



STATE BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

MEETING MINUTES | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Samuel D’Alessandro (telephone).....Board Chair
Gordon Sheetz (telephone) Board Vice-Chair
John Wagman (telephone) Board Member
Luke Helsel (telephone)..... Board Member
Michael Ciocco (telephone)..... Board Member

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEP) STAFF PRESENT

John Cantwell (telephone) Board Legal Counsel, DEP
Chloe Wilson (telephone).....Board Secretary, DEP
Leda Lacomba (telephone).....Counsel, DEP
Janice VolleroDEP, BCW
Charles Klinger.....DEP, BCW

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS, AND ATTENDANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chair Samuel D’Alessandro at 10:06 a.m. The meeting was held through Microsoft® Teams online, as well as in-person, in the 10th floor conference room of the Rachel Carson State Office Building, at 400 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Chair D’Alessandro requested consideration of the October 12, 2022 draft meeting minutes.

Motion: Vice-Chair Gordon Sheetz motioned to approve the minutes from October, with John Wagman seconding the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

SEO BOARD POSITIONS UPDATE

Ms. Wilson shared that newly appointed board member, Michael Ciocco, was present for the meeting. Mr. Ciocco introduced himself and provided information regarding his professional background. Board members welcomed Mr. Ciocco, who would be serving as the Engineering Profession representative. The Sewage Advisory Committee (SAC) nominated Chair

D'Alessandro for reappointment as a SAC representative to the Board at their October 26, 2022 meeting, which was still moving through DEP's executive approval process.

SEO EXAM ON CLEAN WATER ACADEMY PROPOSAL

Janice Vollero did not have any updates to provide to the Board regarding the proposal to make the Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO) examination available on the Clean Water Academy (CWA) website but offered that the Program's training section hired a new employee who was working on converting the current examination questions into a format that would be compatible with CWA. When prompted by Mr. Ciocco for clarity regarding accessibility, Ms. Vollero confirmed that candidates would not be able to take the test at home and would be monitored at a regional office closest to them.

2023 EXAMINATION AND BOARD SCHEDULE

Ms. Wilson advised the Board that she had been working with the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) to schedule the examination to fall on dates that would coincide with PSATS' SEO Precertification Academy dates. The 2023 SEO Certification Examination was scheduled for the following dates: Friday, February 10, 2023; Friday, May 5, 2023; Friday, August 25, 2023; and Friday, October 20, 2023. The Board would meet on the following dates: Wednesday, February 22, 2023; Wednesday, May 17, 2023; Wednesday, September 6, 2023; and Wednesday, November 1, 2023. PSATS had not yet finalized their Fall 2023 schedule and as such, the final 2023 examination and Board meeting dates may be subject to change. Soil Hub also provided the following 2023 dates for the Precertification Soils Course: April 12-13, May 17-18, and August 9-10.

Vice-Chair Sheetz shared concerns about how DEP would proceed if PSATS were no longer able to hold an Academy. Ms. Vollero stated that DEP was working towards making the Academy available electronically, with a potential field component.

Motion: Mr. Helsel motioned to approve the 2023 examination and Board schedule with a clause that the October examination date and November Board meeting dates be regarded as tentative, with Vice-Chair Sheetz seconding the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

CERTIFICATION OF SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Chair D'Alessandro requested feedback from the Board regarding the results of the November 18, 2022 SEO Certification Examination. Ms. Wilson reported of the 20 candidates who sat for the exam, 16 had passed and 4 had failed.

Motion: Vice-chair Sheetz motioned to certify the 16 candidates who had passed the exam. Mr. Helsel seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved by the Board. Motion carried.

Chair D'Alessandro asked how many individuals were currently licensed as SEOs. Ms. Wilson reported that there are currently 590 active SEOs.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No members of the public were present in person. Chair D'Alessandro inquired if members of the public were present by telephone and/or electronically. No comments were made.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair D'Alessandro called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Mr. Wagman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-chair Sheetz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, February 22, 2023