

MINUTES OF THE NORTH CAROLINA WATER TREATMENT FACILITY OPERATORS CERTIFICATION BOARD

December 8, 2020

A meeting of the North Carolina Water Treatment Facility Operators Certification Board was called to order at 10:05 AM on December 8, 2020 by Sam Call, Chairman.

The following members and guests were present via the Webex meeting application:

Jon Pons	Orlando Coronell	Kim Greenwood	Ann Wall
Sarah Long	Tiffanie Hawley	Linda Raynor	Sam Call

Guests Present in Person:

Stephen Denning	Steve Reid	Jay Frick	Jonathan Himsworth
Heather Cagle	Allen Oldham	Jill Weese	Cheri Proctor
Mike Richardson	Elly Young	Travis Clarke	Maureen Kinney
Wendell Pickett	Joel Clarke		

Sam Call read the Statement of Ethics and asked if anyone had any conflicts of interest with the day’s agenda items. There were no mentioned conflicts.

The first item of board business was to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Sam Call called for a motion to accept the minutes. Ann Wall made a motion to accept the minutes and Jon Pons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Sam Call asked if there were any comments from the attending public. There were no comments.

The next item of business was certification reinstatement requests.

The board received a letter from William Jernigan requesting that he be able to obtain his C-Distribution certification again. Mr. Jernigan’s C-Distribution certification expired in 2017. Ann Wall made the motion that Mr. Jernigan be allowed to sit for the C-Distribution exam again within one year after paying \$120 in back fees. Jon Pons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The board received a letter from Scott Lance requesting that he be able to obtain his C-Distribution certification again. Mr. Lance’s C-Distribution certification expired in 2018. Ann Wall made the motion that Mr. Lance be allowed to sit for the C-Distribution exam again within one year after paying \$120 in back fees. Orlando Coronell seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The board received a letter from Darrell Richardson requesting that he be able to obtain his C-Well certification again. Mr. Richardson’s certification expired in 2014. Mr. Richardson took and passed the C-Well exam again in October of 2020. Orlando Coronell made the motion that Mr. Richardson be issued his C-Well certification after paying \$120 in back fees. Sarah Long seconded the motion. The motion passed

The next item of business was ORC exception requests.

The board received a letter from Anthony Futrell requesting to be the ORC for the following systems:

City of Jacksonville	0467010	A-Distribution	Onslow Co.
Lauradale S/D	0467136	A-Distribution	Onslow Co.
City of Jacksonville – Springfield Apts.	7067007	B-Distribution	Onslow Co.

Ann Wall made a motion that Mr. Futrell be allowed to serve as the ORC for the requested systems. Jon Pons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The next request was the annual business plan review for Aqua N.C. Amanda Berger from Aqua N.C. was in attendance to answer any questions from the Certification Board. Jon Pons made the motion to approve the Aqua N.C. business model as presented for another year. Sarah Long seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The next item of business was temporary certification requests.

There were none.

The next item of business was out-of-state requests.

There were none.

The next item of business was military training and experience requests.

There were none.

The next item of business was other requests.

There were none.

The next item of business was classification of water treatment facilities.

The following new system classifications were submitted by the various regional offices for the board's approval:

- **Berklee Estates –C-Well, C-Distribution (<100 Connections)**
- **Liberty Preparatory Christian Academy – D-Well, D-Distribution (<100 Connections)**
- **Greater Vision Academy - D-Well, D-Distribution (<100 Connections)**
- **Autumn Ridge S/D - C-Well, C-Distribution (<100 Connections)**
- **Pinchot S/D - C-Well, C-Distribution (<100 Connections)**

Orlando Coronell made a motion to approve the new classifications as submitted. Tiffanie Hawley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The following changed system classifications were submitted by the various regional offices for the board's approval:

- **Weyerhaeuser – Southern Lumber – D-Distribution (<100 Connections), adding D-Well**
- **Ridgecrest Conference Center – C-Well & B-Distribution, adding Cross-Connection**

Ann Wall made a motion to approve the changed classifications as submitted. Orlando Coronell seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The next item on the agenda was Board Issues - Compliance.

There were no items.

The next item on the agenda was Board Issues – Rules

There were no items.

The next item of business was education.

Approval for virtual training was set to expire on December 31, 2020. The board discussed if it wanted to extend that virtual training approval for schools and PGH classes. Linda Raynor made a motion to extend the permission until the end of 2021. Jon Pons seconded the motion. The motion passed. Tiffanie Hawley requested that the permission be revisited before the December 2021 meeting to give training providers ample time to schedule classes. Sam Call asked that it be on the agenda for the September 2021 board meeting.

The board reviewed the results from the September 29th electronic exams and the October 29th paper exams. There

were no comments.

Sam Call asked for volunteers to proctor the February 25, 2021 exams. Sam Call and Jon Pons volunteered to proctor the Morganton site. Kim Greenwood and Tiffanie Hawley volunteered to proctor the Raleigh site. Ann Wall volunteered for the yet to be determined exam site in Eastern North Carolina.

The next item of business was other.

Sam Call discussed an e-mail he had received asking that consideration be given to a rule change regarding 15A NCAC 18D .0201 GRADES OF CERTIFICATION. Jay Frick commented that 15A NCAC 18D .0501 PETITIONS requires that a petition for a rule change requires a specific set of information before being considered by the Certification Board. Sam Call asked for any further discussion from the board. Hearing none, he decided that there would be no action taken on the request at this time.

Sam Call opened the floor for nominations of new officers for the board. Jon Pons nominated Sam Call to serve as chairman. Ann Wall seconded the nomination. The motion passed. Linda Raynor nominated Jon Pons to serve as first vice chair. Orlando Coronell seconded the motion. The motion passed. Jon Pons nominated Sarah Long to serve as second vice chair. Ann Wall seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Sam Call asked for any comments from the attending public. There were no comments.

Sam Call asked if there were any announcements or general discussion. There were none.

Sam Call stated the next meeting date would be March 16, 2021.

The last item of business was the final agency decision regarding the Travis Clarke hearing. Both legal counsel for former chairman Wendell Pickett, Elly Young, and Travis Clarke were given 10 minutes or less to make final statements on their behalf. Ms. Young recommended that Mr. Clarke's certification be revoked for a period of two years. Mr. Clarke felt punishment was in order, but that a two-year revocation was too harsh. After the Certification Board allowed both individuals to state their cases, Jon Pons made a motion for the Board to adopt the Respondent's proposed decision to revoke Travis Clark's certification, including the exceptions to the findings to the facts and conclusions of law for reasons noted by the Respondent as the Final Agency Decision in this matter. Kim Greenwood seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of four to two.

Sam Call asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tiffanie Hawley made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Kim Greenwood seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen Denning, Board Secretary