



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection State Well Drillers and Pump Installers Examining and Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for May 19, 2022

Approved by the Board on June 16, 2022

Board Members Present at NJDEP Headquarters Building: N/A

Board Members Participating Via Telephone: Art Becker (Chairman), Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Dave Lyman, Gordon Craig, Jeff Hoffman, and Richard Dalton

Board Members Absent: Joe Yost, Eric Hoffmann, and Steve Domber

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Jill Denyes, NJ Division of Law

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

Members of the Public: Brian McGuire; SGS North America Inc. (SGS)/New Jersey Ground Water Association (NJGWA), Wesley Eichfeld; SGS

1. Call to Order-

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 am with a quorum present via telephone. This meeting was held via conference call and Microsoft Teams video call due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by phone or video were listed on the Department's website.

A. Becker welcomed the members of the public to the call.

2. Review and Certification of the April 21, 2022 Conference Call Minutes-

A motion to approve the draft minutes from April 21, 2022 as written was made by J. Hoffman, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved by all except for G. Poppe who was not present during the April meeting.

3. Board Chair and Vice-Chair Elections-

A. Becker indicated that he enjoys being the Chairman of the Board and would like to stay if everyone would have him. He said that he welcomes the opportunity if someone else wanted the position. G. Poppe nominated A. Becker to remain as Chairman of the Board.

A motion to nominate A. Becker as the Chairman of the Board was made by G. Poppe, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved by all except for A. Becker who abstained.

A. Becker stated that G. Poppe is the current Vice-Chairman of the Board and asked if anyone would volunteer for this spot. D. Lyman nominated G. Poppe to remain as the Vice-Chairman of the Board.

A motion to nominate G. Poppe as the Vice-Chairman of the Board was made by D. Lyman, seconded by R. Dalton, and approved unanimously.

4. Continuing Education-

Franklin Electric – Troubleshooting with Meters Course Follow Up

S. Reya brought up the Troubleshooting with Meters course, which was discussed during the April meeting and was conditionally approved by the Board. The conditional approval was based upon the course provider submitting a more detailed course outline. The course provider submitted this information to the Department shortly after the April meeting and the Department provided this information to the Board via email. R. Dalton said that the additional information is acceptable.

A motion to accept Troubleshooting with Meters for one technical continuing education point (CEP) was made by R. Dalton, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

National Ground Water Association (NGWA)

S. Reya said that the 12 NGWA courses were already approved as part of Groundwater Week 2021. The format of these courses is different, which is why NGWA submitted a course application for the review of these courses. R. Dalton commented on the quality of the NGWA applications, saying that they need improvement as they do not contain sufficient detail about the course content. A. Becker asked S. Reya about the course application and it was decided that the Board would discuss the potential application revisions that were brought up during the last meeting after the new course submittals have been reviewed. A. Becker asked if there was any further discussion needed. No additional discussion was needed; the Board voted on the 12 courses as a block. Assigned point totals can be found in the table below.

A motion to approve the 12 NGWA courses was made by R. Dalton, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

Course Name	CEPs
PFAS: Educating the Contractor to Provide Superior Service	1 Technical
Improving Pumping Performance of Variable Frequency Drives	1 Technical
Pressure Hazards	1 Safety
Using a Different Perspective to Lessen the Impact of our Industry's CDL Driver Shortage	1 Technical
Optimizing Well Rehabilitation Operations	1 Technical
Troubleshooting Problems with a Vertical Turbine Pump	1 Technical
Well Design for More Than One Stakeholder	1 Technical

Fall Prevention and Fall Protection: Understanding the Difference	1 Safety
Water Well Development and Rehabilitation	1 Technical
Heavy Equipment Ownership: Annual Costs and Predictive Maintenance	1 Safety
Plastic Piping Materials for Ground Source Geothermal Systems	1 Technical
VFDs - "The Magic Pill Myth" - Misapplication of VFDs	1 Technical

Experience Safety Institute

S. Reya said that Mr. Denis Crayon submitted for an online version of his Material Handling Safety course, which has already been approved twice previously. A. Becker asked if any further discussion was needed. No further discussion was needed for this course.

A motion to approve the online version of Material Handling Safety was made by G. Craig, seconded by G. Poppe, and approved unanimously.

National Drilling Association (NDA)

S. Reya said that NDA is applying for credit for the Mid Atlantic Spring Training, which already occurred in early May. He added that it is likely that some New Jersey licensees attended this training. He noted that NDA is requesting five CEPs for this course.

R. Dalton noted that some of these courses will count for technical points, and a few would count for safety. A. Becker suggested going through the event agenda to decide if the courses were appropriate and to assign points to the ones that were.

