



STATE OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF WATERWORKS AND WASTE SYSTEMS OPERATORS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:
Thursday, September 19, 2019 At 10:00 A.M
Maryland Environmental Service (MES), Millersville, MD, 21108

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 2 MISSION OF THE MARYLAND BOARD OF WATERWORKS & WASTE SYSTEMS OPERATORS
 3 The Treatment Systems that provide drinking water for our citizens and handle the wastes generated by
 4 our daily activities play an important role in protecting Public Health and the Environment of Maryland.
 5 Through the Certification Program established by State Law, the “Board of Waterworks and Waste
 6 Systems Operators” sets the education, experience and examination standards for Operators and
 7 Superintendents who work in these vital systems.
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 10 **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**
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William Shreve	Joseph Johnson
Dee Settar	Bruce Darner
Nancy Hausrath	

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 13 **LIASONS & STAFF PRESENT**
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15 Neil Winner	Board Secretary
16 Martin Fuhr	Board Staff
17 Pam Franks	Board Staff
18 Jay Price	AWWA Liaison
19 Scott Harmon	CWEA Liaison
20 Hiram Tanner	Board Member Nominee
21 Partha Tallapragada	Board Member Nominee
22 Sue Houghton	MRWA Liaison

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 24 **Not Present**
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26 Dr. Russell Kelley	Board Member
27 Joe Haxton	Board Member
28 Dominic Deludos	Board Member
29 Karen Brandt	MCET Liaison
30 Laura Mayberry	Board Counsel

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 32 **01. CALL TO ORDER**
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34 Board Chair called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM.
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36 **02. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF PROPOSED MEETING AGENDA**
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38 It was moved by Joseph Johnson and seconded by Bruce Darner to adopt the proposed meeting agenda as
 39 amended. Motion carried.

40 **03. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES**

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42 Board Members reviewed the July 18, 2019 draft meeting minutes. After review, it was moved by
43 Joseph Johnson and seconded by Bruce Darner to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried.
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45 **04. BOARD CHAIR’S COMMENTS**

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47 Board Chairman thanked Board Members and Liaisons for attending today’s meeting.
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49 **05. SECRETARY’S REPORT**

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51 **A. Report on Board’s Administrative Activities**

52 Board Secretary reported that as of July 31, 2019, appropriations for fiscal year 2020 are
53 \$290,891.00, expenses are \$15,461.01, revenue is \$19,640.00, and the encumbrance is
54 \$50,000.00; and that as of August 31, 2019, appropriations for fiscal year 2020 are
55 \$290,891.00, expenses are \$26,827.19, revenue is \$33,815.00, and the encumbrance is
56 \$48,810.00
57

58 **B. Report on Examination Results**

- 59
60 1. Please refer to Attachment A.
61

62 Board Staff discussed the examination statistics for the months of July and August,
63 2019. There were 45 total exams taken in July, with an overall pass rate of 26.67%.
64 Eighteen operators sat for the paper water exams, scoring a pass rate of 33%. One
65 operator sat for the online (AMP) water exams, scoring a pass rate of 0%. In July,
66 twenty-four operators sat for the paper wastewater and industrial wastewater exams,
67 scoring a pass rate of 21%. Two operators sat for the online (AMP) wastewater and
68 industrial wastewater exams, scoring a pass rate of 50%.
69

70 For the month of August, 2019, there were 67 total exams taken, with an overall pass
71 rate of 20.90%. Twenty-five operators sat for the paper water exams, scoring a pass
72 rate of 24%. One operator sat for the online (AMP) water exams, scoring a pass rate of
73 100%. In August, thirty-five operators sat for the paper wastewater and industrial
74 wastewater exams, scoring a pass rate of 17%. Six operators sat for the online (AMP)
75 wastewater and industrial wastewater exams, scoring a pass rate of 17%. A total of
76 1,571 exams were taken YTD. 20 exams were administered at Tri-Con held August 27 -
77 30th, 2019 in Ocean City Maryland.
78

- 79 2. Board discussed offering exams after training events at municipalities and water
80 systems to assist operators who struggle with passing exams, and suggested that
81 employers should offer some level of on-site training for operators before the exams.
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83 **C. Board Appointments**

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85 Neil Winner, Board Secretary discussed Board Appointments for the vacant positions and
86 gave an update on the approval process. Board discussed proposed changes to the current
87 requirements for Board Members to include: Attendance requirements and criteria for
88 (Public at Large) and the possibility of having more small system representatives.

