



## BOARD OF WATERWORKS AND WASTE SYSTEMS OPERATORS

### Open Meeting Minutes Draft

Thursday October 16, 2025

Location: Video Conference via Google Meet

Link: [meet.google.com/zsx-mkye-szm](https://meet.google.com/zsx-mkye-szm)

Phone: (US) +1 316-302-5911

PIN: 178 270 905#

*Meeting attendance via videoconference. Access link and phone number available to the public via the Board's webpage.*

*Meetings are subject to recording*

#### A. Call To Order and Roll Call

Ben Thompson called the meeting to order.

Martin Fuhr called roll.

Bruce Darner, Joe Wright, Eric Dutrow, Connie Luffman, Doug Abbott, Bill Shreve, Divina Yutzy, Anthony Nwagewe, Clark Howells, Ben Thompson, Donna Dunlap, Nicole Rush, Victoria Arbaugh, Alex Rubin.

#### B. Board Chair Comments and Guest Introductions

Mark Catlin Brown, Fae Riot, Nathan Laucks, Antoine Wroten, BJ Gullion, Chris Younger– listening.

Lyla Walrath– representing Chandra Singh

#### C. Review and Adoption of Proposed Meeting Agenda

Bill made a motion to adopt the meeting agenda as amended. Doug seconded. Motion carried.

#### D. Review and Adoption of Draft Previous Open Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the Previous Open Meeting Minutes as amended made by Bill Shreve. Seconded by Joe.

Motion carried.

#### E. Board Initiatives and Inquiries

##### a. Communications Subcommittee

Joe shared the recommendations. He encouraged everyone to review it and take time to digest the material. The Board will readdress this next month and see what the next steps are to review the exam. The premise being that everyone would take the primary exam then a subclass would be an add on to that in every situation. There will be discussion with Nicole Rush, who will need to review the document before she can give advice, if needed. It was recommended that there may be a subcommittee created for the comprehensive exam.



## **BOARD OF WATERWORKS AND WASTE SYSTEMS OPERATORS**

### **b. Water Treatment Classification Review Subcommittee**

Nothing to report currently.

### **c. Exam Review Subcommittee – Water Treatment 4**

Wanting to approach this similarly to how the W5A exam was approached. Review of questions and update as needed.

### **d. Board Vacancy**

No advancement. One spot is open for the municipal seat. Additional information was requested and sent in.

### **e. Board Member Emails**

Struggles with sending PDF information, there is an organization block. There will be a meeting today to discuss this issue and Nicole hopes to have an update next month.

## **F. Board Staff Report**

### **a. Web Portal Update**

Martin presented the Web Portal Update. Things are looking good and there were minor additions given. The IT Team is beginning to properly build the portal. Still currently on track to release this in the first quarter of next year.

### **b. Revenue & Expenditure**

The Board has received 37,850.00 in revenue YTD. This will be subject to change, as not all the September receipts have been entered. There were no expense numbers from fiscal yet.

The Board would like to receive Quarterly reports for fiscal revenue and expenditure reports to try to get a fuller picture.

### **c. Application Backlog**

The backlog is now within 4 months of being current. Hitting the goal of 60 day turn around time at about 40%.

It was brought up that Operators are not checking their emails for the certifications. Martin did send out the email blast reminder for all operators.

### **d. Exam Statistics**

The Board would like this to also be presented quarterly.



## BOARD OF WATERWORKS AND WASTE SYSTEMS OPERATORS

Operators appear to be struggling within the core concepts. How many people at MCET are participating in the classes? There appears to be a dip in wastewater and water treatment classes. There are also folks who enroll and do not follow through.

e. Exam Advice and Other request.

Fae Riot came seeking advice from the board on how to pass her T4 exam as she has been struggling. Martin will follow up with Fae to give insight from her mastery sheet. Martin will also give her information regarding a recount to double check about her score.

Mark Brown– Needing clarification to the superintendent training and process. He will get the license to satisfy the employer, he will be good for a year, but he will need to attend the training to complete and extend the superintendent license after a year. Mark will email Martin to follow up to get clarification. Martin will put him on the list for April's superintendent training to make sure that he is in the meeting. He did already come to the board for an education substitution.

### G. Applications

- a. Garrett Ingram – Experience Credit– Martin recommends awarding him 6 months. Motion by Ben to approve, Joe second, no abstentions. Motion carried.
- b. Antoine Wroten: Reciprocity for Wastewater 5A from Virginia– Motion by Bill Shreve to approve the recommendation for the W5A, seconded by Joe. Motion Carried.
- c. Dwayne Lowry: Reciprocity for Water Treatment 4 from Indiana– Motion to accept the recommendation to get the T4 by Bill, Anthony Seconded. Motion Carried.
- d. Chandra Singh: Reciprocity for Wastewater 6 from Pennsylvania– Recommendation that he be granted the Wastewater Treatment 6. Joseph Wright made a motion to grant him the W6, second by Doug Abbott. Motion carried.
- e. Donald Taylor: Reciprocity for Wastewater 5A from Pennsylvania– Motion to approve by Joe Wright, second by Bruce Darner. Motion Carried.
- f. Nathan Laucks I: Reciprocity for Wastewater 5A from Pennsylvania– For Clarification, the same man, applying to two different licenses. Motion by Bill Shreve to approve the recommendation, Bruce



## BOARD OF WATERWORKS AND WASTE SYSTEMS OPERATORS

Darner second. Motion carried.

g. Nathan Laucks II: Reciprocity for Water Treatment 4 from Pennsylvania– Motion by Bill, seconded by Ben Thompson. Motion carried.

h. Gullion– W5A– Bruce made a motion to grant up to one year of experience credit, Doug seconded. Eric and Joe abstained. Motion carried.

### H. Comments by Board Members

Concerns for the W6– proposed that the certification review committee see where the certification can exist. It is proposed that perhaps it is a subclass. We will need to meet with Counsel and possibly update COMAR. Referral for legal review for grandfathering in the Spray Irrigation and Drip system if the operator holds the W5A.

### I. Review of Action Items

Anthony reviewed action items with the board.

### J. Discussion with Board Liaisons and guests

CSAWWA– December 6th of Island Reservoir Center, DC Chesapeake section will hold a seminar regarding emergency response. There will be a conference in March with industry leaders. ACE– Will be at the DC convention center.

CWEA– Short course will add a 5A course track. Everything for short course is on schedule.

WWOA– Main body meeting held 10/15/25, looking into costs to cover fees for Board Members for Tricon. Presented other updates regarding further inquiries that WWOA is looking into.

MCET– No additional information to share.

MRWA- Nothing to Report.

### K. Adjournment – Vote for Closed Session

Vote to adjourn open meeting by Bruce, Joe second. Motion carried.

Ben Thompson read the closed meeting statement.



## **BOARD OF WATERWORKS AND WASTE SYSTEMS OPERATORS**

### **Call to Order and Purpose of Closed Meeting**

Pursuant to General Provisions Article (“GP”) § 3-305(b), on a motion by Bruce Darner and seconded by Joe Wright, Board Members approved moving into closed session on October 17, 2025, for the purpose of complying with the following provisions of the Open Meetings Act:

GP § 3-305(b)(7) - To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice.

The following Board Members were present during closed session: Martin Fuhr, Davina Yutzy, Connie Luffman, Nicole Rush, Eric Dutrow, Victoria Arbaugh, Joseph Wright, Bruce Darner, Alex Rubin, Anthony Nwagwe, Bill Shreve, Doug Abbott, Ben Thompson.

Pursuant to legal provisions, Ben Thompson read the closed statement disclaimer.