanimously with no abstentions.