

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS
OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

Minutes for May 7, 2003 Meeting

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Rick Dionne, Julia Forgue, Fred Kurdziel, Bill Patenaude, Jon Schock, Tom White and Ray Wright

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Traci Lima, DEM

Mr. Patenaude called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

The first order of business was the review of the draft April 2, 2003 meeting minutes.

After Board review, Mr. Schock motioned to approve the minutes. Ms. Forgue seconded the motion. All other members voted in favor and the motion passed.

Mr. Patenaude informed the Board that a hearing scheduled for the previous day (May 6, 2003) regarding 2003 H5848 Relating to Wastewater Treatment Facilities had been postponed until a later (undetermined) date. Mr. Patenaude also provided the Board with a letter dated May 2, 2003 to Mr. Ginaitt regarding 2003 H-5848 opposing the requirement of mandatory continuing education requirements for wastewater treatment operator's licensure renewal. Mr. Patenaude is awaiting a date and time for the legislative hearing to be rescheduled. Once he receives this information he will notify the Board.

The next item discussed was the Licensure Enforcement Matrix Guidelines. Messers. White, Dionne, Schock and Patenaude developed a draft enforcement matrix, which included penalties and enforcement actions for willful action, accidental, and negligence that an operator may exhibit. The matrix guidelines are not part of the Rules and Regulations for Wastewater Treatment Facility Operators. Mr. Shock thought the matrix should be attached to the minutes and sent to the superintendents. After discussion by the Board members, it was decided to reword some of the matrix.

The next order of business was a verbal request by the Bristol WPCF to discuss licensure of those employees working at the compost facility. No representative was present however to continue the discussion.

A motion was made by Mr. Schock to table the matter of the Bristol Sludge/Operations Licensing without prejudice until the Town comes forward to discuss the matter. Mr. White seconded the motion. All members voted in favor and the motion passed.

The next item on the agenda discussed was the matter of Francis M. Hartley of Brown & Sharpe. Mr. Hartley is seeking to receive his Grade 1 license, but does not have a high school diploma or GED certificate.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to send a letter stating that Brown & Sharpe is not in compliance and denying the application until the supervisor comes forward providing additional information. Mr. Schock seconded the motion all members voted in favor and the motion passed.

New business was then discussed. An applicant, Robert Waite, applying to take the Spring 2003 Grade 2 exam apparently completed/forged Section 6 – Superintendents Affirmation signature and name.

After discussion, Mr. Patenaude (noting his discussion with Bucklin Point) suggested that a letter be sent to Mr. Waite stating the seriousness of the matter but approving the application for Grade 2 examination. Also he would request that the superintendent, John Oatley, sign the application.

Ms. Forgue motioned that such a letter of reprimand be sent separate from an approval letter. Mr. Schock seconded the motion and with all members voting in favor, the motion passed.

The next new business discussed was that of Mr. Leo Caya. Leo Caya submitted an application for Grade 4 examination. In review of the application, the Board determined that Mr. Caya had not yet received his Grade 3 OIT after entering into a position of Direct Responsible Charge in July of 2002. As such, his OIT will be sent to him. As he does not yet possess a full Grade 3 (and will not until July 2005 if he remains in a position of DRC); he is at this point ineligible for Grade 4 examination. (The regulations require full Grade 3 licensure before taking the Grade 4.)

Mr. Schock motioned to deny Mr. Caya's application for Grade 4 examination until he receives a full Grade 3. Mr. Patenaude seconded the vote, all members voted in favor and the motion passed.

With no further business, Ms. Forgue motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. White. All members voted in favor of adjournment and the motion passed.

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, June 4, 2003 at 9:30 am in conference room 280C in the Office of Water Resources on the 2nd floor of the Department of Environmental management, 235 Promenade Street, Providence.