

Minutes of the Advisory Board of Examiners for Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators June 26, 2003

Present for the meeting on June 26th were: Robert Brown, chair; Debbie Metz, vice chair; Dail Hollopeter, member; Richard Lorenz, member; Chris Clark, member; Gayle Mitchell, member; Kirk Leifheit, secretary; Andrew Barienbrock, Certification Unit, and Karen Morr, Certification Unit.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:55 a.m. A motion was made by Chris Clark, seconded by Gayle Mitchell, to approve the minutes of the May 21 and 22, 2003 meeting as written.

10:00 a.m. Meeting with Charles Yannucci to discuss the fourth submittal of his Part II, Class IV examination. The Board asked several questions of Mr. Yannucci regarding proper operation of his wastewater treatment facility in relation to biological oxygen demand. The Board also asked questions regarding nitrification and denitrification, sludge wasting and process control.

1:00 p.m. Meeting with Kim Rhoads, Office of Legal Services, to discuss enforcement issues.

1:30 p.m. Meeting with Heather Scheid to discuss her OIT status for the Class III Water Exam she took and passed in April 2003. Ms. Scheid presented several pieces of documentation to try and get her training as a police officer and a massage therapist to count for one year of college education.

2:00 p.m. Meeting with William Foster, Operator, and Kim Rhoads, Office of Legal Services, to discuss several violations at three different facilities for which he is the responsible charge operator. Mr. Foster brought the consulting engineer and the clerk for the Village of Seaman with him to the meeting. Mr. Foster agreed to discuss consensual Findings and Orders with the Division of Surface Water.

3:30 p.m. Meeting with Keith Radick regarding his Class IV, Part II submittal.

1. Exam Revisions

Karen asked the Board to develop new questions for the November 2003 examinations. Also, she asked that the Board consider adding questions regarding nitrification and denitrification to the wastewater exams. Jon Vandommelen, Division of Surface Water- Compliance Assistance Unit, requested that the Board develop questions on the use of spinning solids for process control on the wastewater treatment exams.

The Board agreed to having new questions ready for the August 21, 2003 meeting. Also, the Board asked that Jon Vandommelen develop some questions regarding Spinning for process control and reference the questions. Reference books for both water and wastewater questions were discussed. The Water Environment Federation's Operation of Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plants (MOP-11), Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, and California State University's operation text books were determined to be good resources for exam question references.

2. Class IV, Part I

The Board reviewed the following Part I applications &/or additional information:

NAME	EMPLOYER	TYPE	ACTION
David Markley	City of Zanesville	Wastewater	Recommend approval.
Andrew Patterson	North Baltimore	Water	Recommend approval.
Jeff Vaughn	Eastern Ohio Regional Wastewater Authority	Wastewater	Recommend denial based on the information received from the Division of Surface Water and the Office of Legal Services.
Sandra Vozar	City of Elyria	Water	Recommend denial based on the information received from the Division of Surface Water and the Office of Legal Services.

A motion was made by Dail Hollopeter, seconded by Gayle Mitchell. After discussion Dail amended motion, seconded by Richard Lorenz to recommend approval of the Class IV, Part I applications of David Markley and Andrew Patterson, and to recommend denial of the Class IV, Part I applications of Jeff Vaughn and Sandra Vozar and remove Darrell Hollon from the agenda. Motion carried.

3. Class IV, Part II (new)

None

4. Class IV, Part II (resubmittals)

Name	Location	Type	Rec'd Date	Number copies
Anthony Rice	City of London	WW	6/04/03	4
Michael D. Shaw	City of Urbana	WW	5/27/03	4

5. Class IV, Part II (action)

NAME	EMPLOYER	TYPE	ACTION
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William H. Beyer	Cincinnati MSD	Wastewater	Return for Administration, Budget, Plant, System, Safety, Planning, Research, and Design.
Randy Bruback	City of Painesville	Wastewater	Return for Plant, System, Research, and Design.
Thomas T. Finan	City of Hamilton	Wastewater	Return for Administration, Budget, Plant, System, Safety, Planning, Research.
Rick Fueston	Environmental Engineering Services	Water	Return for Administration, Budget, System, Safety, Planning, and Publications.
Anthony Hoholski	City of Lorain	Wastewater	Hold for further review from the Advisory Board.
Donald J. McGrew	City of Orrville	Water	Recommend approval.
Ralph E. Stickler	City of Mason	Water	Return for Plant, System, Safety, Planning, Research, and Design.
Charles N. Yannucci	Brookfield	Wastewater	Recommend denial due to inability to explain basic plant processes and measurements for an activated sludge wastewater treatment facility.

A motion was made by Chris Clark, seconded by Gayle Mitchell, to recommend that the Class IV, Part II examination of Donald J. McGrew be approved, to recommend that the Class IV, Part II examination of Anthony Hoholski be held for further review by the Board, to recommend that the Class IV, Part II examinations of Willaim H. Beyer, Randy Bruback, Thomas T. Finan, Rick Fueston, and Ralph E. Stickler be returned for revisions, and to recommend that the Class IV, Part II examination of Charles N. Yannucci be denied. Motion carried.

