

**Approved Minutes
Operator Certification Board Meeting
September 14, 2004
Aberdeen Ramkota**

Members Present: Del DeBoer, Greg Merrigan, Clint Jost, Tom Lesselyoung, John Scheltens, Pete Hesla

Others Present: Rob Kittay, Secretary to the Board; Ron Von Eye, Mayor of Ethan; Brad Stolsmark, Trustee from Pierpont; Janel Ellingsen, Aberdeen; Ed Royalty, Rapid Valley RWS; Bill Sarringar, Mid-Dakota RWS; and Jim Zeck, SDARWS.

Call to Order by Chairperson DeBoer at 2:00 pm.

The Board introduced themselves to those present.

Approval of Agenda: Kittay added Brandon Scott for a reciprocity request. Merrigan moved to approve the amended agenda. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed

Approval of Minutes:The minutes were previously emailed and were available on internet. Merrigan moved for approval. Jost seconded. Motion passed.

The Board dealt with business for those present.

Formal Hearings:Ethan-Ron Von Eye from Ethan represented the City. A contract with Loren Skinner to run their distribution system was reviewed. Merrigan had question on "Licensed operator cannot change chemicals for Rural Water". Ethan is served by Hanson RWS and Ethan's operator will not have access to their system. Dale Meinke is local operator. Hesla moved to approve the contract. Jost seconded. Motion passed.

Pierpont-Brad Stolsmark represented Pierpont. Mary Wirkus will go to Huron WD/WWC class on September 29-30 October 1 and test during fall. Merrigan moved to continue the hearing until the next Board meeting. Hesla seconded. Motion passed.

Reciprocity Requests:William Luksha has a Colorado Wastewater Treatment Grade A. No DRC is required for this certificate so the highest certificate that can be granted is an SD Class II. Hesla gave some thoughts about SD's requirements for Class III/IV certificates. Lesselyoung moved to grant an SD Class II WW certificate. Jost seconded. Motion passed.

Brandon Scott has Minnesota Water System and Wastewater Treatment Class D certificates. These are equivalent to our Class I's.

John Scheltens entered meeting at 2:26 pm.

Jost moved to grant Class I Water Treatment and Wastewater Treatment certificates. Merrigan Seconded. Motion passed.

Formal Hearings-Grenville-A letter from Pam Fromelt, Grenville MFO, was read. Their operator, Bob Boardman, failed his last WD I exam with a score of 57%. Merrigan moved to continue this hearing until the next Board Meeting. Jost seconded. Motion passed.

Hayloft Cafe-The chlorinator has been taken out and replaced with an RO unit so a certified operator is not required. Scheltens asked why the chlorinator had been taken out. The answer was not known.

Informal hearings-American Presidents Resort-This system was recently sold. Scheltens moved to continue this to the next meeting. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

Country Acres near Yankton-Kittay indicated that he had some inquiries from the owner about contracting and received a list of operators in the Yankton area. Scheltens moved that a formal hearing be held at the next Board meeting. Merrigan seconded. Motion passed.

Gregory-Gregory submitted a letter to the Board. Todd Christenson, Gregory UM, has passed two exams and needs the two water certificates. Jost moved to continue the hearing to the next meeting. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

Hidden Valley Campground-Randy Aker failed exam in July. He has expressed his displeasure to Kittay with having to get certified and wants to address the Board when they meet in Black Hills. Scheltens moved to schedule formal hearing at next meeting. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

Mission Hill-Bob Johnson, a trustee from Mission Hill, submitted a letter via email to the Board. Their operator failed exam in May. Lesselyoung moved to continue hearing to next meeting. Jost seconded. Motion passed.

Contracts-Much discussion centered around the number of visits that a contract operator needed to make.

High Meadow Ranchettes & High Sheridan Ranch-Contracts with Ed Striebel. Scheltens moved to approve w/ change of visits to once per week. Hesla seconded. Motion passed.

Pine Cone Estates-Contract with Al Sage. Merrigan moved to approve. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

Mountain Plains II/Oak Mountain/Spearfish Meadows-Contracts with Ron Waterland. Merrigan moved for approval. Scheltens seconded. Motion passed.

Black Hills Children's Center-Submitted a contract with Jay Chittim. Jost moved for approval. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

Wentworth and Chester Sanitary District-Contracts w/ Big Sioux who will assign Jeff Carruthers to these systems. The specific job duties were not spelled but general wording was used. Merrigan moved to approve contingent that an attachment for specific job duties be submitted. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

New systems for enforcement-Merrigan moved that the following systems have an informal hearing at the next meeting.

System	Lacking Certificate(s)
Bear Country	WT I/WD I
Camp Volunteer	SWT I
Cedar Canyon Wesleyan Camp	SWT I
Country Village-Aberdeen	WD I
Custer-Mt Rushmore KOA	SWT I
Deer Mountain	WT I/WD I
Guadalajara's-Spearfish	SWT I
Hermosa	WD I
Pollock	WW I
Provo Township Water	WD I
Shirttail Gulch-Deadwood	WD I
Terry Trojan Water District	SWT I/WD I

Jost seconded. Motion passed.

Irregularity at Watertown Exam Session-Kittay explained the recent occurrence at the Watertown exam session. An operator did not turn in the supplied scratch paper when his exam was completed. Kittay asked for the paper and when it was handed in, it contained 25 questions and answers from the Class I Water Distribution exam. The Board was in a concurrence that a letter be written to the operator stating what happened was unacceptable and could compromise a national exam. A copy will be sent to system manager. Other methods to compromise exams were discussed and what can be done to combat these.

Merrigan moved to recess the Board meeting in order to hold the public hearing for the rules changes. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed. Meeting recessed at 3:55 pm.

Merrigan moved to reconvene meeting. Jost seconded. Motion passed. Meeting reconvened at 4:19 pm.

Other Uses for ERG Funds-Merrigan asked about the relation between use of ABC exam and the training. The training will have to catch up to the new exams. There was money put into contract to develop the training. No concrete ideas were finalized.

Non-Contract Operator Response Time-Discussion centered on how far away from a system can a non-contract operator be located. Hesla suggested a one hour response time. Board agreed to this.

Snowbirds Operators-The Board has asked Kittay to investigate this situation with other states.

Other Business-There was none.

Next Meeting-The Board will hold its next meeting in Pierre. Kittay will find a date/place and confirm with Board.

Scheltens moved for adjournment. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Rob Kittay

September 22, 2004

Rob Kittay

Date