



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS OF WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

Meeting Minutes: November 2, 2011

Members in Attendance: Fred Kurdziel, Gene Park, Bill Patenaude, Jon Schock and Tom White
Others in Attendance: Marisa Desautel, Esq. and Traci Pena, RIDEM

Mr. Patenaude called the November 2, 2011 meeting to order. The first order of business was the review of the draft October 5th meeting minutes.

Mr. Schock motioned to approve the October 2011 meeting minutes as given. Mr. White 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.

The next item to be discussed was the draft Regulations. Mr. Patenaude reported that as time did not permit, he did not develop a template per requests by Mr. Schock and guests in attendance at the previous meeting which could be an addendum to the Regulations. Mr. Patenaude also invited those in attendance to assist him in developing the document.

The next item was Operator License Application Reviews. An individual contacted Mr. Patenaude because he missed the deadline for the Fall/Winter 2011 exam due to an illness. Mr. Schock would be apt to accept the tardy application if it was a condition of his employment. Mr. Patenaude did not think it was. Mr. Kurdziel offered if the individual could provide documentation then to give Mr. Patenaude the authority to accept the application for review.

Mr. Kurdziel motioned to give Mr. Patenaude the authority to accept the late application for review if an appropriate doctor's note is produced by the individual. Mr. White seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor, as such the motion passed.

The next item on the agenda was enforcement activity.

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 a Rhode Island wastewater treatment operator relating to possible fraudulent misconduct. Mr. Schock seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call: Mr. Patenaude, Mr. Kurdziel, Mr. White, Mr. Schock and Dr. Park all voting in the affirmative.

After consulting the Board's Guidelines for Licensure Enforcement Mr. Schock motioned to send a letter to the operator seeking confirmation as to when he obtained his GED. If he did not produce and did not obtain his GED prior to his Grade 1 application dated May 2004 which he attests, his license would be permanently revoked.

Mr. Patenaude and Attorney Desautel returned to the meeting. The Board remained in Executive Session.

At present, as an advisory Mr. Patenaude provided the Board with a synopsis of an incident at the Woonsocket WWTF. More details may follow.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to seal the November 2, 2011 Executive Session meeting minutes. Mr. Schock seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call: Mr. Patenaude, Mr. Kurdziel, Mr. White, Mr. Schock and Dr. Park all voting in the affirmative.

Mr. Patenaude motioned to resume the meeting into open session. The motion passed with the following roll call: Mr. Patenaude, Mr. Kurdziel, Mr. White, Mr. Schock and Dr. Park all voting in the affirmative.

In New Business Traci Pena asked the Board to contact their appointing authorities to update their membership renewals.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday December 7, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. at the RIDEM Office located at 235 Promenade St., Providence, RI.