

MINUTES OF THE NORTH CAROLINA WATER TREATMENT FACILITY OPERATORS CERTIFICATION BOARD

June 18th, 2024

A meeting of the North Carolina Water Treatment Facility Operators Certification Board was called to order at 10:02 A.M. on June 18th, 2024 by Sam Call, Chairman.

The following members were present at the meeting:

Rani Holland	Sam Call	Jon Pons	Rebecca Sadosky
La'Meshia Whittington			

The following guests were present at the meeting:

Stephen Denning	Brent Milliron	Jeff Talbott	Robert Krueger	Heather Somers
Alaina Strater	Christine Ricci	Shawn Guyer	Ashley Coleman	Cheri Proctor

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. Jon Pons made a motion to accept the minutes. La'Meshia Whittington seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mr. 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 Matthew Hukill requesting that his B-Distribution and B-Well certifications be reinstated. Both certifications expired in 2013. Staff recommended that Mr. Hukill be allowed to obtain his B-Distribution certification again by paying two years of back fees for that certification, taking the B-Distribution school again and passing the B-Distribution exam again. Also, staff recommended that Mr. Hukill be allowed to obtain his B-Well certification again by paying two years of back fees for that certification, taking the B-Well school again and passing the B-Well exam again. Rani Holland made a motion to reinstate Mr. Hukill's certifications after he completes the staff's recommendations. La'Meshia Whittington seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The board received a letter from Brandon Clodfelter requesting that his C-Distribution certification be reinstated. Mr. Clodfelter's C-Distribution certification expired in 2022. Staff recommended that Mr. Clodfelter be allowed to obtain his certification again by paying two years of back fees and passing the C-Distribution exam. Jon Pons made a motion that Mr. Clodfelter be allowed to obtain his C-Distribution certification again by paying two years of back fees and passing the C-Distribution exam. La'Meshia Whittington seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The board received a letter from Jonathan Ray requesting that his A-Distribution certification be reinstated. Mr. Ray's A-Distribution certification expired in 2020. Staff recommended that Mr. Ray be allowed to obtain his certification again by paying two years of back fees and passing the A-Distribution exam. Rebecca Sadosky made a motion that Mr. Ray be allowed to obtain his A-Distribution certification again by paying two years of back fees and passing the A-Distribution exam. Jon Pons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The next item of business was ORC exception requests.

The board received a letter from Earl Green requesting to be A-Surface ORC operator for two of the City of Greensboro's Water Treatment Plants, Lake Townsend WTP and Mitchell WTP. This request had been tabled from the March 2024 meeting in order to obtain additional information. After reviewing the request, Jon Pons made a motion to approve the request. Rani Holland seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The board received a letter from Jeffrey Sanders requesting to be A-Well and A-Distribution ORC over multiple systems. Jon Pons made a motion to deny the request based on the memo from the PWSS staff that pointed out several violations that occurred last year at the Town of Aurora. Rebecca Sadosky seconded the motion. The motion passed and the request was denied.

The board received a letter from Alex Bass requesting to be ORC over 19 C-Well systems and 1 C-Distribution system. La'Meshia Whittington made a motion to approve Mr. Bass to serve as the ORC for the requested systems for a period of 1 year. Jon Pons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The board received a letter from William Goff requesting to be ORC over 9 C-Well community systems. Jon Pons made a motion to approve Mr. Goff to serve as the ORC for the requested systems for a period of 1 year. La'Meshia Whittington seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The board received a letter from James Kern requesting to be ORC over both Bladen Bluffs SWTP (A-Surface) and Smithfield – Tar Heel Water System (C-Well). Rebecca Sadosky made a motion to approve Mr. Kern to serve as the ORC for the requested systems. Rani Holland seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The board received a letter from Christopher Smith requesting to be the Cross-Connection ORC over the Towns of Ahoskie and Murfreesboro, the distribution ORC over Millennium Water Association, and the well ORC over Millennium Water Association. Jon Pons made a motion to approve Mr. Smith to serve as the ORC for the requested systems. Rani Holland seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The next item on the agenda was the bi-annual submittal of the Aqua NC business model spreadsheet. Staff from Aqua NC did not submit the roster electronically until the day before the meeting and they didn't submit the required hard copies until the day of the meeting. Sam Call requested that Aqua NC staff submit a new spreadsheet before the September board meeting in order to give the board adequate time to review the spreadsheet and prepare questions. Mr. Call also asked the Aqua NC staff to be in attendance for the September meeting to answer any questions at that time.

The next item of business was temporary certification requests.

There were none.

