

# Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission

## NC Department of Environmental Quality

DRAFT

Meeting Summary – November 3, 2023

Archdale Building, Raleigh NC

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

### MEMBERS

Arnold Allred  
Marchell Adams-David  
Steve Barry  
Martie Groome  
Matthew Haynes  
Chester Lowder  
Bob Rubin (Via Teams)  
Jonathan Russell (Via Teams)  
Ken Stines (Via Teams)

### STAFF

Patrick Beggs, DWR  
Mark Brantley, DWR  
Ashley Coleman, DWR  
Christine Ryan, NCDOJ  
Jeff Talbott, DWR

### GUESTS

Davin Arch, EBCI  
Cheri Proctor, NCRWA  
Christine Ryan, NCDOJ  
Chris White, NC One Water

### Preliminary Matters

- **Call to Order** – Commissioner Lowder, Vice-Chairman  
Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission Meeting
- **Notice of NC State Government Ethics Act Requirements**  
None noted.
- **Revisions or Additions to Agenda**  
None noted.
- **Review and Approval of Minutes** for August 11, 2023, Quarterly Meeting  
Motion to approve (Stines) Seconded. (Haynes)  
The vote was unanimous.

### Action Items

Requests for Approval of Reciprocal NC Wastewater Certifications

	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Certification Sought</u>	<u>State of Origin</u>	<u>Exam Type</u>
#231101	Candidate #1	WW-III	CO (D, C, B, A)	ABC
#231102	Candidate #2	PC-I	SC (D, C, B, A)	ABC
#231103	Candidate #3	WW-II	SC (D, C, B, A)	ABC

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### **231101 Reciprocity**

Motion to approve candidate for WW-III certification (Allred). Motion seconded (Adams-David). The vote was unanimous.

### **231102 Reciprocity**

Motion to approve candidate for PC-I certification (Haynes). Motion seconded (Adams-David). The vote was unanimous.

### **231103 Reciprocity**

Motion to approve candidate for WW-II certification (Adams-David). Motion seconded (Allred). The vote was unanimous.

### **231104 Exam Dates**

2024 Exam Dates: March 14, June 13, September 12, December 12  
Motion to approve 2024 exam dates (Stines). Motion seconded (Haynes).  
The vote was unanimous.

### **231105 Commission Meeting Dates**

2024 Commission Meeting Dates (*Update SOS Website*): February 9, May 10, August 9, November 1  
Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Adams-David  
Motion was seconded by Commissioner Allred  
The vote was unanimous.

### **231106 Wilbur E. Long Award Nominee**

Motion to table until February 9, 2024 meeting (Adams-David). Motion seconded (Haynes).  
The vote was unanimous.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### **2311 – A September 2023 Exam Pass Rates**

Animal waste A, animal waste B, collections 2, collections 4, subsurface, wastewater biological 3 and four and physical chemical 2 all had pass rates above their historical pass rate percentage. Collections one and three, surface irrigation, wastewater biological one and two and physical chemical one all had pass rates were lower than their historical pass rate percentage.

### **2311 – B Collections NTK Subcommittee Update**

An update was given by Commissioner Stines. He feels like the Collections NTK is a better, updated document, and would be prepared to vote on it. He would recommend the Wastewater Board of Education getting the document, going through it, and making sure they're ok with everything. Also get some input from the schools committee and let's try to get it approved.

### **2311 – C Cabrera Response to Letter Sent by Commission – update**

Mr. Cabrera applied for reciprocity with South Carolina with his original Florida certification and then applied for reciprocity with NC. As such, staff were not aware that South Carolina awards reciprocity from Florida without requiring the ABC exam. The WPCSOCC sent him a letter in

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June stating that he needed to retake the wastewater biological 2 exam before December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 and pass to retain a certificate. Mr. Cabrera did just that.

### **2311 – D WW Operator Fees Renewal Update**

Pursuant to North Carolina session law 2023-134 renewal fees this year have been increased from \$50.00 per operator to \$50.00 per certification.

### **2311 – E Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians Facility Issue**

A subcommittee has been appointed to look into permitting issues and allowing members of the EBCI to take operator certification exams. Commission Council Christine Ryan, Commissioner Groom, Commissioner Rubin and Jeff Talbott from staff will begin looking into the issue. An update is asked to be given at the next WPCSOCC meeting.

Motion to form a subcommittee was made by Commissioner Rubin

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Groome

The vote was unanimous.

### CONCLUDING REMARKS

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Commission Members

Would like to go on the record to thank EBCI for wanting to go above and beyond with the information needed to help the operators who operator their facilities.

Counsel

None noted

Staff

None noted

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The next meeting of the Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission is scheduled for

Friday, February 9, 2024, at 10:00AM in the Ground Floor Hearing (Archdale Building – Raleigh NC).

### MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Adams-David

Motion was seconded by Commissioner Groome

The vote was unanimous.