

**Approved Minutes
Operator Certification Board Meeting
September 13, 2005
Brookings Inn**

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

Others Present: Rob Kittay, Secretary to the Board; Jim Zeck, SDARWS; Randy Hilding, DENR; and Mike Lund, Brookings Municipal Utilities.

Call to Order by Chairperson DeBoer at 2:05 pm.

The Board introduced themselves to those present.

Approval of Agenda: Kittay added a reciprocity request (Jim Nelson from MN) and discussion on requirements for certification. DeBoer wanted to add election of chair. Merrigan moved to approve the amended agenda. Scheltens seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes-Minutes were previously emailed and were available on internet. Corrections-Second page, 12th paragraph-"bu" should be "be". Third page, seventh paragraph-"Donovan" misspelled. Merrigan moved for approve the minutes of the last meeting. Jost seconded. Motion passed.

Reciprocity-Elliot D. Waddell (WD II from Iowa)-Requirements for this IA certificate are high school graduation and three years of experience. This is similar to the SD WD II. Jost moved that a Class II WD from SD be granted. Hesla seconded. Motion passed.

WT I from Iowa-Requirements for this certificate are high school graduation and one year of experience. This one year can be reduced by six months by attaining three CEU's. This reduction is not allowed in SD. Merrigan moved to grant a Class I WT from SD. Hesla seconded. Motion passed.

Kim Malmgren (Water Supply Class I from Minnesota)-SD has granted numerous certificates for MN Class I certificates. The requirements for this certificate are high school graduation and one year of experience. Hesla moved that a Class I Water Treatment from SD be granted. Jost seconded. Motion passed.

Darrell B Bullhead Sr (Water Treatment Class 3 from North Dakota)-The requirements for this certificate are high school graduation and four years of experience. SD requires eight years of experience with HS diploma. Scheltens asked if ABC exams are used in ND. Kittay indicated he did not know and that should not matter as SD has modified the ABC exams. Discussion ensued around unequal qualifications for some states. Hesla said this would tie into another topic on agenda that he wanted to discuss. Hesla moved that a Class II WT from SD be granted. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

James S. Nelson (Class "A" Wastewater Treatment from Minnesota)-The requirements for this certificate are a college degree in engineering/science and four years of experience with two of

those in direct responsible charge. Lesselyoung moved that a Class IV WW certificate from SD be granted. Merrigan seconded. Motion passed.

Formal Hearings-Pierpont-No-one was present to represent Pierpont. This hearing had been continued at the last two Board meetings. Marty Wirkus has failed the Class I WD exam five times. His scores were presented to the Board. They ranged from 46%-64%. Zeck said that BDM RWS had been contacted by the City. He had also spoken to the MFO. Merrigan moved to recommend that DENR take enforcement actions against Pierpont. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

Guadalajara’s Restaurant in Spearfish-No-one was present to represent the system; however, a contract with Mike Kyte had been submitted. Cindy Koopman of the SD Health Department had contacted Kittay asking if the exams were available in Spanish. Kittay checked with ABC and Spanish exams are not available because there are too many different dialects. The Board reviewed the contract. Scheltens moved to approve the contract. Jost seconded. Motion passed.

Informal Hearings-Country Village in Aberdeen-No-one was present to represent the system. Tim Timmerman has taken the exam twice (January 27 and April 28, 2005) and received a 63% each time. This hearing had been continued at the April 2005 Board meeting. Jost moved that a formal hearing be held in April 2006. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

Tabor—No-one was present to represent the system. Two exams had been taken since the last Board meeting. The scores were 67% and 69%. Merrigan asked about unauthorized discharge on by the wastewater system. Hilding explained what had happened while he did a survey on the system. Merrigan moved to continue this hearing until April, 2006. Jost seconded. Motion passed.

Pine Hills Park near Black Hawk-A fax from Craig Price, Manager, was received by Kittay and passed on to Board. One of the owners had died and “his affairs are in estate and the family are putting everything on hold at this time”. He has been manager since February 9, 2004 and has taken only one exam (February 8, 2005 WD I-56%). Jost moved to hold a formal hearing in April 2006. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

Contract Approvals-Walnut Park/Reynolds Trailer Court—Frank Karas operates a number of other systems by contract. Hesla moved to approve the contract. Scheltens seconded. Motion passed.

New Systems for Enforcement—There was some discussion about selling of a system and should the enforcement clock be reset. Scheltens asked where Trout Haven was located (South of Lead-Deadwood). Lesselyoung moved that the following systems have an informal hearing at the April 2006 Board meeting.

American Presidents Resort	Box Elder	Corsica
Custer-Mt Rushmore KOA	Fairview	Fish N Fry Campground
Hidden Valley Campground	Hillcrest Colony	Morristown
Riverside TC	Rosholt	Trout Haven
Wolf Creek School		

Jost seconded. Motion passed.

Education/Experience Requirements for Certification in SD-Pete Hesla led the discussion. Hesla presented a table to the Board describing experience/education requirements in a number of states in the region. He would like to see a change in requirements for Class III/IV exams for operators without post-HS education. Hesla suggested that the Class III have six years of experience and the Class IV have eight years of experience with a possible reduction on the system experience underneath. Kittay mentioned backsliding from the EPA perspective. Hesla mentioned about strengthening the contact hour requirements. Kittay mentioned reaction from present Class III/IV operators. Hesla said he would welcome comment from these operators.

DeBoer asked about a timetable for the change. Kittay suggested that the public hearing be held along with the next Board meeting prior to WW Seminar in Oacoma.

Hesla moved that there be a regulation change be pursued where experience for a Class III certificate without post-high school education be a total of six years with three of those being at a Class II or higher system/plant. For a Class IV, the total experience with no post-high school education would be eight years with four of those years being at Class III or higher plant/system. Scheltens seconded. Motion passed. Kittay will be in charge of the regulation change process.

Election of Chairperson-Each year the Board is to elect a chairperson. Jost nominated Hesla. Lesselyoung moved that nominations cease. Merrigan seconded. Some discussion ensued. Motion did not pass by a vote of two ayes (Lesselyoung and Jost) and four nays. Scheltens nominated DeBoer. Merrigan moved that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for DeBoer. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

Other Business-There was none forthcoming.

Next Meeting-April 4, 2006 Oacoma Cedar Shores 1:00 pm. This will be on the day prior to the SDWWA Wastewater Seminar.

Jost moved for adjournment. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:46 pm.



September 20, 2005

Rob Kittay

Date