



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

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

Date: January 15, 2025

Time: 10:00AM

Location: MDE Tera Conference Room
& Virtual on Google Meet

Note:

Attendance				Meeting As Scheduled <input type="checkbox"/>	Meeting Rescheduled <input type="checkbox"/>
Board Members	Present	Absent	MDE Staff	Present	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"/>
Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nicole Kimbrough Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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:	Andrew M. Lazur , Steve Nagi (10:10am)	
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

Call to Order

Board Chair J. Mackert presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

Roll Call

A Roll Call was conducted by S.Eisenstein for everyone present at the meeting except for L.Johnson who was absent. Virtual guests were identified as Andy Lazur and Steve Nagi.

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 12/18/2024

The minutes from the 12/18/2024 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 now sworn in and a member of the board. S.Eisenstein updated the board about the reworked At-grade and sand mound refresher classes and renewable certifications.

New Business

Outside consultation

S.Eisenstein reported that the 4 individuals the Board wanted to invite to speak have all tentatively agreed to attend the February 19th meeting. A formal invite will be sent by S. Eisenstein after the invite is approved by Board counsel.

Old Business

a. Licensing Discussion

i. Applying on-site licenses to other licensed Professionals

The distinction between master and journey licenses and their roles in pulling permits.
Concern over whether licensed interns can pull permits without insurance.
Discussion on the implementation of a statewide database for permit management.
The potential for reducing delays in the permitting process through a centralized system.

ii. Installer Licensing and Verification

Discussed licensing requirements by county, acknowledged some counties do not require a specific license for installers. Spoke about the need to gather lists of approved installers from various counties, anticipating there being some issues raised about applicants not being on county lists, which would complicate the approval process.

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.

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.