



MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF WELL DRILLERS

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 21, 2026 @ 9:00 A.M.

*Please note, this is a hybrid meeting. Members of the public are invited to attend either by accessing the virtual link, calling into the below phone number, or by attending in person at the address information listed below.

Video/teleconference via Google Hangouts Meet

Video Link: <https://meet.google.com/jtg-vhew-gmp>

Phone: +1 315-925-6309 PIN: 597 129 983#

In Person: 1800 Washington Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21230, Stat Conference Room

Board Members Present

Hahns Hairston – Chairman/Public at Large
Larry Brenneman – Western MD
Michael Hall – Eastern MD
Heather Quinn – DNR
Steven Kwiatkowski – Southern MD
Robert Peoples – MDE
Dave Kelly – Central MD

MDE Staff Present

Amanda Redmiles – Executive Director
Jennifer Bowman – OAG
Alex Rubin – MDE
Krysten Kruper – MDE

Call to Order

Chairman, Hahns Hairston, presided over the meeting.

Roll Call

Amanda Redmiles conducted the roll call.

Presiding Officer Comments

Hahns Hairston welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Approval of Open Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Heather Quinn and seconded by Steven Kwiatkowski to approve the agenda. The motion passed with one abstention by Hahns Hairston.

Review and Adoption of November 19, 2025, Open Session Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mike Hall and seconded by Heather Quinn to approve the meeting minutes with a change to page 3. The line should read “A motion was made by Robert Peoples and seconded by Steve Kwiatkowski to approve applications 2-5 for their prospective exam.” The motion passed with two abstentions by Hahns Hairston and Dave Kelly.

Board Fee Evaluation

Krysten Kruper, Division Chief with WSA, presented the Board’s 2020–2025 fee and expenditure data. She noted that Board fees are intended to support the Board’s expenditures and recommended an increase in this Board’s fees.

Kristen reviewed data beginning in 2020 to capture both renewal years and off-renewal years. She also compared inflation impacts from 2016 (using an inflation factor of 1.37%) through 2024–2025 numbers (the most recent renewal cycle) and reviewed the average number of licensees during the same time-period.

General Information

Category	Est. Annual Revenue	Fee Category	Average # of Records from 2020-2025
		APPLICATION	75
Master Well Driller – Renewals	~\$31,140	APPRENTICE	18
Journeyman Well Driller – Renewals	~\$13,125	APPRENTICE (R)	46
Application Fees	~\$8,600	APPRENTICE PUMP INSTALLER	2
Water Conditioner Installer – Renewals	~\$7,560	APPRENTICE WELL DRILLER	9
Pump Installer – Renewals	~\$7,740	INACTIVE STATUS (R)	4
Late Renewal Fees	~\$3,810	JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER	5
Reinstatements	~\$3,300	JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER (R)	53
		JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER – GENERAL	3
		JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER – GEOTECHNICAL	1
		LATE RENEWAL	13
		MASTER WELL DRILLER	6
		MASTER WELL DRILLER (R)	104
		MASTER WELL DRILLER – GENERAL	2
You need fees to be ~22.3% higher across the board to reach \$130,000, assuming no change in licensing behavior.		MASTER WELL DRILLER – GEOTECHNICAL	4
		MASTER WELL DRILLER – WATER SUPPLY	3
		PUMP INSTALLER	3
Under analysis if you expect elasticity (fewer renewals due to higher fees), the target should be increased another 3–7% as a buffer.		PUMP INSTALLER (R)	16
		REINSTATEMENT	6
		WATER CONDITIONER INSTALLER	3
		WATER CONDITIONER INSTALLER (R)	26
		WELL RIG OPERATOR	1
		WELL RIG OPERATOR (R)	32
		MISCELLANEOUS	1
		ROSTER	2

