

North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality

AGENDA MINUTES

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL SYSTEM OPERATORS CERTIFICATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 12, 2023

Archdale Building, Ground Floor Hearing Room, Raleigh NC

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission was called to order at 10:00 AM, with Chairman W. Corey Basinger presiding. The following persons were in attendance:

MEMBERS

Mr. W. Corey Basinger
Mr. Chester Lowder
Ms. Marchell Adams-David
Dr. Bob Rubin

Mr. Jonathan Russell
Mr. Ken Stines (Via Teams)
Mr. Steve Barry
Mr. Jim Lynch
Mr. Matthew Haynes
Mr. Arnold Allred

GUESTS

Christine Ryan, NCDOJ

STAFF

Mr. Jeff Talbott
Ms. Maureen Kinney
Mr. Patrick Beggs
Ms. Jenee Williamston
Ms. Ashley Coleman
Mr. Shawn Guyer

PRELIMINARY MATTERS

Call to Order – Chairman Basinger

Notice of North Carolina State Government Ethics Act Requirements

None

Revisions or Additions to Agenda

None

Review and Approval of Minutes for May 12, 2023, Quarterly Meeting

Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Adams-David

Motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Lowder

The vote was unanimous.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL SYSTEM OPERATORS CERTIFICATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

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ACTION ITEMS

- #230501** Reciprocal NC Wastewater Certification: Discussion/decision on whether to rescind recently issued reciprocity certification for candidate applying from Florida through South Carolina.
- Motion by Dr. Rubin to ask staff to contact candidate and strongly encourage to take the class and take NC exam by 12/31/23.
 - Motion amended and seconded by Commissioner Adams-David to say must pass exam with 70 or above.
 - The vote was unanimous.

- | <u>Type</u> | <u>Applicant</u> | <u>Certification Requested</u> | <u>State of Origin</u> | <u>Exam</u> |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| #230502 | Candidate #1 | WW-III | NY (3A) | ABC |
| - | Motion to approve staff recommendation was made by Commissioner Dr. Rubin. | | | |
| - | Motion was seconded by Commissioner Russell. | | | |
| - | The vote was unanimous. | | | |

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|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------|-----|
| #230503 | Candidate #2 | WW-II | NY (2A) | ABC |
| - | Motion to approve staff recommendation was made by Commissioner Haynes. | | | |
| - | Motion was seconded by Commissioner Russell. | | | |
| - | The vote was unanimous. | | | |

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|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------|-----|
| #230504 | Candidate #3 | WW-I | SC (<u>D</u> ,C,B,A) | ABC |
| - | Motion to approve staff recommendation was made by Commissioner Adams-David. | | | |
| - | Motion was seconded by Commissioner Haynes. | | | |
| - | The vote was unanimous. | | | |

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|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------|-----|
| #230505 | Candidate #4 | PC-I | SC (<u>D</u> ,C,B,A) | ABC |
| - | Motion to approve staff recommendation was made by Commissioner Russell. | | | |
| - | Motion was seconded by Commissioner Lynch. | | | |
| - | The vote was unanimous. | | | |

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|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------|-----|
| #230506 | Candidate #5 | CS-II | SC Voluntary | WEA |
| - | Motion for the applicant to sit for the CS2 exam was made by Commissioner Dr. Rubin. | | | |
| - | Motion was seconded by Commissioner Haynes. | | | |
| - | The vote was unanimous. | | | |

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|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----|-----|
| #230507 | Candidate #6 | WW-I | OH | ABC |
| - | Motion to approve staff recommendation was made by Commissioner Adams-David. | | | |
| - | Motion was seconded by Commissioner Dr. Rubin. | | | |
| - | The vote was unanimous. | | | |

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|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|-------|
| #230508 | Candidate #7 | WW-IV | FL | STATE |
| - | Motion for the applicant to sit for the WW4 exam was made by Commissioner Adams-David. | | | |
| - | Motion was seconded by Commissioner Dr. Rubin. | | | |
| - | The vote was unanimous. | | | |

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INFORMATION ITEMS

2305 – A March 2023 Exam Pass Rates

- There were 470 applicants who took the exam with 3 ADA accommodations.

2305 – B AW Digester NTK Approval for 6-hour CE Curriculum

- This training would only be appropriate for those who are operating the digester. The NTK document would cover 6 major topic areas.
- Course material has not been developed yet.
- The AW Digester Sub-Committee agrees to forward all information to the full Commission.

2305 – C Review and Update NC Subsurface Water Pollution Control System Operator NTKs

- The Subsurface NTK was last updated in 2005. New regulations have been approved and will be enforced and effective beginning January 1, 2024.
- A subcommittee from the Commission will be formed which will involve practitioners from the outside. They'll report back and bring deliverables back to the Commission for review.

2305 – D Reminder to all Commissioners to complete the SEI filing for 2023

- Chairman request that everyone complete this as soon as possible and notify him once it is done.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Chairman

None

Vice Chairman

None

Commission Members

Commissioner Barry talks about new technologies that are going through new pathways within the State specific to us. He states that he thinks it would be helpful for the Commission to put together an information item on this topic.

Counsel

None

Staff

Jeff Talbott informs the Commission of Jay Frick's retirement and introduces Mr. Shawn Guyer as Jay's replacement. Shawn introduces himself to the Commission.

Patrick Beggs informs the Commission of an apprenticeship program for wastewater operators through North Carolina Rural Water Association. It consists of 2 years and more than 4000 hours. Carolyn Bynum with the Rural Water Association has offered to come and give a presentation.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting of the Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission is scheduled for Friday, August 11, 2023, at 10:00AM in the Ground Floor Hearing (Archdale Building - Raleigh NC).

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to approve was made by Vice Chairman Lowder

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Russell

The vote was unanimous.