

Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission

NC Department of Environmental Quality

WPCSOCC Meeting Summary – August 9, 2024

Archdale Building, Raleigh NC, 10 AM

Roster

MEMBERS Present

Arnold Allred
Steve Barry
Mark Brantley - Chair
Martie Groome
Matthew Haynes
Jim H. Lynch, via Teams
Bob Rubin
Jonathan Russell, via Teams
Ken Stines

STAFF

Patrick Beggs, DWR
Ashley Coleman, DWR
Christine Ryan, NCDOJ
Jeff Talbott, DWR
Jenee Williamson, DWR

GUESTS

Cheri Proctor, NCRWA
Elaine Marshall, SOS

MEMBERS Absent:

Marchell Adams-David
Chester Lowder

Preliminary Matters

P1. Call to Order – Mark Brantley – Chair

P2. Notice of NC State Government Ethics Act Requirements – None noted.

In accordance with the NC State Government Ethics act, it is the duty of every commissioner to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest. The Chairman for today's Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission meeting hereby asks:

“Does any commissioner have any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict of interest with respect to any matter coming before this commission today? If so, please identify the conflict or appearance of conflict and refrain from participation in that matter.”

P3. Reappointment of Commissioners Barry, Rubin, Russel, Stines

P4. Revisions or Additions to Agenda

None.

P5. Review and Approval of Summary for May 10, 2024.

Approve May 10, 2024 Summary.

Motion: Haynes

Second: Stines

Motion passed unopposed.

Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission

NC Department of Environmental Quality

Action Items

240801-240804: Requests for Approval of Reciprocal NC Wastewater Certifications

	<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Certification Sought</u>	<u>State of Origin</u>	<u>Exam Type</u>
240801	Candidate #1	PC-1	SC (D , C, B, A)	ABC
240802	Candidate #2	WW-3	NH (I, II, III , IV)	State
240803	Candidate #3	CS-2	FL (C, B , A)	
240804	Candidate #4	WW-3	MI (A, B, C , D)	State
240805	Approval of Stephen Kelley (Roger Kelley LLC) as a school provider			
240806	Approval of Onsite Wastewater Professionals (OWP) as Certification School Providers			
240807	Approval of 2025 Exam Dates			
240808	Periodic Rules Review (15A NCAC 08F and 15A NCAC 08G)			

240801 – Candidate #1

Motion: Grant applicant Physical Chemical Grade 1 Certification.

Motion by Stines

Second: Rubin

Motion passed unopposed.

240802 – Candidate #2

Motion: Grant applicant approval to take Biological Wastewater Grade 3 Exam.

Motion by Stines

Second: Barry

Motion passed unopposed.

240803 – Candidate #3

Motion: Grant applicant approval to take Collection System Grade 2 Exam.

Motion by Stines

Second: Rubin

Motion passed unopposed.

240804 – Candidate #4

Motion: Deny applicant reciprocity for Biological Wastewater Grade 3 Exam.

Motion by Barry

Second: Stines

Motion passed unopposed.

Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission

NC Department of Environmental Quality

Motion: Grant applicant approval to take Biological Wastewater Grade 3 Exam after taking Biological Wastewater Grade 3 School.

Motion by Barry

Second: Allred

Motion passed unopposed.

240805 – Approval of Stephen Kelley (Roger Kelley LLC) as certification school provider

Motion: Deny approval.

Motion: Barry

Second: Rubin

Motion passed unopposed.

240806 – Approval of Onsite Wastewater Professionals (OWP) as Certification School Provider

Motion: Approve

Motion by Barry

Second: Haynes

Motion passed unopposed.

240807- Approval of 2025 Exam Dates: March 13, 2025; June 12, 2025; September 11, 2025; December 4, 2025.

Motion: Approve exam dates.

Motion: Barry

Second: Allred

Motion passed unopposed.

240808- Periodic Rules Review (15A NCAC 08F and 15A NCAC 08G)

Motion: Approve the rules report spreadsheet for 15A NCAC 08F and 15A NCAC 08G and report to the Office of Administrative Hearings that the rules all remain necessary.

Motion by Rubin

2nd: Haynes

Motion passed unopposed.

Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission

NC Department of Environmental Quality

Information Items

2408A - June 2024 Exam Pass Rates

Exam Date: June 13, 2024					
Wastewater Certification Exam Pass Rates					
	Took	Pass	Fail	%	Historical
AWA	19	17	5	89	79
AWB	2	2	0	100	90
CS1	154	120	34	78	81
CS2	102	70	32	69	75
CS3	34	16	18	47	68
CS4	43	28	15	65	75
LA	23	14	9	61	69
SI	16	14	2	88	76
SS	33	37	6	82	82
WW1	124	62	62	50	58
WW2	121	63	58	52	48
WW3	39	24	15	62	43
WW4	20	11	9	55	60
PC1	59	37	22	63	62
PC2	6	5	1	83	64

795 operators took March 2024 exams, 520 passed, resulting in 65% pass rate.

Exam pass rates **above or equal** to the historical average:

AWA / AWB / CS1 / CS2 / CS3 / CS4 / LA / SS / WW1 / WW4

Exam pass rates **below** historical average:

SI / WW2 / WW3 / PC1 / PC2

Staff is working with subject matter experts from NC One Water to review questions with a pass rate under 50%.

2408B - ORC Supervisory Discussion

Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission

NC Department of Environmental Quality

Concluding remarks

None

Announcement of next scheduled meeting

The next meeting of the Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission is scheduled for **Friday, November 1, 2024 at 10:00AM** in the Archdale Building Ground Floor Hearing, Raleigh NC.

Adjourn

Motion: Move to a closed session to discuss and choose Wilbur E. Long Operator of the Year Award.

Motion by Haynes

Second: Barry

Motion passed unopposed.