



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

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

Date: March 19, 2025

Time: 10:00AM

Location: Virtual on Google Meet

Note: R. Mitchell joined at 10:19a, L. Johnson left at 11:16a; rejoined at 11:42a

Attendance				Meeting As Scheduled <input checked="" 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 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:	Andrew Lazur left at 11:45a, Jessica Cullison left at 11:24a	
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 10:00 am.

Roll Call

N. Kimbrough conducted a roll call for everyone present at the meeting except for A. Durand, who was absent.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda

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

Review and Adoption of Open Session Meeting Minutes from 01/15/2025

The minutes from the 2/19/2025 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 updated the Board on the vacant seat. The MDE Secretary's office has made some progress towards submitting our recommendation to the Governor's Appointment Office (GAO) for approval. No appointment was made on Green Bag Day, the seat remains vacant.

New Business

a. Licensing/certifying Professional Engineers update

AG's office does not have their official response regarding the potential conflict between Environment Article and Business Occupations and Professions Article. Response will come in a memo. S. Eisenstein was advised by G.Sanchez that if there are specific questions the board should go into a closed session to discuss any questions or concerns involving engineers licensing decision.

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

E. Harrison moved to adjourn the open meeting, which was seconded by B. Browne. The motion was passed unanimously.
The meeting adjourned at 12:01p.

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.