

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
STATE BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF  
WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS OPERATORS  
Board Meeting Minutes  
October 13, 2016  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**

**Board Members Present**

Joseph Swanderski, Chairman  
Michael Kyle  
Mary Roland  
John Schombert  
Curt Steffy  
Rachel Brennan  
Edgar Chescattie, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water (BSDW)  
Cheri Sansoni, Board Secretary, BSDW

**Board Members Absent**

John Schombert  
John Cantwell, Legal Counsel

**Non Board Members Present**

David Long, BSDW  
Mary Zeigler, BSDW  
Scott Sykes, BSDW  
Leslie Ferguson, BSDW  
Robert Digilarmo, Bureau of Clean Water (BCW)

Mr. Swanderski called the conference call meeting of the State Board for Certification of Water and Wastewater System Operators (Board) to order at 10:03 AM.

**Criminal History Report**

There were no criminal history reports to present to the Board.

**Approval of August 18, 2016 Minutes**

Mr. Kyle motioned to approve the August 18, 2016 minutes as written. Ms. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

**Approval of New and Upgrade Applications**

The new and upgrade applications were presented to the Board for approval. Ms. Roland motioned to issue licenses for all new and upgrade applications. Mr. Steffy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

**Reciprocity Requests**

Four water and four wastewater reciprocity applications were presented to the Board for approval. Ms. Roland motioned to approve the reciprocity applications as presented. Mr. Swanderski seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

## **Board Secretary Report**

Ms. Sansoni presented the following extension requests:

Rick Baeshore—is requesting an extension of his water and wastewater certifications. His WA 7, 8, 12 water certification renewal cycle expired September 30, 2014. He completed 16.5 hours of the required 30 hours of continuing education. His WWCE 1-4 wastewater certification renewal cycle expired June 30, 2016. He completed 0 training hours of the required 30 training hours to renew. He is requesting an extension due to health related circumstances. Ms. Roland motioned to grant the extension for both water and wastewater certifications until March 31, 2017. Mr. Steffy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Walter Mattson—is requesting an extension of his WAE 7-14 water certification which expired September 30, 2016. He completed 29.5 hours of the required 30 training hours to renew. He is requesting an extension due to health related circumstances. Mr. Swanderski motioned to extend the renewal cycle until March 31, 2017. Mr. Kyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Stephen Pletchan—is requesting an extension of his WWAE 1-4 wastewater certification which expired March 31, 2015. He completed his required 15 hours of training but did not take the required security training. He is requesting an extension due to military deployment. Mr. Steffy motioned to extend the renewal cycle until December 31, 2016. Ms. Roland seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

A copy of the Barry Bracken Consent Order and Agreement was provided to Board Members for informational purposes. Mr. Bracken was charged with violations under the Clean Streams Law, the Water and Wastewater Systems Operators' Certification Act, and the Safe Drinking Water Act and Regulations.

## **Old and New Business**

The 2017 Board meeting dates are:

February 8, 2017  
April 12, 2017  
June 21, 2017  
August 17, 2017  
October 17, 2017  
December 14, 2017

These dates will be published in the PA Bulletin.

Mr. Kyle stated that the Board for the Water Environment Federation (WEF) has an initiative this year to have national standards for water/wastewater certification and improvement in reciprocity from state to state. He will be heading up a group to move forward with this. Mr. Chescattie requested that updates on these meetings be an ongoing agenda topic.

Mr. Digilarmo discussed operator training and suggested the Board require operators to take some training that is relevant to the subclasses on their operator certificate to further their knowledge of Operations.

**Comments from the Public**

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Swanderski motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 AM.