



**BOARD OF WATERWORKS AND WASTE SYSTEMS OPERATORS**

**Open Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, March 19, 2026 – 10:00 am**

**Location: Video Conference via Google Meet**

**Link: [meet.google.com/bba-yrze-vwe](https://meet.google.com/bba-yrze-vwe)**

**Phone: (US) +1 302-281-2202**

**PIN: 791 517 773#**

*Meeting attendance via videoconference. Access link and phone number available to the public via the Board’s webpage.  
Meetings are subject to recording*

**Call To Order and Roll Call**

Ben Thompson called the meeting to order at 10:01AM, Martin called roll.

**Board Members Present**

Ben Thompson– Chairman

Joe Wright - Vice Chair

Bill Shreve– Public at Large

Eric Dutrow- Public at Large

Connie Luffman– Wastewater Supervision

Davina Yutzy– County Government

Ed Hogan–Industrial Superintendent

Bruce Darner - Agriculture

**Absent**

Doug Abbott

Anthony Nwagwe

Taj Goodlow

Sarah Levy

**MDE Staff Present**

Nicole Rush– OAG

Alex Rubin– MDE

Martin Fuhr- MDE

**Guests**

Donna Dunlap– MRWA

Clark Howells

Johnny McCray- Tree House Foods

Mike Wariello– New Jersey Operator

John Flickinger- Reciprocity Applicant

**Board Chair Comments and Guest Introductions**

Ben welcomed everyone to the meeting and guests introduced themselves.

- Johnny McCray- Tree House Foods
- Mike Wariello– New Jersey Operator seeking reciprocity. He came to thank the board for the hard work in getting the information he needed. He came to observe.
- John Flickinger- A Reciprocity Applicant.

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14 **Review and Adoption of Proposed Meeting Agenda**

15 Motion to approve the meeting agenda was made by Bill Shreve and seconded Joe Wright. The motion was carried  
16 unanimously.

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18 **Review and Adoption of Draft Previous Open Meeting Minutes**

19 **January Meeting Minutes:** A motion to approve the January open minutes was made by Joe Wright and seconded Ed  
20 Hogan, the motion carried unanimously.

21 **February Meeting Minutes:** A motion to approve the February meeting minutes notes as presented by Bruce Darner,  
22 seconded by Ed Hogan, Motion carried unanimously.

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24 **Board Initiatives and Inquiries**

- 25
- Exam Review Subcommittee

26 This topic is currently unable to be discussed in open meeting.

- 27
- Board Member Emails

28 Martin changed everyone's passwords and everyone besides Bill Shreve and Ben Thompson were able to get in.  
29 There is an issue with Microsoft overriding their emails and taking them to the Microsoft email. Martin will  
30 continue to follow up.

31 **New Business**

- 32
- Open Board Position

33 Ron Turner sent in information; Martin will follow up. No other updates.

- 34
- Electronic Data Submission – Chris Watling

35 Chris was unable to attend today. However, he did send a response through Martin who dispersed it to the  
36 board. Ben Thompson will send Chris and Dee an email to communicate across the state to make sure  
37 everyone is on the same page. Ben will inform Martin if Chris needs to attend the next meeting.

- 38
- Web Portal

39 When the Portal Launches, Operators and Applicants will be able to pay by credit card and electronic personal  
40 check. An additional fee will be applied for the credit card. There will be MDE conducted training, In-person  
41 tutorials, a presentation at conferences, and accessible video tutorials.

42 **Applications**

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- Juan Guarache Monzon– Education substitution - W5A- motion to approved by Bill Shreve, second by Ed  
44 Hogan, motion carried unanimously.

- 45
- John Flickinger– Reciprocity Application– Applying for a W5A– The Board made a recommendation for the  
46 5. Motion by Bill Shreve, Second by Joe Wright, Motion carried and license granted as recommended by  
47 board staff.



- 48 • Michael Batz– t4– The Board needs additional information to make a decision on this application. Ask for  
49 plant schematic for coagulation, sedimentation and flocculation. Come back next month
- 50 • Johnny McCray– I2– motion to grant the I2 made by Ed Hogan, second by Bruce Darner. Motion carried.

### 51 **Comments by Board Members**

52 No comments at this time.

### 53 **Review of Action Items**

54 Anthony not here, nothing added.

### 55 **Discussion with Board Liaisons and guests**

56 MRWA- Conference May 4-7th.

57 MCET- N/a

58 WWOA– General updates. 100-year anniversary coming up. There is a pause in making new study guides.

59 Chesapeake WEA: Reg for short court starts 4/1/26, TRE classes have been submitted to MDE for review.

60 CSAWWA- Utility conference finished, they do have scholarship opportunities available for Highschool and College  
61 students.

### 63 **Adjournment – Vote for closed session**

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65 Motion to go into closed session by Bill Shreve, Ed Hogan, motion carried. Ben Thompson read the closed meeting  
66 statement.

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68 This meeting will be closed under General Provisions Art. §3-305(b) only:

- 69 (1) “To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal,  
70 resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom the public body has  
71 jurisdiction: any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals;” (7) “To consult with  
72 counsel to obtain legal advice.”

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74 The following people were present during the closed session: Ben Thompson, Joe Wright, Bill Shreve, Bruce Darner,  
75 Connie Luffman, Davina Yutzky, Eric Dutrow, Ed Hogan, Martin Fuhr, Alex Rubin, Nicole Rush

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77 Summary of Closed Session:

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79 During the closed session, Board Members reviewed and approved the meeting agenda and previous closed meeting  
80 minutes. The Board discussed a disciplinary action for a certificate holder. The Board discussed a legal referral regarding  
81 the Board’s ability to reinstate a retired certificate holder. The Board discussed a legal referral regarding the Board’s  
82 ability to sign an NDA. The Board discussed a potential cheating incident at an examination.



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84 Open Meeting adjourned. Closed Meeting to begin at 12:00 p.m.

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