The Board started with the Fire Extinguishers and Their Proper Use course. A. Becker noted that this course would be relevant for safety credits. He added that the course only lasts for 45 minutes and asked S. Reya how those classes should be handled. S. Reya reminded the Board that they passed a motion that points could only be awarded in half point increments. He also noted that anything 45 minutes or over would be rounded up to the nearest hour, consistent with another Board motion. J. Hoffman pointed out that there is another 45-minute safety course at the end of the agenda. He suggested combining both of those and awarding one and a half safety credits for the seminar.

A motion to accept the Fire Extinguishers and Their Proper Use course for safety credits was made by J. Hoffman, seconded by G. Craig, and approved unanimously.

A. Becker said that the next course on the agenda is Casing Advancers. This 90-minute course consists of 30 minutes of classroom instruction and 60 minutes of a field demonstration. A. Becker said that the course looks acceptable and should count for technical points.

A motion to approve Casing Advancers for technical credits was made by R. Dalton, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

A. Becker said that the next course on the agenda is Social Media and the Work Place. M. Ortega noted that the Board has historically denied requests for social media-related courses.

A motion to not approve Social Media and the Work Place was made by D. Lyman, seconded by G. Poppe, and approved unanimously.

A. Becker noted that the next course is called Update on the Geotechnical Apprenticeship License. He said that this would only apply to Maryland licensees. R. Dalton stated that the course was only 15 minutes in duration and should not be considered by the Board.

A motion to not approve Update on the Geotechnical Apprenticeship License was made by G. Craig, seconded by G. Poppe, and approved unanimously.

A. Becker said that the next course on the agenda is the Cone Penetration Test (CPT) Training course. He said he believes that this course is relevant. He noted that the course was 45 minutes long.

A motion to approve CPT Training for technical credits was made by G. Craig, seconded by J. Hoffman, and approved unanimously.

The next course is for a series of outdoor presentations. The course names are Drilling 101, Decontamination and the Effects of Cross Contamination, and Proper use of Shelby Tubes and Piston Sampler, Preparation, Execution, Waving and Transportation. The Board said that these courses all appear relevant to the industry and voted on them as a block. The duration of these courses was 105 minutes.

A motion to approve the three outdoor presentations was made by R. Dalton, seconded by G. Craig, and approved unanimously.

A. Becker said the final course is for the Round Table Safety Discussion, which is the course that J. Hoffman had mentioned earlier. This discussion would be 45 minutes in duration.

A motion to approve the Round Table Safety Discussion was made by G. Craig, seconded by R. Dalton, and approved unanimously.

S. Reya asked if M. Ortega was able to tally up the points for the seminar. M. Ortega said that the seminar is approved for four technical CEPs and one and a half safety CEPs.

Mobile Crane Certification

S. Reya described the course application to the Board. This application, submitted by Mr. David Stothoff for a certification that he already obtained, was originally submitted earlier in the year. M. Ortega had sent it back previously requesting some additional information in an attempt to gather more information for what was discussed on each day of training. S. Reya said that the course is likely relevant to the industry due to the need to often operate a boom truck, however, there was not a lot of information provided by the applicant regarding documentation of what is covered throughout the entire duration of the course so it may be difficult for the Board to determine the appropriate number of CEPs to award. R. Dalton said that he thinks the course is somewhat related to the industry and recommended awarding five technical CEPs.

A. Becker said that he did some research on the course and thought that this should count as a safety course. He did not think that there was a technical component to this course. He added that since this was a 20-hour course, the full amount of allowable safety points should be awarded.

D. Lyman said that he sent one of his employees to this training and was able to provide some insight for the course. He said that there is one day of classroom training and one day of hands-on training where attendees practice maneuvering cranes on an obstacle course. D. Lyman added that the first day of training is eight hours of safety training. On the second day of training, the instructor was not present during the hands-on training. The instructor was present again during the test on the third and final day. D. Lyman recommended that this course be awarded eight safety CEPs. A. Becker thanked D. Lyman for the insight that he was able to provide.

A motion to accept the Mobile Crane Certification for eight safety CEPs was made by G. Craig, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

Duff Co.

S. Reya apologized for the multiple revisions to the course application that were provided to the Board in several emails prior to the meeting. He explained since the course provider submitted the application before the deadline, him and M. Ortega tried to work with them to make things work out prior to the event occurring. He added that Duff Co. was keeping two courses from their original approved application and was adding four new courses. S. Reya explained that the seminar is being held on May 25, 2022, which is next week.

R. Dalton said that there were instructor bios missing from the application and asked to make sure that they are attached next time. A. Becker agreed and suggested that the Department tell course providers that they must wait until the next meeting if they submit documentation too close to the meeting. A. Becker suggested adding a note to the course application which denotes a deadline.

A motion to approve the package of new courses presented by Duff Co. was made by G. Poppe, seconded by D. Lyman, and approved unanimously.