89 **06. REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS**

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91 1.) Tyler Fink – Requested Reciprocity from Delaware for a Maryland Industrial Wastewater Class 3
92 Operator certification. Board Staff recommended that Mr. Fink be granted the Maryland Industrial
93 Wastewater I Class 3 Operator certification. Joseph Johnson moved to accept Board Staff’s
94 recommendation and motion was seconded by Bruce Darner. Motion carried.

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96 2.) Timothy Jackson – Requested Reciprocity from Town of Piedmont, West Virginia for a Maryland
97 Water Treatment Class 4 Operator certification. Board Staff recommended that Mr. Kelly be granted the
98 Maryland Water Treatment Class 4 Water Operator certification. Joseph Johnson moved to accept Board
99 Staff’s recommendation and motion was seconded by Bruce Darner. Motion carried.

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101 3.) Setondji Metohoue – Requested Education Substitution and Experience Credit towards his Class 5
102 Wastewater Treatment Operator certification. Board Staff recommended Mr. Metohoue be granted 1
103 year of education substitution for experience towards his Wastewater Treatment Class 5 Operator
104 certification. He may also be eligible for 6 months experience credit pending verification of experience,
105 outlining duties and classification of facility where he previously worked in Bonou City. Making him
106 eligible for certification immediately. Joseph Johnson moved to approve Board Staff recommendation
107 and motion was seconded by Dee Settar. Motion carried.

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109 4.) Joshua Hester – Requested Experience Credit towards his Water Treatment Class 4 Operator
110 certification. Board Staff recommended that Mr. Hester be granted 12 months experience credit towards
111 his Water Treatment Class 4. Joseph Johnson moved to approve Board Staff recommendation and
112 motion was seconded by Dee Settar. Board voted to grant Mr. Hester 1 year of experience credit, making
113 him eligible for his Water Treatment Class 4 immediately.

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115 5.) Solomon Quansah – Requested Education Substitution and Experience Credit towards his Wastewater
116 Class 5A Operator Certification. Board Staff recommended that Mr. Quansah be granted an additional 7
117 months of experience credit towards his Wastewater Treatment Class 5A and an additional 1 year of
118 education substitution at this time. He would be eligible immediately for his Wastewater Class 5A
119 Superintendent Operator certification. (Joseph Johnson abstained from voting). Bruce Darner moved to
120 approve Board Staff recommendation and motion was seconded by Nancy Hausrath. Motion carried.

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122 **07. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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124 **A. Training Review and Evaluation (TRE) Committee**

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126 1. On September 11th, 2019, the TRE Committee met to review and discuss the incoming
127 training requests.
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129 2. After reviewing the course recommendations from the TRE Committee, it was moved
130 by Joseph Johnson and seconded by Dee Settar to accept the TRE Committee’s
131 recommendations as amended and approve the continuing education training courses.
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133 **08. ON-GOING BUSINESS**

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135 **A. Operator Certification Process**

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137 1. EARN Grant is possibly being renewed.

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09. NEW BUSINESS

A. Board

1. Nothing to Report

10. DISCUSSION WITH BOARD LIAISONS AND GUESTS

- A. Bruce Darner** – WWOA Fall 2020 (2)-day Training October 29, 2019 in Dover, DE. Department of Public Works (Eastern Avenue Pumping Station) Museum. WWOA Pump training course to be held at the Wicomico County golf course on November 6, 2019.
- B. Jay Price** – CS-AWWA training event to be held September 30, 2019 in Dover Delaware.
- C. Scott Harmon** – CWEA introduced a new Web Training Seminar to be held at Tri-Con, and is looking for persons to conduct training. Will hold election at the Tri-Con conference this year.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Joseph Johnson moved to adjourn meeting at 1:05 PM. The next meeting will be held on **October 17, 2019 Anne Arundel Co. Water O & M, Millersville, Maryland 21108.**