

Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission

NC Department of Environmental Quality

WPCSOCC Meeting Summary – August 8, 2025

Archdale Building, Raleigh NC, 10 AM

Roster

MEMBERS Present

Arnold Allred
Steve Barry
Mark Brantley - Chair
Martie Groome
Matthew Haynes
Chester Lowder
Jim Lynch – Teams
Alan Moore
Robert Rubin
Jonathan Russell - Teams

MEMBERS Absent:

Marchell Adams-David

STAFF

Patrick Beggs, DWR
Ashley Coleman, DWR
Jay Frick, DWR
Shelby Gull, DWR
Phillip Reynolds, NCDOT
Jeff Talbott, DWR
Renee Thompson, DWR
Deputy Secretary of State William Toole

GUESTS

Dwight Lancaster
Ann Moore – Guest of Alan Moore
Cheri Proctor- NCRWA
Chris White – NC One Water
Alan Oldham – NCRWA

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. Appointment and Reappointments to the Commission – Oath of Office by Deputy Secretary of State William Toole

- a. **New Appointment:** Commissioner Alan Moore
- b. **Reappointments:** Commissioners Martie Groome and Chester Lowder
(Commissioner Adams-David could not attend and will be sworn in at a later date)

P4. Revisions or Additions to Agenda - None

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P5. Review and Approval of Summary for May 9, 2025

Approve August 9, Summary with correction of Commissioner Rubin attending remotely via teams.

All Approve (by Roll Call)

Action Items

250801 -250806: Requests for Approval of Reciprocal NC Wastewater Certifications

<u>Applicant</u>	<u>Certification Sought</u>	<u>State of Origin</u>	<u>Exam Type</u>
Candidate #1	CS1	Iowa	ABC
Candidate #2	CS4	South Carolina	ABC
Candidate #3	CS4	South Carolina	ABC
Candidate #4	WW2	South Carolina	ABC
Candidate #5	WW4	New York	ABC
Candidate#6	WW4	Virginia	ABC

250801 – Candidate #1

Motion: Grant applicant approval for CS1 Certification.

Motion by Rubin

Second: Lowder

Motion passed unopposed.

250802 – Candidate #2

Motion: Grant applicant approval for CS4 Certification

Motion by Haynes

Second: Barry

Motion passed unopposed.

250803 – Candidate #3

Motion: Grant applicant approval for CS4 Certification.

Motion by Haynes

Second: Rubin

Motion passed unopposed.

250804 – Candidate #4

Motion: Grant applicant approval for WW2 Biological Certification

Motion by Barry

Second: Haynes

Motion passed unopposed.

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250805 – Candidate #5

Motion: Grant applicant approval for WW3 Biological Certification.

Motion by Lowder

Second: Allred

Motion passed unopposed.

250806 – Candidate #6

Motion: Grant applicant approval for WW3 Biological Certification.

Motion by Rubin

Second: Barry

Motion passed unopposed.

Comment: Commissioner Barry asked staff to provide a potential Reciprocity Decision Matrix

250807 – Recommendation to Approve Lisa Cottle as a Certification School Provider

Motion: Grant approval to Lisa Cottle to teach Wastewater Biological Grades 1,2,3 and 4 Certification Schools.

Motion by Barry

Second: Allred

Motion passed unopposed.

250808— Approve Motion to accept a schedule for rule readoption in accordance with requirements of the Rules Review Commission (RRC)

Motion: Approve a 36-month time frame for rule readoption schedule and for staff (Jay Frick) to adjust the schedule to accommodate this approved 36-month time frame.

Motion by Rubin

Second: Barry

Motion passed unopposed

250809 – Approve 2026 Exam Dates: March 12, June 11, September 10, December 3rd

Motion by Lowder

Second: Haynes

Motion passed unopposed

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Information Items

2508A - June 25 Exam Pass Rates

Exam Date: 06/12/2025					
Certification	Took	Pass	Fail	%	Historical
AWA - 01	13	11	2	85	79
AWB - 02	1	1	0	100	90
CS1 - 03	161	134	27	83	81
CS2 - 04	92	65	27	71	75
CS3 - 05	61	38	23	62	68
CS4 - 06	45	35	10	78	75
LA - 07	24	14	10	58	68
SI - 08	24	20	4	83	76
SS - 09	46	40	6	87	82
WW1 - 10	146	83	63	57	58
WW2 - 11	90	43	47	48	48
WW3 - 12	56	23	33	41	43
WW4 - 13	23	20	3	87	61
PC1 - 15	41	15	26	37	61
PC2 - 16	2	2	0	100	65

*Green - Above Historical Average
 *Pink - Below Historical Average
 *Blue - Same as the historical Average

2508B – Fee Schedule Update – Quadrennial Review resulted in fee changes effective July 1, 2025. Grace period through August 12th regarding September exam fee. All revised fees are posted on the Wastewater Website.

Comment: Chair Brantley asked if staff knew how many operators dropped some of their certification renewals due to last fee increase. Jeff Talbot answered that some operators did, but not many.

Concluding remarks

Jeff Talbott (staff) shared that Bella Brecker, Wastewater Operator Certification Program's summer intern, created an interactive training/review program for WW1 and staff are working with IT to get it published online.

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Executive Session – closed to public

Action Item – Wilbur E Young Operator of the Year nomination Vote

At 11:30 a.m., the commission entered executive session for the purpose of discussing the nominations for Wastewater Operator of the Year and voting on these nominations. The public meeting did not reconvene, the meeting was adjourned upon completion of the executive session.

Announcement of the next scheduled meeting

The next meeting of the Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission is scheduled for **Friday, November 7, 2025 at 10:00AM** in the Archdale Building Ground Floor Hearing, Raleigh NC.

Meeting Adjourned