



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 August 18, 2022

Approved by the Board on September 15, 2022

Board Members Present at NJDEP Headquarters Building: N/A

Board Members Participating Via Telephone/Microsoft Teams: Gary Poppe (Vice-Chairman), Joe Yost, Gordon Craig, Eric Hoffmann, and Jeff Hoffman

Board Members Absent: Art Becker, Dave Lyman, Richard Dalton, and Steve Domber

Board Legal Representative Present: Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Kevin DeCristofer, New Jersey 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: Wesley Eichfeld; MB Drilling, Dermot Dillon; Summit Drilling/New Jersey Ground Water Association (NJGWA)

1. Call to Order-

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 am with a quorum present via Microsoft Teams and telephone. Notice of the meeting and instructions on how to participate by video or phone were listed on the Department's website.

After doing the roll call, Mr. Wesley Eichfeld informed S. Reya that SGS is now MB Drilling and to make note of the change in the minutes. S. Reya thanked Mr. Eichfeld for the notification.

2. Review and Certification of the July 21, 2022 Meeting Minutes-

G. Craig pointed out a typo at the beginning of the second paragraph in agenda item number 3. S. Reya pointed out that the "G." in G. Craig's name was erroneously moved while formatting of the table of license applicants. Department staff will make the adjustment to the minutes.

A motion to approve the draft minutes from July 21, 2022 with the correction to agenda item 3 was made by J. Yost, seconded by G. Craig, and approved unanimously.

3. Review and Certification of License Applications-

S. Reya listed the names of the license applicants; there were two applicants for the Environmental Resource and Geotechnical (ERG) well driller license. S. Reya added that Mr. Frank Pelusio and Mr. Ben Shaffer both met the requirements for licensure.

| License Type | Applicant Name | Employer |
|--------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| ERG | Frank Pelusio | ERFS |
| ERG | Ben Shaffer | TPI Environmental, Inc. |

A motion to approve the two license applicants for licensure was made by G. Craig. This motion was seconded by J. Hoffman and approved unanimously.

4. Continuing Education-

National Drilling Association (NDA)

S. Reya introduced NDA’s 2022 Convention to the Board. NDA requested six continuing education points (CEPs) for New Jersey well drillers and pump installers. After discussing the individual courses, the Board did not award any points for the keynote speech or the outdoor equipment presentations as the consensus was that they were not relevant to licensed well drillers/pump installers. The Board awarded one technical CEP each for Managing PFAS Challenges for Water Well Contractors and Why Bits Break. The Board awarded one safety CEP each for Safety Isn’t Expensive, It’s Priceless, Live Wire Safety Demonstration, and 12 Topics that Will Improve Your Safety Program and Attitude.

A motion to approve NDA’s 2022 Convention for two technical CEPs and three safety CEPs was made by G. Craig. This motion was seconded by J. Yost and approved unanimously.

South Atlantic Well Drillers

S. Reya provided the Board with some background on the South Atlantic Jubilee. He said that throughout the years, well drillers and pump installers have asked for this course to be reviewed by the Board, but an application has never been presented until now. He added that this seminar includes 21 individual courses which the Board needs to review. M. Ortega provided the Board with a spreadsheet to easily go through the list of courses. S. Reya recommended that the Board go through each course and then make one motion at the end.

Additional discussion was required for the course, Groundwater Resource Development and Management in Response to Saltwater Intrusion on Hilton Head, SC. G. Craig objected to this course due to it being about a region outside of New Jersey. J. Hoffman, G. Poppe, and J. Yost believed that this course should be approved because saltwater intrusion is prevalent in certain parts of the Coastal Plain of New Jersey. G. Poppe cited a few examples of how additional instruction on saltwater intrusion could have prevented issues in the state. S. Reya read the course description for the Board. The Board took a vote on the course, and all were in favor except for G. Craig.

The Board stopped to discuss the courses, Legal Updates for the Water Well Industry and Family Business Succession: Estate Planning. The Board members unanimously decided to deny both courses.

S. Reya paused to discuss Mr. Thomas Ballard’s course, Locating New Water Wells Using Free Online Tools. He added that Mr. Ballard did the training videos for All Star Training, which he said he and A. Becker found to be very informative.

The Board discussed the course, Ortho Scopic Well Rehabilitation, and asked S. Reya to read the course description. S. Reya said that the course was about down hole videos and read the course description to the Board members.

The Board also denied two additional courses: Creating Expectations and Goals: Programs for New Hires – Generation Z and Who Wants to be a Millionaire Driller.

