



**BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS
OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES**

Meeting Minutes: March 7, 2012

Members in Attendance: Julia Forgue, Fred Kurdziel, Frank McLynch, Gene Park and Bill Patenaude

Others in Attendance: Marissa Desautel, Esq. and Traci Pena, RIDEM
Greg Schultz, Esq. Rhode Island Attorney General's Office
Bret Jedele, Esq., Chace Ruttenberg & Freedman
Janine Burke and Patrick Doyle – Warwick Sewer Authority
Paul Desrosiers, pending appointee representing NWPCA

Mr. Patenaude commenced the March 7, 2012 meeting to order.

The first order of business was the review of the draft January 4, 2012 meeting minutes

Mr. McLynch motioned to approve the January 2012 meeting minutes. Dr. Park seconded. The motion passed with all eligible members present voting in favor. Mr. Kurdziel abstained as he was not present at the meeting.

The next order of business was the closed Executive Session minutes of the January 2012 meeting.

After brief discussion and review of the definition of "In Good Standing", Mr. Patenaude voted to accepted the minutes. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion. The motion passed with all eligible members present voting in favor. Mr. Kurdziel abstained as he was not present at the meeting.

Per §42-46-4 and §42-46-5(a)(4), Mr. Patenaude motioned to convene into executive session in order to discuss an issue regarding Rhode Island wastewater treatment operators related to possible civil or criminal misconduct. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call: Mr. Patenaude, Mr. McLynch, Mr. Kurdziel, Dr. Park and Ms. Forgue all voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to table the matter so the DEM inspector can provide additional information to the Board. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative with the following roll call: Julia Forgue, Fred Kurdziel, Frank McLynch, Gene Park and Bill Patenaude.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to seal the March 7, 2012 Executive Session meeting minutes. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call: Julia Forgue, Fred Kurdziel, Frank McLynch, Gene Park and Bill Patenaude.

Mr. Patenaude motioned resume the meeting into open session. Mr. McLynch seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call: Julia Forgue, Fred Kurdziel, Frank McLynch, Gene Park and Bill Patenaude.

Paul Desrosiers, Janine Burke, Executive Director of the Warwick Sewer Authority and Patrick Doyle, Superintendent of the Warwick Sewer Authority then entered the meeting.

The next order of business was the review of an application of Grade 4 through reciprocity from a Steven M. Cushing. Mr. Cushing is being employed at the Newport WWTF as an Assistant Superintendent. Mr. Cushing meets all of the educational and experiential requirements.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to approve Mr. Cushing's application for Grade 4 reciprocity. Mr. McLynch seconded. Ms. Forgue abstained. All other eligible members present voted in favor, as such the motion passed.

The Board was updated on 2011 license renewal. At this time licenses will be revoked for non renewal.

Mr. Patenaude then introduced Patrick Doyle, the new superintendent of the Warwick Sewer authority as a result of Mr. Joel Burke's retirement. Mr. Doyle possesses a Grade 4 license, which Warwick is now a Grade 4 facility due to the restructuring of the grade point system issued by DEM's Operation & Maintenance program. Ms. Burke stated that Mr. Doyle's appointment will be made official by the end of the month.

Mr. Patenaude then offered his appreciation to the fine people in the wastewater field. Several operators have received awards commending their honorable contributions to the profession:

Raymond Marshall – 2011 Regional EPA Wastewater Treatment plant Excellence Award

James DiCaprio – NEWEA Operator of the Year Award

Joseph LaPlante – Alfred E. Peloquin Award

Janine Burke – Regional EPA Wastewater Treatment Operator Award

Stephen Cote – NEWEA Operator Safety Award

Hats off and thank you for a job well done.

With no further business, Mr. Patenaude motioned for adjournment. Seconded by Ms. Forgue, the motion passed with all members voting in favor.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 4, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. at the RIDEM Office located at 235 Promenade St., Providence, RI