

**Approved Minutes  
Operator Certification Board Meeting  
September 16, 2014  
Ramkota/Events Center-Watertown**

**Members Present:** Dan Fink, Chris Schmit, Dave VanCleave, Tom Callaway, Bill Sarringar

**Members Absent:** Tom Lesselyoung

**Others Present:** Rob Kittay-Secretary to the Board and Jim Zeck

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

**Approval of Agenda:** Kittay wanted to add a contract approval for Conde to the agenda. Schmit moved to approve the amended agenda. Van Cleave seconded. Motion passed.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes had been emailed previously to the Board members and had been available on the internet. Van Cleave moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Fink seconded. Motion passed.

**Old Business:** There was none forthcoming.

**Reciprocity:** Jim Jones-Has a MN Water Supply System Operator Class A (#8799) and MN Wastewater Treatment Facility Operator Class A (#A-16711). These certificates are very similar to the SD Class IV's in the education and experience required. Kittay received qualifying information from the two MN programs. Schmit moved to grant SD Class IV WW and IV WT certificates. Callaway seconded. Motion passed.

**Final Hearings:** There were no final hearings.

**Preliminary Hearings:** Alpena has now dropped off of non-compliant list as they just hired an operator with the proper certificates to be in compliance.

The Board considered the following systems in one preliminary hearing-Lake Preston, Twin Brooks, Veblen, Wolf Creek School, Letcher, Newdale Colony, and Shamrock Colony. All of these systems are out of compliance for Operator Certification. Schmit moved that the above systems have a final hearing at the next Board meeting. Callaway seconded. Motion passed.

Schmit moved to table any action on Edgemont. Callaway seconded. Motion passed.

**Contract Approvals:** Prairie Berry Winery/Mike Riker-The system is required to have a certified water treatment operator. Schmit moved to approve this contract. Fink seconded. Motion passed.

Lewie's Saloon/Joe Barrett-The system is required to have a certified water treatment operator. Fink moved to approve this contract. Callaway seconded. Motion passed.

St Onge Livestock/Bill Heidrich-The system is required to have a certified water treatment operator. Callaway moved to approve this contract. Van Cleave seconded. Motion passed.

Crooked Oaks/Ed Striebel-The system is required to have a certified water treatment and water distribution operator. Schmit moved to approve this contract. Fink seconded. Motion passed.

Edgemont/Shawn Hylle-This contract was for water treatment, water distribution, WW treatment, and WW collection even though Edgemont is lacking only a certified WW treatment operator. Schmit moved to approve the contract. Van Cleave seconded. Motion passed.

Conde/Water District Maintenance (WDM)-The system is required to have a certified water distribution operator. Schmit moved to approve this contract. Callaway seconded. Motion passed.

**Status of Certification:** The Board reviewed the latest status information on systems without certified operators. Schmit moved to schedule preliminary hearings at the next Board meeting for the following systems.

<b>System</b>	<b>Lacking Certifications</b>
Fairburn	WD I
Frederick	WD I
Jefferson	WT II WD I WW I WWC I
Lakeside Water Users	SWT I WD I
Oelrichs	WD I
Trout Haven	SWT I
Worthing	WD I WW I

Callaway seconded. The Board asked what happened when a property was sold that was lacking a certified operator. Kittay responded that we could not hold a new owner responsible for the negligence of the former owner and that the enforcement clock started over with the sale. Motion passed.

**Other Business**-Schmit asked about reciprocity with Nebraska. Kittay explained that NE's water program does not allow operators to come into their state thru reciprocity; therefore, SD could not accept their operators. Concerning NE's wastewater program and a recent inquiry, the education/experience was so low for the NE certificate that it could not transfer to SD even as a Class I.

A question was asked about indemnification and the members of the Board. As they are functioning as state employees, they should be covered by state insurance/policies.

Fink asked about the current exam passing rate of approximately 50%. Kittay said that this year's passing rate is actually near 59% at the present time. Zeck stated that some people come into class expecting that all they will need to know for an exam will be received at class when in actuality the classes are a good review prior to an exam. Operators need to better prepare to take exams—Not study for a day or two just prior.

**Next Meeting**-The next meeting will be scheduled by Kittay to be approved by the Board.

Schmit moved for adjournment. Callaway seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:09 pm.

*Rob Kittay*

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Rob Kittay

September 23, 2014

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Date