Doubled

Fee Increase Doubled						
Application Fee: \$150						
Licenses Class & Category						
Master Well Driller	Initial Fee	Renewal Fee				
General	\$ 300.00	\$ 400.00		APPLICATION	75	\$11,250.00
Geotechnical	\$ 300.00	\$ 400.00		APPRENTICE	18	\$1,800.00
Water Supply	\$ 300.00	\$ 400.00		APPRENTICE (R)	46	\$9,200.00
Journeyman Well Driller				APPRENTICE PUMP INSTALLER	2	\$200.00
General	\$ 200.00	\$ 300.00		APPRENTICE WELL DRILLER	9	\$900.00
Geotechnical	\$ 200.00	\$ 300.00		INACTIVE STATUS (R)	4	\$400.00
Water Supply	\$ 200.00	\$ 300.00		JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER	5	\$1,000.00
Well Rig Operator	\$ 200.00	\$ 300.00		JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER (R)	53	\$15,900.00
Water Conditioner Installer	\$ 300.00	\$ 400.00		JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER – GENERAL	3	\$600.00
Water Pump Installer	\$ 300.00	\$ 400.00		JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER – GEOTECHNICAL	1	\$200.00
Apprentice				LATE RENEWAL	13	\$5,200.00
Well Driller	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00		MASTER WELL DRILLER	6	\$1,800.00
Water Conditioner Installer	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00		MASTER WELL DRILLER (R)	104	\$41,600.00
Water Pump Installer	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00		MASTER WELL DRILLER – GENERAL	2	\$600.00
Late Renewal Fee	\$ 400.00			MASTER WELL DRILLER – GEOTECHNICAL	4	\$1,200.00
Inactivation Status Fee	\$ 100.00			MASTER WELL DRILLER – WATER SUPPLY	3	\$900.00
Reinstatement Fee	\$ 800.00			PUMP INSTALLER	3	\$900.00
License or card Replacement Fee	\$ 100.00			PUMP INSTALLER (R)	16	\$6,400.00
Name or address Change	No Fee			REINSTATEMENT	6	\$4,800.00
Roster	\$ 150.00			WATER CONDITIONER INSTALLER	3	\$300.00
				WATER CONDITIONER INSTALLER (R)	26	\$5,200.00
				WELL RIG OPERATOR	1	\$200.00
				WELL RIG OPERATOR (R)	32	\$9,600.00
				ROSTER	2	\$300.00
						\$120,450.00
This increase is \$15,450 more						
How much you'd actually get in a one year cycle: Total Estimated Annual Revenue:						
\$120,450						

Analysis

Fee Increase by Analysis

Licenses Class & Category	Initial Fee	Renewal Fee	Temporary Fee				
Application Fee: \$150							
Master Well Driller				APPLICATION	75	\$11,250.00	
General	\$ 320.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,200.00	APPRENTICE	18	\$1,800.00	
Geotechnical	\$ 320.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,200.00	APPRENTICE (R)	46	\$9,200.00	
Water Supply	\$ 320.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,200.00	APPRENTICE PUMP INSTALLER	2	\$200.00	
Journeyman Well Driller				APPRENTICE WELL DRILLER	9	\$900.00	
General	\$ 200.00	\$ 320.00	\$ 1,700.00	INACTIVE STATUS (R)	4	\$800.00	
Geotechnical	\$ 200.00	\$ 320.00	\$ 1,700.00	JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER	5	\$1,000.00	
Water Supply	\$ 200.00	\$ 320.00	\$ 1,700.00	JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER (R)	53	\$16,960.00	
Well Rig Operator	\$ 320.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,200.00	JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER – GENERAL	3	\$600.00	
Water Conditioner Installer	\$ 320.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,200.00	JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER – GEOTECHNICAL	1	\$200.00	
Water Pump Installer	\$ 320.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 2,200.00	LATE RENEWAL	13	\$5,200.00	
Apprentice				MASTER WELL DRILLER	6	\$1,920.00	
Well Driller	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,100.00	MASTER WELL DRILLER (R)	104	\$41,600.00	
Water Conditioner Installer	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,100.00	MASTER WELL DRILLER – GENERAL	2	\$640.00	
Water Pump Installer	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,100.00	MASTER WELL DRILLER – GEOTECHNICAL	4	\$1,280.00	
Late Renewal Fee	\$ 400.00			MASTER WELL DRILLER – WATER SUPPLY	3	\$960.00	
Inactivation Status Fee	\$ 100.00			PUMP INSTALLER	3	\$960.00	
Reinstatement Fee	\$ 750.00			PUMP INSTALLER (R)	16	\$6,400.00	
License or card Replacement Fee	\$ 90.00			REINSTATEMENT	6	\$4,500.00	
Name or address Change	No Fee			WATER CONDITIONER INSTALLER	3	\$300.00	
Roster	\$ 150.00			WATER CONDITIONER INSTALLER (R)	26	\$5,200.00	
				WELL RIG OPERATOR	1	\$320.00	
				WELL RIG OPERATOR (R)	32	\$12,800.00	
				ROSTER	2	\$300.00	
						\$125,290.00	
This increase is \$29,490 more							