At the end of the discussion, S. Reya and M. Ortega tallied up the number of approved courses. The Board voted to approve 17 of the 21 courses; 15 were for technical credits and two were for safety credits.

A motion to approve the 17 courses, listed in the table below, was made by G. Craig. This motion was seconded by J. Hoffman and approved unanimously.

| Course Name | CEPs |
|--|-------------|
| Intro to Well Rehab and Maintenance | 1 Technical |
| Intro to Submersible Electrical Motors | 1 Technical |
| VFDs & Boosting Opportunities | 1 Technical |
| The Future of the Water Well Business - Permanent Magnet Motors | 1 Technical |
| Groundwater Resource Development and Management in Response to Saltwater Intrusion in Hilton Head Island, SC | 1 Technical |
| Basics and Benefits of Dual Tube Flooded Reverse Drilling Process | 1 Technical |
| World of Wells | 1 Technical |
| A Contractor's Guide to VFD's | 1 Technical |
| Locating New Water Wells Using Free Online Tools | 1 Technical |
| Ortho-sopic Well Rehabilitation | 1 Technical |
| Drilling - Managing and Disposing of Fluids and Solids Generated On-Site | 1 Technical |
| Safety - Drilling & Pumps and OSHA Focus Four | 1 Safety |
| Surface Water and Groundwater Interaction - An Examination of the Natural and Man-Made Ties that Bind Them | 1 Technical |
| What Well Contractors Need to Know About Septic Systems and Other Obstacles | 1 Technical |
| Air Drilling Best Practices - Application, Selection, and Maintenance | 1 Technical |
| Power Quality and Pumps | 1 Technical |
| Submersible Motor Troubleshooting (Where to start and staying safe) | 1 Safety |

Phase Technologies/Aquaflow

S. Reya introduced the course, VFDs – Magic Pill. This course would be taught by Mr. Jeremy McBride of Phase Technologies but would be hosted by Aquaflow in early 2023. The presenter is requesting five technical CEPs. G. Poppe asked where the course was being held. M. Ortega said that Aquaflow usually uses the same venue as NJGWA’s membership meetings in Eastampton.

A motion to accept VFDs – Magic Pill for five technical CEPs was made by J. Hoffman. This motion was seconded by E. Hoffmann and approved unanimously.

NJGWA

S. Reya introduced the course, September 2022 Membership Meeting with Solar Pumping Systems course. Two technical CEPs were requested. No additional discussion was needed.

A motion to accept the NJGWA September 2022 Membership Meeting with Solar Pumping Systems course for two technical CEPs was made by J. Yost. This motion was seconded by G. Craig and approved unanimously.

5. Princeton University Geothermal Well Drilling Update/Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR) and Well Driller Licensing Requirements Update-

S. Reya discussed the background of this topic, which was discussed in detail during the July 2022 meeting. After the meeting, S. Reya discussed the situation with DAG J. Denyes, who had missed the July meeting. She offered to contact the HVACR Board’s DAG on the Board’s behalf regarding the potential conflict between the interpretation of two state regulations.

S. Reya said that DAG J. Denyes had contacted the HVACR Board’s DAG who confirmed that licensed well drillers can run both vertical, as well as horizontal and lateral lines. A HVACR contractor’s jurisdiction as stipulated at N.J.A.C. 13:32A, however, includes the final connection between any horizontal and lateral line to a heat pump or other HVACR related appurtenance into the structure.

S. Reya said that this topic was going to be discussed during the HVACR Board’s next meeting on Tuesday, September 6th. S. Reya told the Board members that if they wanted to attend to hear the discussion, he would forward them the link to the Zoom meeting. S. Reya asked if DAG K. DeCristofer, who attended the meeting in place of DAG J. Denyes, had anything to add to the discussion. He thanked S. Reya and said that he had nothing to add.

6. Program Updates-

T. Pilawski asked to add a brief item to the agenda to discuss some recent program updates. She said that the Bureau of Water Allocation and Well Permitting (Bureau) recently hired two new full-time staff members; one of which has started and another which is awaiting an official start date. Ms. Michelle Herbert is joining the Well Permitting Unit to assist with well searches and Ms. Jillian Walker is joining the Technical Assistance and Licensing Unit. Both staff members worked in the Well Permitting Section as temps/hourlies before being offered full-time positions. T. Pilawski briefly mentioned how the Bureau is still waiting the positions held by Julia Altieri and L. Stout to be posted.

7. Adjournment-

G. Poppe thanked the Board and members of the public for attending. The next scheduled Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 15th.

At 10:16 am, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by E. Hoffmann, seconded by J. Hoffman, and approved unanimously.