



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

<b>Date:</b> Wednesday, February 18, 2026	<b>Time:</b> 10:07am	<b>Location:</b> Virtual via Google Meet	<b>Note:</b>
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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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 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:		
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**

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

**Adoption of Meeting Agenda**

The posted agenda was reviewed and approved. The motion to approve the Agenda was made by R. Kutchman and was seconded by K. Cassell. The motion passed unanimously.

**Review and Adoption of Open Session Meeting Minutes from 1/21/26**

The minutes from the 1/21/26 meeting open session 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**

**March Meeting Location**

The Board was asked to change the location of our March 18th meeting to accommodate an MDE-wide event that will utilize the Board's normal meeting location. In response, the March meeting will be held in a virtual only format.

**Insurance/bonding issue follow up**

S. Eisenstein reminded the Board that Board Counsel has previously advised the Board that there is no specific statutory language that authorizes the Board to require the insurance or bonding of licensees or potential licensees. As such, we will not continue to explore or discuss how this requirement can be written into regulation. We can return to the topic if there is a change in statutory language in the future.

**Old Business**

**Adding standards of practice in regulation**

S. Eisenstein posed the question to the Board of how we should address including a standards of practice section to the regulation recommendation. Specifically, to address only big-picture concepts where a consensus can be formed without extensive debate. The consensus of the Board was to not address standards of practice in the current regulation recommendation, and to focus only on licensing topics. Standards of practice will be discussed in potential regulation updates, once full licensing requirements and procedures are in place.

**Adjournment**

The open session adjourned at 10:21 am.