

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
STATE BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF  
WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS OPERATORS  
Board Meeting Minutes  
October 16, 2009  
Conference Call**

**Board Members Present**

Joe Swanderski  
Michael Kyle  
Ron Neufeld  
Curt Steffy  
John Schombert  
Nicki Kasi  
Cheri Sansoni, Board Secretary  
Asya Staevska, Board Counsel

**Board Members Not Present**

John Brutz, Chairman

**Non Board Members Present**

Paul Handke, BWSFR  
Janette Washington, BWAFR

Joe Swanderski called the meeting of the State Board for Certification of Water and Wastewater System Operators to order at 10:02 AM.

**Approval of August 14, 2009 Minutes**

Mike Kyle motioned to approve the minutes. Curt Steffy seconded. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

**Approval of New and Upgrade Applications**

Curt Steffy motioned to approve new applications and upgrades. Nicki Kasi seconded. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

**Approval of Reciprocities**

Nicki Kasi motioned to approve all reciprocities except for Ed Fortner's wastewater and water applications. Curt Steffy questioned the size of the treatment ponds and lagoon plants and the Board wanted more information on his experience. John Schombert seconded. The vote was unanimous. Motioned carried. Nicki Kasi would like Gary Moyer to review his applications.

**Denials of Applications for Certification Renewal**

The following renewal applications were presented for denial due to lack of continuing education within their renewal cycle:

**Expired: June 30, 2009**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Facility ID</u>	<u>Region</u>
John Q Edwards Jr.	WW	196039	16.00	None listed	
John F Hopkinson	WW	194619	3.00	None listed	
Walter J Johnson	WW	197856	24.50	259132	SW
Stephen W Myers	WW	196574	-0-	None listed	
Lee D Williams	WW	65285	16.00	None listed	

Mike Kyle motioned to deny the certifications as recommended by the Department. Nicki Kasi seconded. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

### **Montgomery County Community College On-Line Exams**

Nicki Kasi informed the Board that DEP staff met with Montgomery County Community College staff to discuss making them an on-line exam provider but felt any decisions should be tabled until the December 18<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. Joe Swanderski requested that the Board Members be sent the findings on Montgomery County Community College prior to the December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **2010 Board Meeting Dates**

Nicki Kasi motioned to approve the following 2010 Board meeting schedule. John Schombert seconded. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

March 26 – Conference Call  
June 18 – Board Meeting  
September 24 – Conference Call  
December 17 – Conference Call

If Chapter 302 Annex A comment and response documents are ready by the December 18, 2009 Board meeting, this meeting will be rescheduled from a conference call to a meeting in Harrisburg. If the documents are not ready by December, Cheri Sansoni will schedule a special meeting when they are ready to present to the Board.

### **Board Secretary Report**

Cheri Sansoni presented the following requests:

Roger Hillibush, supervisor of Louis Castillo, has requested the Board provide Mr. Castillo extra time to take exams due to English being his seconded language. The Board had previously denied a request made on behalf of Mr. Castillo to provide him the exams in Spanish. Cheri Sansoni had contacted Mr. Castillo's supervisor recommending he take one exam per session, as this would give him the additional time needed to complete the exam. Mike Kyle motioned to deny the extra time request based on the above recommendation. Curt Steffy seconded. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Luke Ernst requested that the "PA Certification Exam Review" training taken on July 10, 2007, for 6.00 hours be accepted towards his continuing education to renew his water license which expired 3/31/09. The training section recently denied this training to be

counted towards his continuing education credits. Mr. Ernst did not contact DEP to ask about his training record prior to his expiration date. This course is offered to non certified operators to prepare them to take operator certification exams. This is not an approved course in Earthwise Academy and is not approved for continuing education credits for certified operators. Nicki Kasi motioned to deny his request because he had two years to inquire why this training was not on his training transcript. Ron Neufeld seconded. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Frank Sargent's water license was denied at the August 14, 2009 Board meeting due to not enough continuing education. He had not taken any training and he was required to take 30 hours by March 31, 2009. He was sent a 14 day denial letter and he did not respond within the 14 days. Mr. Sargent requested an extenuating circumstance extension due to personal reasons. Nicki Kasi motioned to deny his request because he did not respond within 14 days. Mike Kyle seconded. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Randy Estabrook's water license was denied at the August 14, 2009 Board meeting due to not enough continuing education. He responded within 14 days by requesting a medical extension for three days from March 31, 2009 until April 3, 2009, to apply six hours of training from the PRWA Conference he attended on April 1 and 2, 2009, to complete the required 30 hours. Nicki Kasi motioned to approve his request due to his medical documentation and because he responded within 14 days. Mike Kyle seconded. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

### **Criminal History Report**

Paul Handke presented and recommended three criminal history cases for approval:

- Client 271151 had a DUI in 1990 and a Harassment charge in 2005.
- Client 271425 had two DUI's, one in 1975 and another in 2009.
- Client 271409 had Theft by Unlawful Taking in 1993 and Bad Checks in 1997.

Nicki Kasi motioned to accept Mr. Hanke's recommendation and issue certificates. Mike Kyle seconded. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Mike Kyle was appointed as the Criminal History Record Consultant.

Agenda items for December 18, 2009 meeting – election of Board Chairman and On-line exams at Montgomery County Community College.

Nicki Kasi motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:59 AM.