

MINUTES OF THE NORTH CAROLINA WATER TREATMENT FACILITY OPERATORS CERTIFICATION BOARD

March 16, 2021

A meeting of the North Carolina Water Treatment Facility Operators Certification Board was called to order at 10:00 AM on March 16, 2021 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	Sam Call	

Guests Present via the Webex meeting application:

Stephen Denning	Steve Reid	Jay Frick	Jonathan Himsworth
Heather Cagle	Allen Oldham	Jill Weese	Cheri Proctor
Amanda Berger	Danny Sloan	Jennifer Gardner	

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 Steven Corriher requesting that he be able to obtain his A-Surface certification again. Mr. Corriher’s A-Surface certification expired in 2019. Orlando Coronell made the motion that Mr. Corriher be allowed to sit for the A-Surface exam again within one year after paying \$120 in back fees. Tiffanie Hawley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The board received a request from Stephen Denning of the Certification Board staff to allow the staff authority to issue decisions regarding certification reinstatement requests. Jill Weese stated that she needed to look into whether or not the board is able to give the staff that authority. Kim Greenwood made the motion to table the discussion until the June meeting. Tiffanie Hawley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The next item of business was ORC exception requests.

The board received a letter from Kenneth Knopf Jr requesting to be the ORC for the following systems:

Queens Harbor	0160249	C-Well	Mecklenburg Co.
Westwood Forest	0160195	C-Well	Mecklenburg Co.
Harbor House	0160211	C-Well	Mecklenburg Co.
Beechbrook	0136106	C-Well	Gaston Co.
Holly Acres	0136148	C-Well	Gaston Co.
Stone Hollow	0160281	C-Well	Mecklenburg Co.
Wildwood Green	0160200	C-Well	Mecklenburg Co.
Oakdale Subdivision	0160171	C-Well	Mecklenburg Co.
Huntington Forest	0160146	C-Well	Mecklenburg Co.

Ann Wall made a motion that Mr. Knopf be allowed to serve as the ORC for the requested systems. Sarah Long seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The next request was for the board to review revisions made to Aqua NC's bi-annual spreadsheet. Amanda Berger was in attendance to explain the reason behind the format changes and to answer any questions regarding the changes. Ms. Berger explained that the adjusted format will help the regional operators to fill out the spreadsheet quicker and to help eliminate input errors. Tiffanie Hawley stated she would like to see dates that the report was covering as well as a legend to explain the licenses listed on the report. She also noted that the bar graphs were difficult to read when printed out in black and white. Jon Pons made the motion to approve the revised Aqua N.C. spreadsheet. Orlando Coronell seconded the motion. The motion passed. Amanda Berger stated she would go back and include those revisions to the spreadsheet for future submissions.

The next item of business was temporary certification requests.

There were none.

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

The Board received an out-of-state application from Jon Mase requesting permission to take a surface and a distribution exam. Mr. Mase held various licenses in New York, a class "A" Operator In Training license in Illinois, and has 11 years of experience. Sam Call recommended that Mr. Mase be allowed to take up to the A-Surface and up to the A-Distribution exams. Tiffanie Hawley made the motion that Mr. Mase be allowed to take up to the A-Surface and up to the A-Distribution exams. Ann Wall seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received an out-of-state application from Walter Roy Hall requesting permission to take a surface and a distribution exam. Mr. Hall holds Water Distribution Operator "B" and Water Treatment Operator "A" licenses in South Carolina, and has 5 years of experience. Sam Call recommended that Mr. Hall be allowed to take up to the A-Surface and B-Distribution exams. Tiffanie Hawley stated that there was no distribution experience indicated on the application submitted and that she would like to see his distribution experience before approving him to take a distribution exam. Ann Wall made the motion that Mr. Hall be allowed to take up to an A-Surface exam. Orlando Coronell seconded the motion. The motion passed. Sam Call asked staff to contact Mr. Hall for additional distribution experience before the next meeting if Mr. Hall wished to sit for a distribution exam.

The Board received an out-of-state application from Robert Pepper requesting permission to take a surface exam. Mr. Pepper holds a class "A" water operator license in Texas and has 11 years of experience. Sam Call recommended that Mr. Pepper be allowed to take up to an A-Surface exam. Tiffanie Hawley made the motion that Mr. Pepper be allowed to take up to an A-Surface exam. Jon Pons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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.

There were none.

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.

The board reviewed the results from the February 25th exams. There were no comments regarding the results. Stephen Denning of the staff mentioned that the new facility in Hickory worked out very well in February and hopefully exams could continue there. A new venue is also being sought in the eastern part of the state, but nothing has been found to replace the Snow Hill site.

Sam Call asked for volunteers to proctor the May 27, 2021 exams. Sam said he would be willing to proctor the eastern NC site if it was ready in May and a proctor was needed. Jon Pons volunteered to proctor the Morganton/Hickory site. Tiffanie Hawley volunteered to proctor the Raleigh site. Kim Greenwood said he could proctor Morganton/Hickory or Raleigh as needed.

Tiffanie Hawley had requested an agenda item to allow virtual schools and training to be made a permanent option. After the board had discussed the matter, Jon Pons made the motion to table the discussion in order to give the training providers a chance to submit reports before the June meeting in order to provide the board with more information about the virtual training option. Tiffanie Hawley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The next item of business was other.

There were no items.

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 June 15, 2021.

Sam Call asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jon Pons made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Kim Greenwood seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 11:17 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen Denning, Board Secretary