

Well Driller's Meeting Minutes
Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2013
Location: 286 Water Street, 3rd Floor

Attendees:

Commission Members:

Joe Gallant, Master Driller, Stanley E. Hillock Well Co
Frank Hegarty, Master Pump Installer, Hegarty Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
Tom Weddle, Hydrogeologist, Maine Geological Survey
Donald Robbins, Certified Geologist, Public Member, Chairman
David Braley, Senior Geologist, Maine CDC and Prevention
Dwight Doughty, Jr. Hydrogeologist, Maine DOT
Ike Goodwin, Master Driller, Goodwin Well & Water Inc.

Legal Counsel:

Deanna White, Assistant Attorney General – Office of the Attorney General

Minutes prepared by: David Braley

PROCEEDINGS:

Donald Robbins - Meeting called to order at 9:10 a.m.

TOPIC: APPROVAL OF MARCH 2013 MINUTES

DISCUSSION: Don Robbins noted he is no longer employed by A.E. Hodsdon.

Motion: Dwight Doughty motioned to accept.

2nd by: Tom Weddle.

Vote: 6 in favor, Ike Goodwin abstained as he was not present at the March meeting.

Action: Doris to update the March minutes and distribute to Commission members. No meeting was held in April.

TOPIC: CURRENT COMPLAINTS – Ms. Mora Camenga, Complainant / Mr. Delwin Philbrick, Well Driller

DISCUSSION: David Braley to arrange a site visit with Mr. Philbrick to evaluate the condition of the abandoned well.

TOPIC: SPECIALTY WELL APPLICATIONS (SWP)

Cathy Johnson home owner, Hanson's Well Drilling the drilling company.

DISCUSSION: Well has been drilled. The well is located 90 feet from home owner's leach field, and 65 feet from the neighbor's leach field. The area is known for salt contamination, so 40 feet of casing was set into bedrock, with a liner and seals planned with the bottom seal set at 90 feet as required by the Rules. The driller hit over 50 gpm at 45 feet. The SWA asked for a reduction of the required casing/liner and seals from 90 feet to 40 feet to allow the owner to use the water encountered, and to avoid the chance of salt water at depth. Dwight Doughty motioned to approve with two conditions, 1) the application must be signed by the home owner, and 2) a deed covenant must be filed with the Registry of Deeds, copies of both must be submitted to the Commission within 45 days, Ike Goodwin 2nd, motion approved unanimously.

David Chipman home owner, Rolfe's Well Drilling the drilling company.

DISCUSSION: Requested a setback reduction for a closed loop geoexchange well from the required 45 feet down to 23 feet from the owner's drinking water well. All other setbacks required by the Rules are satisfied. This application was provisionally approved on April 30, 2013, prior to the May meeting to allow the project to be started at a time appropriate for the home owner. Provisionally approved means the Commission members reviewed the application and provided feedback to David indicating approval. Formal approval was delayed to the May meeting. After discussion Ike Goodwin motioned to affirm the Commission's approval of the application, 2nd by Frank Hegarty, motioned approved 6 – 1 with Dwight Doughty dissenting.

TOPIC: FORMS, SOP, and DWP Website

DISCUSSION: The Commission reviewed updated drafts of a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for SWA and a draft WD Complaint Form for use tracking complaints from receipt to completion. The Commission had commented on previous versions of these two documents at the March meeting. Additional changes were suggested. The documents will be reviewed at the June meeting. The SOP is intended to provide training and consistency for the Specialty Well Application handling process in house to ensure the applications can be processed in the absence of the Commission's clerk.

The Commission also reviewed a redrafted version of the Specialty Well Application that includes provisions for geoexchange wells. Comments were received and David will update the draft for further review at the June meeting.

Website updates are in the works at the Drinking Water Program level that should make accessing information, including the Well Drillers Commission information, easier.

Exam Applications

Meaghan Champney – Journeyman Pump Installer

A review of Ms. Champney's application determined that she has satisfied the minimum experience requirements and has submitted a complete application with appropriate references. Ike Goodwin motioned to approve the application to take the Journeyman Pump Installers exam, Frank Hegarty 2nd. Motion approved unanimously.

TOPIC: PUBLIC COMMENTS – none at this time.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

11:19 a.m. Motion to adjourn by Dwight Doughty, 2nd by Joe Gallant, motion approved unanimously.