6. Class IV, Part II (in review)

WATER

None

WASTEWATER

NAME, LOCATION	KL	CC	GM	RL	DH	DM	BB
Anthony M. Hoholski, City of Lorain (resubmittal)	x	**			x		x
Weldon L. Potts, City of Urbana (resubmittal)				**	x		x

Anthony Rice, City of London (resubmittal)		**			**	**	**
Michael D. Shaw, City of Portsmouth (resubmittal)		**			**	**	**
Thomas W. Stickle, Earth Tech	x	**					
John A. Wood, City of Urbana - previous employer		x			**		

** denotes who currently has package
x denotes who has reviewed package

7. OIT's

NAME	EXAM TYPE	ACTION
James E. Cave	WW 1	Needs more time.
David E. Eby	WD 1	Recommend approval.
Richard D. Goebeler	WW 3	Recommend approval.
Karl Kellenberger Jr.	WW 2	Recommend approval.
Todd Kirkpatrick	WW 1	Recommend approval.
Kenyon L. Kurtz	WW 3	Recommend approval.
Joseph Leone	WC 2	Recommend approval.
Ruth E. Markley	WS 1	Recommend approval.
Jeffrey J. Miller	WS 2	Recommend approval.
Robert C. Morrison	WC 1	Needs more time.
Michael L. Mosman	WW 3	Recommend approval.
Cynthia M. Mullins	WS 3	Recommend approval.
Bob L. Ostendorf, Jr.	WW 3	Recommend approval.
Vinson J. Poland	WD 1	Recommend approval.
Jeremy Ray	WW 2	Recommend approval.
Michael C. Stephens	WD 1	Recommend approval.
James A. Teeters	WC 2	Needs more documentation.
Ramniwas Vijayvargiya	WS 3	Recommend approval.
Thomas E. Weidele	WD 1	Recommend approval.
Gary A. Zavatsky	WW 3	Recommend approval.

A motion was made by Debbie Metz, seconded by Chris Clark, to recommend approval of the OIT

documentation and issue certificates to all of the above except James E. Cave, Robert C. Morrison, and James A. Teeters who need more experience time or additional information. Motion carried.

8. Reciprocity
None

9. Enforcement Cases

Kim Rhoads, Office of Legal Services, attended the meeting with William Foster, operator, M.M. Schirtzinger, consulting engineer, and Edith Wiggington, clerk for the Village of Seaman, to participate in a discussion regarding the various violations that have occurred under the responsible charge of William Foster at the Village of Seaman, the Village of Russellville, and the Village of Winchester.

The Advisory Board of Examiners recommended to William Foster that he enter into a schedule of compliance with the Ohio EPA based on the information received from the Division of Surface Water’s Southeast District Office and Southwest District Office staff and the information presented by William Foster at this meeting. Mr. Foster agreed to discuss consensual Findings and Orders with the Division of Surface Water. Kim Rhoads will draft the schedule and contact Mr. Foster at the appropriate time.

10. Operator Requests

Name	Request	Action
Heather R. Scheid	Request to re-evaluate her educational experience as it relates to documentation for her Operator in Training status.	The Board has asked for the Office of Legal Services to review the information regarding her education and qualifications.
Stephen Tiefert	Wants a re-evaluation of two exam questions from the April 2003 Water Supply Class III exam.	The two questions were reviewed, and it was determined that the applicant did not answer the questions properly.

No motion was made.

11. Strategic Plan

The Board discussed Kirk’s “to do” list and Mike Baker’s priorities. These need to be combined with the strategic plan for the Advisory Board. The November 2000 minutes are to be evaluated by the Advisory Board to determine what has been completed on the strategic plan.

The water members reviewed the Class I Water Need to Know Criteria, and it will be finalized at the next meeting. The wastewater members committed to have Class I and Class II Treatment Need to Know criteria ready by the next meeting

12. Contact Hour Update

Susan Parkins provided an update on Contact Hour approval status. The Director has approved a total of 2,576 courses since January 2001. There are 42 courses pending the receipt of additional information. The Board discussed the course that the Cleveland Division of Water wants to offer regarding Filter Coring and Profiling. The Board recommended that additional information regarding the training needs to be received before a thorough evaluation can be done.

13. OpCert Database Update

No update was provided.

14. Other Business

The Board discussed possible changes to the Operator Certification Rules (Ohio Administrative Code 3745-7). Andy presented the idea of progressive exams to the Advisory Board of Examiners. A progressive exam would make an operator pass the Class I exam before being eligible to take the Class II exam and the operator would need to pass both the Class I and Class II exams before being eligible to take the Class III exam. The Board wants to discuss this method of examination more and what that would mean for the "Need to Know" criteria and validation.

The Board will continue to work on the "Need to Know" criteria for the Class I exams for the July Board meeting.

The Director's approval to remove the tracking of individual's contact hours by the Ohio EPA staff was received. The posting of this information is on the Operator Certification webpage and soon will be published in the AWWA and OWEA bulletins.

The Board discussed Tom Marshall's requests to reinstate his Class IV Wastewater Treatment certificate. Mr. Marshall believes that he did in fact pay his renewal fee for the 2000 renewal cycle. Agency staff will continue to look through business records to find his payment. Mr. Marshall has been instructed that if he failed to renew his certificate he will be required to pass the Wastewater Treatment Class III exam again before applying to take the Wastewater Treatment Class IV exam.

Gayle Mitchell, board member, was presented with a letter from the Director and a plaque for her service on the Advisory Board of Examiners. The Board is in the process of recommending a replacement for the position left vacant by Gayle's departure.

Kirk Leifheit distributed copies of the Class IV memo sent to the Director from the Board.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:52 p.m. on Thursday, June 26th, 2003. (Debbie Metz motioned, Gayle Mitchell seconded. Motion carried.)

Respectfully submitted,

Kirk M. Leifheit
Secretary