5% Buffer

Buffers:					
3% buffer \$133,900					
5% buffer \$136,500					
7% buffer \$139,100					
Adjusted Revenue Targets with Elasticity using 5%					
Fee Increase by Analysis					
Application Fee: \$180					
Licenses Class & Category	Initial Fee	Renewal Fee			
Master Well Driller			APPLICATION	75	\$13,500.00
General	\$ 350.00	\$ 400.00	APPRENTICE	18	\$2,700.00
Geotechnical	\$ 350.00	\$ 400.00	APPRENTICE (R)	46	\$11,500.00
Water Supply	\$ 350.00	\$ 400.00	APPRENTICE PUMP INSTALLER	2	\$300.00
Journeyman Well Driller			APPRENTICE WELL DRILLER	9	\$1,350.00
General	\$ 250.00	\$ 350.00	INACTIVE STATUS (R)	4	\$400.00
Geotechnical	\$ 250.00	\$ 350.00	JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER	5	\$1,250.00
Water Supply	\$ 250.00	\$ 350.00	JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER (R)	53	\$18,550.00
Well Rig Operator	\$ 350.00	\$ 400.00	JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER – GENERAL	3	\$750.00
Water Conditioner Installer	\$ 350.00	\$ 400.00	JOURNEYMAN WELL DRILLER – GEOTECHNICAL	1	\$250.00
Water Pump Installer	\$ 350.00	\$ 400.00	LATE RENEWAL	13	\$5,200.00
Apprentice			MASTER WELL DRILLER	6	\$2,100.00
Well Driller	\$ 150.00	\$ 250.00	MASTER WELL DRILLER (R)	104	\$41,600.00
Water Conditioner Installer	\$ 150.00	\$ 250.00	MASTER WELL DRILLER – GENERAL	2	\$700.00
Water Pump Installer	\$ 150.00	\$ 250.00	MASTER WELL DRILLER – GEOTECHNICAL	4	\$1,400.00
Late Renewal Fee	\$ 400.00		MASTER WELL DRILLER – WATER SUPPLY	3	\$1,050.00
Inactivation Status Fee	\$ 100.00		PUMP INSTALLER	3	\$450.00
Reinstatement Fee	\$ 800.00		PUMP INSTALLER (R)	16	\$4,000.00
License or card Replacement Fee	\$ 100.00		REINSTATEMENT	6	\$4,800.00
Name or address Change	No Fee		WATER CONDITIONER INSTALLER	3	\$450.00
Roster	\$ 200.00		WATER CONDITIONER INSTALLER (R)	26	\$10,400.00
			WELL RIG OPERATOR	1	\$350.00
			WELL RIG OPERATOR (R)	32	\$12,800.00
			ROSTER	2	\$400.00
					\$136,250.00
This increase is \$30,955 more					
How much you'd actually get in a cycle: \$136,250.00					

Board members expressed concerns regarding the figures presented, as well as potential pushbacks from the drilling community regarding fee increases.

Kristen will run the numbers and distribute them to the Board so members can better evaluate potential fee adjustments prior to the February meeting.

The Board also discussed the possibility of tying certain fees to inflation, rather than applying a uniform increase across all fee categories. A referral will be sent to the Attorney General's Office for evaluation.

Executive Director Comments

- FY26 Revenue & Expenditures Update

**BOARD OF WELL DRILLERS
REVENUE & EXPENDITURES FY26**

FY26 APPN \$128,425

Month	Running Expenditures	Monthly Expenditures	Running Revenue	Monthly Revenue
JULY	\$10,892.99	\$10,892.99	\$925.00	\$925.00
AUGUST	\$33,405.69	\$22,512.70	\$2,700.00	\$1,775.00
SEPTEMBER	\$75,152.94	\$41,747.25	\$4,925.00	\$2,225.00
OCTOBER	\$129,227.06	\$54,074.12	\$6,400.00	\$1,475.00
NOVEMBER	\$195,887.45	\$66,660.39	\$7,000.00	\$600.00
DECEMBER				
JANUARY				
FEBRUARY				
MARCH				
APRIL				
MAY				
JUNE				
		\$195,887.45		

- Board Member’s State Issued Emails
 - The Board Members are still experiencing issuing logging into their State email. The Board Members have been advised by Amanda Redmiles to contact the DOIT Help Desk.
- 2025 Financial Disclosure Statements
 - Amanda Redmiles reminded everyone that the deadline for the Board Members to submit their disclosure statements is April 30, 226.

Old Business

- There is nothing to discuss currently.

