



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

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

Date: June 18, 2025	Time: 10:04AM	Location: Virtual on Google Meet	Note:					
Attendance			Meeting As Scheduled	Meeting Rescheduled				
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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 10:04 am.								
Roll Call								
N. Kimbrough conducted a roll call for everyone present at the meeting except for A.Durand, K.Cassell, and L.Johnson, who were absent.								
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 R.Kutchman. The motion passed unanimously.								
Review and Adoption of Open Session Meeting Minutes from 05/21/2025								
The minutes from the 05/21/2025 meeting 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.								
Update on MOWPA's Training Facility								
E. Harrison presented updates on the construction of MOWPA's new facility that will be used to provide training for the onsite disposal industry. The facility will be able to accommodate training courses for many of the Board's license and certification categories.								
Old Business								
Follow-up on Emergency PTI Regs								
S. Eisenstein described the steps that were taken in submitting the Board's recommendation for the emergency PTI regulations. In consultation with Board Administrator, MDE management determined that the only way to make the submission deadline for posting in the Maryland Register in July was to submit identical regulation language to COMAR 26.04.12 with only non-substantive administrative changes. This was to minimize potential questioning of the proposed emergency language, as the language had previously been approved and codified. The regulations that were submitted creates a new subtitle under COMAR Title 26 - Maryland Department of the Environment, Subtitle 31 - State Board of On-site Wastewater Professionals, 26.31.01-.07. The regulation is due to be posted in the Maryland Register on July 11, 2025 with regulations retroactively effective as of July 1, 2025. This regulation gives the Board the authority to collect licensing fees for PTI licenses, issue those licenses, and take enforcement actions in accordance with this regulation and Env. Art. §9-11a; the authority for these were previously with MDE.								
A discussion was started on how the Board would like to proceed on potential enforcement of violations. No final determinations were made.								
Fee Structure								
A discussion was started on preliminary revenue needs of the Board and the potential fees that the Board may charge to cover Board operations. The fee structures of the Board of Well Drillers and the Board of Waterworks and Waste System Operators were reviewed. No final determinations were made.								
Adjournment of Open Session								
J.Mackert motioned to adjourn the open meeting and move to a closed session, which was seconded by E.Harrison. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:49 am.								

Votes for Closed Session							
Name Title	Yay	Nay	Name Title	Yay	Nay		
Robert Kutchman MDE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Amber Durand Consumer Member	Absent			
Bonnie Browne Industry Professional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Francis (Eddie) Harrison MOWPA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Julie Mackert Consumer Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kurt Cassell Industry Professional	Absent			
Langford Johnson Industry Professional	Absent		Robert Mitchell MD Conference of Local Environmental Health Directors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Location and Time of Closed Session							
Virtual via Google Meet. 11:52am							
Authority and Purpose of Closed Session							
The meeting was closed under the provisions of General Provisions Art. § 3-305(b)(7): To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice. The Board discussed and adopted the closed meeting minutes from 5/21/25.							
Pursuant to legal provisions, Board Chair J. Mackert, read the closed meeting disclaimer.							