

# Meeting of Maine Board of Licensure of Water System Operators

March 18, 2016

Greater Augusta Utilities District WWTP, Augusta, ME

## Present:

- Mike MacDonald, Vice Chair – VSWS Representative, Contract Operator, New England Utility Management Enterprises
- Mary Ellen Bowers – NTNC Representative, WaterWorks LLC.
- Brian McBride – Class IV Operator Representative, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, and Wells Water District
- Brian Tarbuck – Professional Engineer Representative, Greater Augusta Utility District
- Kerry Smart – Class II Representative, Alfred Water District
- Roger Crouse – Maine DHHS Representative, Maine Drinking Water Program
- Terry Trott – Licensing Officer, Maine DHHS, Drinking Water Program
- Peter Bernard – Recorder

## Absent:

- Gregory Kidd, Chair – Educator Representative, Northeast Water and Wastewater Training Associates
- Jeffrey Day – Class III Operator Representative, Lincoln Water District
- Jonathan Ziegler – Management Representative, Boothbay Water District

## Guests:

- Paul Gauvreau – Maine Attorney General's Office
- Deanna White – Maine Attorney General's Office
- Tom Demaso – Contract Operator
- Kirsten Hebert – Executive Director, Maine Rural Water Association

## Meeting called to order at 9:05 AM by Mike MacDonald

### 1. Review of Minutes

Brian Tarbuck moved to accept

Kerry seconded

Minutes accepted by vote

### 2. Budget

Terry provided a brief update, will make available a detailed, itemized budget.

Roger will provide system of metrics update at the upcoming May meeting

### 3. Complaint Procedure

Terry and Deanna led discussion regarding revision of Board rules pertaining to filing complaints against water operators. Substantive elements under scrutiny were anonymity of complainants, order

of investigative steps, and licensing officer's presentation of recommendations. Paul Gauvreau gave additional legal perspective. Wording, order, and format of text were closely reviewed.

**Action:** Terry will revise the draft procedure integrating recommendations from Deanna and Paul and changes agreed-upon by the Board.

#### **4. Complaint #152128 – Tom Demaso**

Complaint brought by Maine Drinking Water Program – Failure to report TC (Total Coliform) samples from two of Mr. Demaso's contracted systems: Fairground Apartments and Pray's Mobile Home Park.

Terry Trott, as investigator of the complaint, noted that:

- The samples were positive;
- The lab did not forward the results to the Drinking Water Program;
- The sample results were received at Mr. Demaso's office while he was out;
- Appropriate action was not immediately taken by Mr. Demaso.

Discussion centered on:

- Problematic system owners
- Operators' responsibilities and best practices
- Drinking Water Program and laboratories' practices and requirements

As a result of her findings, Terry recommended a letter of reprimand for Mr. Demaso: the issue is felt to be too consequential to be dismissed, however given all circumstances suspension or revocation of license would not be appropriate. Paul Gauvreau advised that Mr. Demaso should have thirty days to request an administrative review, if he so chooses.

Mary Bowers moved to issue a letter of reprimand

Kerry Smart seconded

Motion carried by unanimous vote

#### **5. Stakeholder and Associates Updates**

Roger outlined Drinking Water Program reorganization.

#### **Adjourn – 12:00PM**

Kerry moved to adjourn

Brian Tarbuck seconded

Motion carried by vote