New Business

- Continuing Education Credits Approval

#	Organization	Course Name	Location	Date(s)	License Category	Rec. Hours	Cycle	Outcome
1	Virginia Water Well Association	2026 Winter Conference & Exhibition	Richmond, VA	2/18/26 - 2/19/26	All Licenses	Up to 8 Hours	2025-2027	Approved 2026-001
2	National Drillers Association (Mid-Atlantic Chapter)	2026 Training Day	Libertytown, MD	5/1/2026	All Licenses	8 Hours	2025-2027	Approved 2026-002

A motion was made by Steven Kwiatkowski and seconded by Robert Peoples to approve above continuing education credits. The motion passed with one abstention by Hahns Hairston.

- Examination Qualifications

#	Name	Exam Type	Employer	Recommend	Outcome
1	Crandell, Bo Tyler James	JGD	Summit Drilling	Recommend	Approved
2	Dunn, Cameron M.	AWD	Somerset Drilling	Recommend	Approved
3	Foy Jr., Kenneth	AWD	A.C. Schultes of D.E.	Recommend	Approved
4	Gough, Darrell W. Jr.	MGD	E2CR	Recommend	Approved
5	Pederson, Oliver John	MWD	Cascade Env.	Recommend	Conditional Approval - Needs Letter of Good Standing from WV or NC showing 7 years of experience with equivalent license.
6	Pruitt, Michael T.	AWD	Somerset Drilling	Recommend	Approved
7	Rojas-Solis, Guillermo	AWD	Somerset Drilling	Recommend	Approved
8	Siwinski Sr., Brian K.	MGD	E2CR	Recommend	Approved
9	Zetina-Rojas, Jesus	AWD	Somerset Drilling	Recommend	Approved

A motion was made by Dave Kelly and seconded by Larry Brenneman to approve applicants all except #5 for their prospective exam. Amanda Redmiles will contact Oliver John Pederson and request letters of good standing from West Virginia or North Carolina showing 7 years of experience with equivalent license. The motion passed with one abstention by Hahns Hairston.

- December 2nd Exam Results

SCHEDULED	11
SHOWED	11
PASSED	8
FAILED	3
AVERAGE GRADE	82%

Types of Exams to Pass

Apprentice Well Driller – 4
 Journeyman Well Driller (Water Supply) – 1
 Journeyman Well Driller (General) - 1
 Master Well Driller (Water Supply) – 1
 Pump Installer – 1

Types of Exams to Fail

Apprentice Well Driller – 3

Applicants That Passed the Examination

Daniel Barlow – Master Well Driller (Water Supply)
Benjamin Elliott Creasey – Journeyman Well Driller (General)
Jayden Edwards – Journeyman Well Driller (Water Supply)
Adolfo E. Hernandez – Apprentice Well Driller
Samuel Lively – Apprentice Well Driller
Josue Escobar Romero – Apprentice Well Driller
Nicholas Stanley – Apprentice Well Driller
Bryan L. Wilkerson – Pump Installer

Industry Correspondence/State of the Industry

Amanda Redmiles inquired as to who will be attending the MDWAA Conference and provided a short overview of the agenda for the conference.

Robert Peoples stepped out.

Board Vote to Move into Closed Session

A motion was made by Mike Hall and seconded by Steven Kwaitkowski to move into closed Session. The motion passed with one abstention by Hahns Hairston. The presiding officer read a written closing statement addressing the reason for the closed meeting, including the topics to be discussed and statutory exceptions(s) (see below).

Adjournment

A motion was made by Larry Brenneman and seconded by Mike Hall to adjourn. The motion was approved with one abstention by Hahns Hairston.

Call to Order and Purpose of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to General Provisions Article ("GP"), § 3-305(b), on a motion by Mike Hall and seconded by Steven Kwaitkowski Board members approved moving into closed session on January 21, 2026, for the purpose of complying with the following provisions of the Open Meetings Act:

GP § 3-305(b)(2) - To protect the privacy or reputation of license holders,
GP § 3-305(b)(7) - To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice,
GP § 3-305(b)(8) - To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The following Board members were present during the closed meeting: Hahns Hairston, Larry Brenneman, Mike Hall, Dave Kelly, Heather Quinn, Robert Peoples, and Steven Kwiatkowski. MDE staff were Amanda Redmiles, Jennifer Bowman and Alex Rubin.

Pursuant to legal provisions, Hahns Hairston read the closed meeting disclaimer.

Topics Discussed During the Closed Meeting

Board members reviewed and approved the January 21, 2026, meeting agenda; reviewed and approved the November 19, 2025, closed meeting minutes; were updated on previous violations,

discussed new violations and complaints; and worked on rewriting regulations by redefining the definition of a well in Chapter 1.