Continuing Education Course Provider Application Revision Discussion

S. Reya shared his computer screen with everyone able to view it via Microsoft Teams to show the Board the current Course Provider Application. S. Reya added that most of the problems arise from the first two items in the application. The first item on the application asks for a detailed description of the course content and the second item asks for an agenda of the course, including the duration of each course topic. He explained that he believes that one of the biggest disconnects between the Board and the Department is when one-hour courses are presented to the Board. The Department accepts that the course subject is going to be discussed for that hour. This later causes problems when a course is approved for an hour during a seminar and then the Board later has to review it again as a solo course. The Board often questions where the agenda is after the course has already been approved in these circumstances.

S. Reya said that the current application contains language straight from the rule. He said that M. Ortega recommended changing the format of the application and tweaking a few of the questions to try to get better information for the Board. S. Reya discussed a few of the ideas that they had with the Board. M. Ortega and S. Reya will provide the Board with a revised course application for their review by the July meeting.

5. Well Driller and Pump Installer License Application Revision Discussion-

S. Reya discussed the Department's intention to revise the Well Driller and Pump Installer License Application. Currently, there is one application for well drillers and pump installers. S. Reya explained that in the past, each license type had a separate license application. He noted that the current application is often confusing for pump installers because a lot of the information does not apply to them. S. Reya proposed splitting single application in two: one for all well drillers and one for pump installers.

S. Reya stated that the license applications provide a clear-cut set of criteria for well driller license applicants; they must submit evidence of five wells they worked on to the Department, which is also specified in the rule as minimum experience that must be obtained for licensure. S. Reya explained that since there are no permits needed for pump work, there is rarely a paper trail. S. Reya point out that the Department could require W2s or invoices to confirm that a pump installer application

worked for the company or that they worked on specific pumps. He brought up how the soil borer applications historically required submittal of boring logs/invoices for any borings for which well permits were not required to document experience obtained without DEP permits as best as possible. S. Reya also asked for input from Board members how many documents the Department should ask for, noting that well drillers must provide five records or decommissioning reports with their application. S. Reya asked for the Board's feedback. D. Lyman said that it sounds like a good idea and that it would be easy for companies to provide invoices for jobs they completed.

S. Reya said that he and M. Ortega will revise and send out new draft applications for the July meeting. J. Hoffman asked if there was an application fee. S. Reya said that there was no longer an application fee once the Department contracted with NGWA for testing. A. Becker suggested a revision to the draft applications which were provided to the Board. He asked if the link for the study materials could be the same on both applications. M. Ortega said that it would not be a problem and will make the update.

6. Enforcement-

S. Vargo provided the Board with the latest update on the Well Permitting Section's enforcement activities. He said that in February the Department sent out 14 Notices of Non-Compliance (NONCs) to seven different people. As of the day of the Board meeting, five of the seven people have submitted written responses. The Department has determined that most of these cases will result in the NONCs being rescinded, based on submitted follow up information provided to the Department. S. Vargo said that the Department also sent another batch of 13 NONCs to 12 people. As of the day of the Board meeting, no responses have been received.

A. Becker thanked S. Vargo for the update. He asked the Department if they have been doing much field work lately. S. Reya and S. Vargo said that not a lot of field work has been done lately due to staffing issues. The Well Permitting Section still does not have a replacement for Julia Altieri, who retired last summer. S. Reya said that Well Permitting is also preparing for Lynn Stout's retirement at the end of June.

7. Board Correspondence/Ethics Training Reminder for Board Members-

S. Reya said that the Department received an additional five letters which were addressed to the A. Becker and the Board from NJGWA members. These letters requested that the Board reconsider the amount of CEPs issued to the March 2022 Membership meeting. S. Reya said that the other 22 letters were presented to the Board during the April meeting. He added that he was just making note of it for the record that the letters were received and distributed to the Board.

S. Reya reminded the Board that they will need to take their mandatory Ethics training course soon. He said that there are two types of Ethics training: one is a short 10 minute refresher while the other is a 30 minute module. The Board is required to take the 30-minute module this year. S. Reya said that he will email the Board members the link to the Ethics training and a new Marijuana training which they are required to take.

8. Program Updates-

T. Pilawski said that interviews were conducted to fill an Agency Services Representative, which is a backfill for Amanda Blanda, who retired in late 2020. Well Permitting also put in for a backfill for Julia Altieri's position as well as one for Lynn Stout, who will be retiring on July 1, 2022. The Board wished Lynn well in her retirement and asked if the Department could make sure she is on for the

next call to thank her for her service. J. Mattle said that he will check her schedule and invite her. J. Mattle also noted that Well Permitting will try to do more field work, but it likely would not be until later in the summer, once vacant positions have started to be filled.

9. New Items-

A. Becker noted that he will not be able to attend the June meeting. G. Poppe said that he will be present for the June meeting, but he cannot make it for the July meeting.

10. Adjournment-

A. Becker thanked everyone for attending. The next scheduled meeting is on Thursday, June 16, 2022.

At 10:42 am, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by G. Poppe, seconded by J. Hoffman, and approved unanimously.