



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

**Maryland State Board of On-Site Wastewater Professionals
Open Meeting Minutes**

Date: December 18, 2024

Time: 10:00AM

Location: MDE Tera Conference Room
& Virtual on Google Meet

Note: A. Durand arrived at the meeting at 10:09. R. Mitchell arrived at the meeting at 10:10 and left at 11:44am. Open for comments for 5 minutes at 11:53 am

Attendance

				Meeting As Scheduled <input type="checkbox"/>	Meeting Rescheduled <input type="checkbox"/>
Board Members	Present	Absent	MDE Staff	Present	Absent
Vacant MDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	G.K. Sanchez Board Attorney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Amber Durand Consumer Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Melody Harvey Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Kimbrough Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bonnie Browne Industry Professional	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Seth Eisenstein Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Francis (Eddie) Harrison MOWPA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Guests in attendance:	Robert Kutchman, Andrew M. Lazur (left at 11am), Cullison excavating(Jessica Cullison), Steve Nagi (arrived at 10:11am)	
Julie Mackert Consumer Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Kurt Cassell Industry Professional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Langford Johnson Industry Professional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Robert Mitchell MD Conference of Local Environmental Health Directors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Call to Order

Board Chair J. Mackert presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

Roll Call

A Roll Call was conducted by N. Kimbrough for everyone present at the meeting except for B.Brown who was absent.

Presiding Officer Comments

A welcome was made by S.Eisenstein to the board members present at the meeting.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda

The posted Agenda was reviewed and approved. The motion to approve the Agenda was made by E.Harrison and was seconded by K.Cassell. The motion passed unanimously.

Review and Adoption of Open Session Meeting Minutes from (10/16/24) & (11/20/24)

The minutes from the 10/16/24 & 11/20/24 meeting were reviewed and approved without edits. The motion to approve was made by E.Harrison and was seconded by K.Cassell . The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

S.Eisenstein reported that R.Kutchman is not sworn in and is still a guest in meetings while awaiting approval. He should not have counted against the quorum in November because there were only 7 seated members. The issue is with Wash co. they are requiring an additional document, he has been appointed by MDE. Discussed letter that was sent to WSA management, during the OAG process R.Kutchman was appointed so the OAG process was moot.

New Business

Outside consultation question

Motion was made by E.Harrison to bring in design professionals to discuss design parameters at the next meeting 1/15/25 or 2/19/25, motion was 2nd by K.Cassell. The motion passed unanimously. Motion was made by K.Cassell to invite 4 individuals() to come in to discuss and assist with setting design parameters. 2nd by E.Harrison. Motion was passed unanimously

Old Business

a. Licensing Discussion

i. Applying on-site licenses to other licensed Professionals

A concerned was raised on the Board's authority over individuals who hold non-Osote Board Prof. licenses with an Onsite Board certification. Ex. a Professional Engineer with an Onsite Board-issued Designer Certificate. The Board cannot take enforcement action against other licenses, and may only have the authority to revoke the Board-issued certificate, but not take other action against the certificate holder. After a discussion, a consensus was reached that this scenario is not of great concern, and changes to certification qualifications do not need to be amended to address this.

ii. Review qualifications for professionals new to onsite industry

A discussion was had on the process of a licensed onsite professional moving from a Journey license to a Master license. Included was discussing if current recommendations would be too exclusionary for individuals new to the industry. The definitions of Master and Journey licenses needs to be made clearer.

iii. Grandfathering

An initial discussion on implementing new licensing regulations to experienced providers took place. Considerations will be made for individuals who hold County Onsite licenses, are business owners. Individuals working in counties that do not issue onsite licenses will need to be evaluated on time in the industry and/or number of jobs completed. The logistics of the evaluation process will need to be explored further.

Guest Question

A meeting guest, Steven Nagi, requested to speak. The Board discussed whether to entertain the request, and came to a consensus to allow him a strict 5 minutes at the conclusion of all other discussion topics.

S. Nagi's question was in concern to the Boards license grandfathering discussion. Was the Board only referring to installers for grandfathering considerations? The response is that installers are the largest group of future licensees, so that was focus of the discussion, but each individual license category will have their own grandfathering conditions. S. Nagi thanked the Board for the clarification.

Adjournment

K. Cassell moved to adjourn the open meeting, which was seconded by E. Harrison. The motion was passed unanimously.
The meeting adjourned at 11:58 am.

Call to Order and Purpose of Closed Meeting (If necessary)

The Meeting did not enter a closed session.

Topics Discussed During the Closed Meeting

The Meeting did not enter a closed session.