



State of New Jersey

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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Conference Call Minutes for February 13, 2020

Approved by the Board on April 16, 2020

Board Members Present at NJDEP Headquarters Building: Jeff Hoffman

Board Members Participating Via Telephone: Art Becker (Chairman), Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Gordon Craig, Joe Yost, Carol Graff, Richard Dalton, and Steve Domber

Board Members Absent: Joe Pepe

NJDEP Water Supply (Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting) Staff Present: Joe Mattle, Steve Reya, and Mark Ortega

1. Call to Order-

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am with a quorum present via telephone.

2. Continuing Education Course Review-

A table summarizing one (1) course, along with the supporting documentation, was provided to the Board members prior to the meeting for review as they were deemed administratively complete by the Bureau. Below is the information for the course and how many continuing education points (CEPs) were requested:

New Jersey Ground Water Association March 2020 Membership Meeting including Excavations – Trench Excavations Presentation – NJGWA – 1 Technical CEP and 1 Safety CEP

A. Becker said that this would be a good course and brought up a recent accident in another state where two individuals were killed in a trench. A. Becker asked if there was any further discussion needed for this class. R. Dalton said that he believed that this class should only count for one and a half CEPs, instead of two. He said that due to the lack of information being presented during the meeting he felt that it should only count for half of a point. G. Craig said

that the Board will reevaluate the amount of points that are given to the NJGWA for their membership meetings at the start of the next licensing cycle.

A motion to recommend approving New Jersey Ground Water Association March 2020 Membership Meeting including Excavations – Trench Excavations Presentation for 1 technical CEP and 1 safety CEP was made by G. Poppe, seconded by G. Craig, and approved by all except for R. Dalton who was opposed.

3. Reevaluate Courses for 2020-2023 Licensing Cycle-

A. Becker asked for volunteers to review course applications prior to the March 26th Board meeting. G. Craig volunteered for this work group.

S. Reya said that there are 27 course that are eligible for renewal. Of the 27 courses up for renewal, five of them are approved OSHA classes, 10 of them are online courses, and the remaining 12 are in-person courses. S. Reya said that the process should be straightforward since all classes were already approved and there have not be any changes in these classes reported to the Department. He cited N.J.A.C. 7:9D-1.10 (j) 2, which states that course recommendations shall be reevaluated at the end of the three-year licensing cycle for which they were recommended.

It was decided that the Bureau will send the course information for all currently approved courses to the original continuing education subcommittee, which consisted of G. Craig, C. Graff, and J. Yost and J. Pepe, for review before March Board meeting.

4. Continuing Education Update-

M. Ortega provided an update for the completion status of the continuing education program and the Soil Borer/Journeyman (Class B) Upgrade Class. He stated that as of February 12, 2020 53 percent of all licensees have completed the CEP requirement; another nine percent of licensees have started obtaining CEPs but have not finished. 38 percent of licensees have not started obtaining points yet.

M. Ortega continued by informing the Board that 41 of the 79 currently licensed soil borers have completed the upgrade course. There are another 13 soil borers scheduled for the final set of classes on March 12, 2020. 17 out of the 24 currently licensed have taken the upgrade course. There is one journeyman (Class B) well driller currently scheduled for the final class.

A. Becker said that the Department usually sees approximately 15 to 20 percent of licensees not renew their licenses at the end of the licensing cycle. He followed up by saying that it should be expected that there will be a larger decrease in active licensees at the conclusion of this cycle. A lot of licensees are retired and just pay the fee every three-years to maintain their standing, but most of those individuals have no plans on taking courses to maintain their license.

A. Becker thanked M. Ortega for the update. He then asked if there was any further discussion needed before adjourning. R. Dalton had an additional topic to discuss.

5. Total Green Grout Permeability Results-

R. Dalton discussed the lab permeability results that the Department had received from Total Green. He said that the results did not meet our standards. A. Becker asked if the Department could notify the representative from Total Green to inform them that they cannot proceed with their field demonstration. S. Reya said that he already contacted their representative.

6. Adjournment-

At 10:20 am a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by G. Poppe, seconded by G. Craig, and approved unanimously.