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

The Board received an out-of-state application from Michelle Faith Gatti requesting a surface certification. This request had been tabled from the March 2024 meeting in order to obtain additional information. Based on her certification experience in the state of Georgia, Jon Pons recommends Ms. Gatti be issued reciprocity for A-Surface. La'Meshia Whittington seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received an out-of-state application from Richard V Wilson III requesting a well and a distribution certification. Based on his work experience in the state of California, La'Meshia Whittington recommended Mr. Wilson be granted reciprocity for C-Well and A-Distribution. Jon Pons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received an out-of-state application from Matthew K. Crowley requesting a distribution and a well certification based on his licenses in the states of Kentucky and California. No paperwork was submitted that verified that

these licenses were active and in good standing. Jon Pons recommended that the request be tabled until Mr. Crowley could provide verification of his active licenses. Rebecca Sadosky seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received an out-of-state application from Jeffrey G. Baker requesting a well, surface and a distribution certification. Based on his water license in the state of New Jersey, Jon Pons recommended Mr. Baker be granted reciprocity for B-Well, B-Surface and B-Distribution. Rebecca Sadosky seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received an out-of-state application from Craig S. Milanowski requesting a distribution and a cross-connection certification based on his licenses in the state of Washington. No paperwork was submitted that verified that these licenses were active and in good standing. Jon Pons recommended that the request be tabled until Mr. Milanowski could provide verification of his active licenses. Rebecca Sadosky seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received an out-of-state application from Chad A. Reed requesting a surface certification. Based on his water license in the state of Alabama, Jon Pons recommended Mr. Reed be granted reciprocity for A-Surface. La'Meshia Whittington seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received an out-of-state application from Kenneth E. Osborne, Jr requesting a well certification. Based on his water license in the state of Virginia, Jon Pons recommended Mr. Osborne be granted reciprocity for C-Well. Rani Holland seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received an out-of-state application from Austin R. Burke requesting a surface certification. Based on his water license in the state of Virginia, Rebecca Sadosky recommended Mr. Burke be granted reciprocity for B-Surface. Jon Pons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received an out-of-state application from Charles D. Brown requesting a well certification. Based on his water license in the state of Virginia, Jon Pons recommended Mr. Brown be granted reciprocity for C-Well. Rebecca Sadosky seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The Board received an out-of-state application from David E. Melton requesting a surface certification. Based on his water license in the state of South Carolina, Rebecca Sadosky recommended Mr. Melton be granted reciprocity for A-Surface. La'Meshia Whittington 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.

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

- Costa Farms – C-Well
- Lipscomb Landing S/D – C-Well
- Buckhorn S/D – C-Well
- Baker S/D – C-Well
- Cataloochee Ranch – C-Well

Jon Pons made a motion to approve the request to classify the systems as presented. Rebecca Sadosky seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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

- Union County Water – adding A Distribution
- Town of Beech Mountain – changing from B-Surface to A-Surface, adding C-Well
- Aurora Water System – changing from C-Well to B-Well
- Bladen County Water District – East Bladen – changing from C-Well to B-Well
- Bladen County Water District – West Bladen – changing from C-Well to B-Well
- Richland Village MHP – adding C-Distribution
- Town of Brunswick – changing from B-Distribution to C-Distribution
- Camp High Rocks Main – changing from C-Well to D-Well
- Scotland City North – changing from A-Distribution to D-Distribution
- Scotland City South – changing from A-Distribution to D-Distribution
- Town of Salemburg – adding Cross-Connection
- Camp Rockfish Pool – changing from No Treatment TNC to D-Well

La'Meisha Whittington made a motion to approve the request to classify the systems as presented. Jon Pons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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 May 30, 2024 exams. Rebecca Sadosky pointed out the low pass rate for C-Well and asked if anyone knew why that was the case. Stephen Denning stated that the Board of Examiners had reviewed the statistics and had recommended that the examinees study the text books.

Sam Call asked for volunteers to proctor the August 29th, 2024 exams. Jon Pons and Sam Call volunteered to proctor the Hickory site. Rebecca Sadosky volunteered to proctor the Raleigh site. There were no volunteers for the Williamston site.

The next item of business was other.

Sam Call mentioned that there was an incident involving an examinee and a proctor at the May 30, 2024 exam. Mr. Call asked Stephen Denning to explain what happened. Mr. Denning explained that at the Hickory exam site there was an operator who was not allowed to finish filling in his answer sheet after time had expired. The examinee then used derogatory comments directed at the proctor, left the room, returned, and used derogatory comments towards that proctor again. Mr. Call asked Jeff Talbott to draft a letter to the individual notifying him that offensive language towards exam proctors would not be tolerated.

Shawn Guyer from the PWSS central office introduced himself and notified the board that a new branch head position will be posted soon and that the new person would supervise Jeff Talbott. Mr. Guyer also brought to the board's attention that a rule re-adoption period was coming around and that the 18D rules need to go out for a 60-day public comment period in order to make the appropriate deadline for next year. Jon Pons made the motion that the board recommend that Shawn Guyer move forward with the required 60-day public comment period for the current 18D rules as recommended by

Mr. Guyer. Rani Holland seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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

Sam Call asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jon Pons made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Rebecca Sadosky seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 12:10 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Denning

Stephen Denning, Education and Training Specialist