



MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF WELL DRILLERS

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 @ 9:00 A.M.

Video/ Teleconference via Google Hangouts Meet

Video Link: meet.google.com/mro-dasa-uxt

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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
Heather Quinn - DNR
Robert Peoples - MDE

MDE Staff Present

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

Call to Order

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

Introduction of Guests

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

Review and Adoption of Meeting Agenda

Chairman Hairston presented the agenda for review and approval. Brad Hartman moved to approve the meeting agenda without correction. Mike Hall 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 April 22, 2020 open meeting for review and approval. Dave Kelly requested one correction regarding his representation as a Board Member. Larry Brenneman made a motion to approve the meeting minutes with the correction. Dave Kelly seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.



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Board Chair Comments

Chairman Hairston welcomed all attendees to the third video- teleconference meeting. He expressed hope that everyone was well, staying safe, practicing social distancing, and wearing a face mask.

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

A. Dee Settar provided the cumulative Revenue and Expenditures Report to the Board for the period of November 31, 2019 thru April 30, 2020. She will continue to provide a six month running tablatore of revenue and expenditures.

Revenues and Expenditures - as of April 30, 2020

Appropriation FY 2020	\$114,663.00
Expenses	\$63,065.41
Revenue	\$ 9,900.00

B. Dee Settar updated the Board of the uncertainty for proctoring the examination at MDE on June 3, 2020 due to social distancing requirements at Montgomery Park. Board members discussed pursuing other venues, and Brad Hartman offered use of A. C. Schultes' office space. However, by the end of the meeting, the Board received confirmation that Montgomery Park would host the exam event.

New Business

A. Qualifications of Exam Applicants

Dee Settar read a brief description of the qualifications for each of the six exam applicants and recommended:

- Four applicants to take the appropriate examination without conditions;
- Two applicants to take the appropriate examination pending proof of the employer's current insurance certificate and submittal of complete applications that indicate adequate work history.

The Board discussed the outstanding requirements for the two individuals. Mike Hall made a motion for all applicants to be qualified to take the examination as discussed. Robert Peoples seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with no abstentions.

B. Review of Continuing Education Requests

A total of fifteen (15) applications for training were presented to the Board for review. Fourteen applications were submitted by the National Groundwater Association (NGWA) for webinar-type classes which were held on dates prior to this meeting. While Board Members were amenable to most of the course topics, they expressed concern with attendance verification for webinars and were not immediately approved. Dee will notify the NGWA of the Board's concerns and recommend the applications be resubmitted if the classes will be offered for future use.

Board members continued a general discussion regarding approval of webinars, including concerns with attendance and the benefits of remote training. Brad Hartman made a motion to approve one course 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>
2021-117	Eastern Water Quality Association	2020 Spring Training Video: "Radon Overview Regulations and Treatment" AND "Practical Design of Activated Carbon Beds & Emerging Contaminants of Increasing Concern- Perfluorakyl Substances (PFAS)"	Online	Continuous	MWD, MGD, MSD, JWD, JGD, JSD, WRO, AWD, WCI, AWC (not PIO, API)	2.5

Dee informed Board Members that she was contacted by a representatives of the National Water Quality Association (WQA) regarding a conversation that originated with Elaine Nolan, former Executive Director, prior to her retirement. Dee met remotely with WQA representatives on May 22, 2020 to discuss the Association's available training and exam materials for the Water Conditioner Installer and Apprentice Water Conditioner Installer certifications and presented WQA brochure to the Board. The Board invited WQA to attend the next in-person meeting held at MDE.

Old Business

The Board received a referral from the Maryland Office of Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division, dated May 4, 2020, regarding a complaint previously discussed during the April 22nd meeting. Dee confirmed the complainant was notified of the Board's decision by email on April 24th and that the Board considers this a contractual matter with no evidence of gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct that would constitute a violation of State regulations. Board Counsel will review the OAG letter for further action.

Dee will continue to process bond and insurance certificates and address the backlog of expired certificates discussed in the April 22, 2020 Board meeting.

Industry Correspondence/State of the Industry

Board Members discussed the pending termination of Board appointments in June 2020. All will continue to serve indefinitely until notification is received from the Governor's Appointments Office, and there is no action for any Board Member to take at this time. In addition, Board Members agreed they would like to continue meeting monthly. Mike Hall and Larry Brenneman described the benefits to meeting remotely and requested the Board continue with remote meetings on occasion after social distancing restrictions were lifted. Finally, the Board discussed the Governor's Executive Order extending license renewals and that it does not apply to drillers' requirements for maintaining current bonds and insurance.

Adjournment

Mike Hall motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dave Kelly seconded the motion. The motion passed at 10:32 a.m. The motion was approved unanimously with no abstentions.