



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

Date: Wednesday, December 17, 2025	Time: 10:04am	Location: MDE Aeris Conference Room & Virtual on Google Meet	Note:
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Attendance				Meeting As Scheduled	Meeting Rescheduled
Board Members	Present	Absent	MDE Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Robert Kutchman MDE	<input checked="" 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"/>
Ray Harrison Industry Professional	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Kimbrough Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bonnie Browne Industry Professional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input 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:		
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Robert Mitchell MD Conference of Local Environmental Health Directors	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			

Call to Order

Board Chair J. Mackert presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

Roll Call

N. Kimbrough conducted a roll call. J. Mackert, E. Harrison, & R. Kutchman were present in-person; B. Browne, A. Durand, & K. Cassell attended virtually; R. Harrison, R. Mitchell and L. Johnson were absent.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda

The posted Agenda was reviewed, the date of the previous meeting's minutes were corrected, and the agenda was approved. The motion to approve the Agenda was made by E. Harrison and was seconded by R. Kutchman. The motion passed unanimously.

Review and Adoption of Open Session Meeting Minutes from 11/19/25

The minutes from the 11/19/2025 meeting open session were reviewed and approved without edits. The motion to approve was made by E. Harrison and was seconded by R. Kutchman. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report

PTI Emergency Regulations

S. Eisenstein reported on the PTI Emergency Regulations have been approved, effective 11/25/2025 until 5/24/2026 but are not posted in the Maryland Register yet. There was no explanation from AELR on the cause of the delay

Old Business

Discussion and vote on designer certification issue

The tabled discussion topic from 11/19/25 regarding adding a new designer certification was recalled. Further discussion was had on the pros and cons of this additional certification category. Citing the desire to hear from absent Board members, E. Harrison made a motion to table further discussion and vote until the next meeting. The motion was not seconded. Further discussion ensued until R. Kutchman made a motion to accept the drafted language unchanged for the designer certification categories. The motion was seconded by K. Cassell, and a vote was had. In favor: R. Kutchman, B. Browne, K. Cassell, J. Mackert. Against: E. Harrison, A. Durand. Absent: B. Mitchell, L. Johnson, R. Harrison. The motion passed. The Board will not add a pump-to-gravity designer certification to the regulation recommendation. A 5 minute recess was called.

Upon reconvening the meeting, a motion was made by R. Kutchman to go into a closed session to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice to review the regulation document and identify the next steps that are needed. The motion was seconded by B. Browne, and approved unanimously. Chairperson J. Mackert read the closing statement.

Adjournment

The open session adjourned at 10:55 am.