

Well Driller's Meeting Minutes
Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2014
Location: 286 Water Street, 3rd Floor

Attendees: Commission Members:
Donald Robbins, Certified Geologist, Public Member, Chairman
Frank Hegarty, Master Pump Installer
Joe Gallant, Master Driller
Ike Goodwin, Master Driller
Tom Weddle, Hydrogeologist, Maine Geological Survey, Department of
Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry
Dwight Doughty, Jr. Hydrogeologist, Maine DOT
David Braley, Senior Geologist, Maine CDC and Prevention
Doris Labranche, Commission Clerk
Legal Counsel: Deanna White, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the
Attorney General

Guests: Christopher & Lisa Pulieris – Homeowners
Cindy Killer, Driller, Atlantic Water Solutions
Jo-Ann Putnam, Atlantic Water Solutions

Minutes prepared by: Doris Labranche, Commission Clerk

PROCEEDINGS:

Don Robbins - Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m.

TOPIC: APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2013 MINUTES

Discussion: Frank motioned to approve the January minutes with edits; Dwight seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. Doris will distribute to Commission members.

TOPIC: COMPLAINTS

Discussion: Complaint received from Ms. Lisa Pulieris of Windham, ME regarding Atlantic Water Solutions of Alfred, ME.

The Commission discussed the complaint received from Ms. Lisa Pulieris concerning a well installed by Atlantic Water Solutions. Both Ms. Pulieris and Cindy Killer were present and offered testimony.

Ms. Pulieris corrected her written statement to indicate that 'the crack was in the ledge, not the casing' as she had indicated in her written complaint. She had misunderstood an explanation given to her by her husband who had attended the Atlantic Water Solution's inspection of the well. The complaint alleges repeated positive coliform bacteria tests, including one E-coli positive. Copies of the sample results are included with the complaint.

Cindy Killer, Atlantic Water Solutions, stated that she subcontracted the job to Mr. Mark Koenig, Maine Well & Pump LLC. According to Ms. Killer, Mr. Koenig did not provide Atlantic Water Solutions with a well log or a copy of the well reporting card required for

submittal to the Maine Geological Survey. Ms. Killer provided the Commission with a copy of the proposal/contract between Atlantic Water Solutions and Mr. Robert Cloutier, Ms. Pulieris' father.

David reminded the Commission that according to the rules a complaint may be filed by anyone for 24 months following well installations. The entity that contracted for a well to be installed is not relevant to the Commission's decision to investigate a complaint. Complaint investigations focus on the proper location and construction of water wells as described in the rules. The rules do reference the use of appropriate contracts. Section 207.1 states: Contracts and complaints: In the absence of a written agreement, whose terms satisfactorily address water quality or water quantity, the Commission may apply any of the *recommended practices* established in these rules *as the standard* upon which to evaluate a complaint against a driller or pump installer related to the drilling of a water well or installation of a water pump.

Finding E-coli in well water is an indication that surface water has direct access to the well, whether due to construction of the well or naturally occurring conditions. Cindy Killer stated that the well was inspected using a down-hole camera, but the inspection was not recorded. She indicated that there is 20 feet of casing in the well, and that the first water bearing fracture was located at 38 feet below grade.

Frank motioned to send out the Commission's independent inspector; motion seconded by Joe, the vote was unanimous. The Commission received approval from both the homeowners and Atlantic Water Solutions to complete the inspection using the Commission's independent inspector. David will notify the inspector, who will then organize and complete the inspection.

Ike motioned to notify Mr. Koenig, Maine Well & Pump LLC., of the complaint and for additional information regarding the construction of the well; motion seconded by Dwight, the vote was unanimous. David will draft the letter.

Discussion: Anonymous complaint received regarding Adam Baker Well Drilling Company of Canaan, ME. Mr. Baker arrived at the office yesterday to update his licenses and pay the necessary licensing fees. David will send a letter to Mr. Baker requesting that he attend the March Commission meeting to discuss any drilling activities performed while unlicensed. The Commission will determine whether any violations had occurred and if further action is warranted.

Discussion: The Commission confirmed that the complaint received regarding Western Maine Drilling of Limerick, ME and the setbacks to an existing geothermal well had been resolved at the previous meeting. The rules do not include required setbacks for new water wells from existing geothermal wells. The rules do have required setbacks for new closed-loop geothermal wells from existing water wells because the process of constructing a closed-loop well could impact nearby wells. Once a closed-loop geothermal well has been completed and grout has "set", the risk no longer exists and water wells may be installed in close proximity. No further action on the complaint is required.

TOPIC: SPECIALTY WELL APPLICATIONS (SWP)

None at this time.

TOPIC: 3 EXAM APPLICATIONS

Journeyman Well Driller Exam Application received from Hollis Temple of Bob Temple Well Drilling Co.

Master Well Driller Exam Application received from Jay Levesque of Forest Pump & Filter Co., Rochester, NH.

Journeyman Pump Installer Exam Application received from Wayne Goldthwaite, also of Forest Pump & Filter Co., Rochester, NH.

All 3 applications were reviewed and approved. Doris to mail letters informing individuals.

TOPIC: FINANCES

David to provide a financial update at the March meeting.

TOPIC: PUBLIC COMMENTS None at this time.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 11:15 a.m.