

Maine Board of Licensure of Water System Operators

Meeting Minutes

~ Friday, March 3, 2023 – 9:00 am ~
Meeting via Zoom / In-Person

Members Present via In-Person:

- Mary Bowers – (Chair), NTNC Representative, Waterworks Mgmt. LLC
- Keith Levasseur – (Vice Chair), Class III Representative, Sanford Water District
- Brian Tarbuck – (Secretary), Professional Engineer Representative, Greater Augusta Utility District
- Amy Lachance – Director, Maine DHHS, Drinking Water Program
- Brian McBride – Class IV Representative, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, and Wells
- Gregory Kidd – Educator Representative, NEWWTA
- Kerry Smart – Class II Representative, Alfred Water District

Members Present via Zoom: *(no vote)

- None

Members Absent:

- Suzanne Yerina – VSWS Representative, Haley Ward, Inc.

Board Coordinator and Clerk:

- David Welch – Maine DHHS, Drinking Water Program; Licensing Coordinator
- Tina Lemieux – Maine DHHS, Drinking Water Program; Licensing Clerk

Guests:

- None

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Meeting called to order at **9:11 AM** by Mary Bowers.

1. Introduction of Board Members
  - a. 7 members In-Person present, 0 members Zoom present, 1 members absent, 0 guests
2. Approve meeting minutes
  - Motion to accept the minutes - **Friday, December 2, 2022**  
1<sup>st</sup>: Greg Kidd 2<sup>nd</sup>: Keith Levasseur Vote: Unanimous
3. Public Comment
  - a. None
4. Agenda Additions
  - a. None
5. New Business
  - a. Budget Update - David Welch, Licensing Coordinator
    - i. Budget Update 2023
  - b. PSI Testing - David Welch
    - i. Bangor Testing Site - back open for examinees
  - c. ABC Conference - (Clearwater, Florida) - Keith Levasseur
    - i. Report on Florida conference

- d. Reinstatement request - Seth Garrison, via letter received
  - i. Letter to Board requesting a waiver to reinstate water operator’s license held in past, over 10 years expired, request denied.
- Motion to have Seth Garrison sit for the exams in accordance with BLWSO rules and regulations.
  - 1<sup>st</sup>: Kerry Smart      2<sup>nd</sup>: Greg Kidd      Vote: Unanimous
- e. 2023 Election of BLWSO Members - Mary Bowers, Chair
- Motion to keep the current Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.
  - 1<sup>st</sup>: Kerry Smart      2<sup>nd</sup>: Greg Kidd      Vote: Unanimous

6. Old Business

- a. Follow-up, Complaint - Michael Corson
  - License under review due to complaint brought by Anson & Madison Water District, Randall Turner.
  - Two certified letters have been sent to notify Corson of the complaint and to request a response to the BLWSO.
  - The first letter, sent to wrong address, returned with no response; the 2<sup>nd</sup> letter, sent to Corson’s home address, returned with a signed receipt, but no call or letter to rectify or respond to alleged infraction.
  - The BLWSO reviewed the information and documents and decided to vote on the status of his licensure.
  - License of Michael Corson was revoked by BLWSO, 3-3-23.
  - Motion to revoke license of Michael Corson. (Kidd/Smart - 6 yea/1 abstain)
    - \*Amy Lachance - abstained, \*(see Complaints)
- b. Rulemaking – update BLWSO rules
  - i. Draft Rules – status, submitted to Tara Pare, MEDWP for review, waiting
  - ii. Streamline complaint procedure \*(3-6-20)
    - 9-16-22, motion passed to accept complaint procedure draft with amendments. (Tarbuck / Kidd - Unanimous)
    - 12-2-22, motion passed for one-time increase of \$25 of Water Operator License fee. \*(\$75 to \$100); (Tarbuck / Smart - Unanimous)
    - 3-3-23, motion for \$75 fee to increase to \$95, rather than \$100. (Kidd / Smart - Unanimous)

| <b>License Types</b>       | <b>Current License fees</b> | <b>Proposed license fees</b> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| New -                      | \$75                        | ↑ \$95                       |
| Renewal -                  | \$75                        | ↑ \$95                       |
| Upgrade -                  | \$20                        | \$20                         |
| Reinstatement - (late fee) | \$50                        | \$50                         |

- c. Status of Board Member Approvals by Governor Mills - Mary Bowers, Chair
  - i. Packets have been sent in via regular mail and email.
  - ii. There has been no response from the Governor's office for approximately 4-5 years
  - iii. Board and Commission members of the State are all expiring
  - iv. Need answers from Governor's Office.

\*3-3-23, Mary Bowers has offered to go to the Governor's Office and speak directly with the people running the program to get some answers.

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COMPLAINTS:

**ANSON & MADISON - CORSON, complaint rcvd 8-8-22**

- a. 9-21-22, sent certified letter to mailing address on file
  - b. 10-3-22, certified letter, Returned to Sender
  - c. 12-5-22, will re-send certified letter with new language and paragraph (4d) pending approval, \*(14 days to respond)
  - d. 3-3-23, License revoked by decision of the BLWSO.
- Motion to revoke license of Michael Corson.
    - 1<sup>st</sup>: Greg Kidd      2<sup>nd</sup>: Kerry Smart      Vote: 6 yea / 1 abstain
    - \*Amy Lachance - abstained

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ADJOURNED – **10:10 AM**

- Motion to adjourn.
  - 1<sup>st</sup>: Kerry Smart      2<sup>nd</sup>: Brian McBride      Vote: Unanimous

**\*\*Next scheduled meeting: Friday, June 9, 2023**