

Minutes  
Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy  
Board of Examiners for the Certification of Industrial/Commercial Wastewater Operators

March 18, 2021

The meeting was called by announcement dated January 28, 2021. The meeting was called to order by Chair Tom Ryden at 9:31 a.m. and was held online via Microsoft TEAMS due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Roll Call**

Members Present and Their Location at Time of Meeting: Tom Ryden (Midland County); Sierra Brown (Kent County); Chris Veldkamp (Kent County); Greg Merricle (Ionia County); Henry Hatter (Genesee County)

Staff Present and Their Location at Time of Meeting: Earl Wuestnick (Genesee County) and Alyssa Sarver (Livingston County)

**Consideration of January 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Brown noted that he was calling from Kent County, not Ionia County, during the January 28, 2021 meeting. Sarver corrected previous minutes to reflect this change. No additional comments were made.

Motion by Hatter to accept minutes as corrected, seconded by Veldkamp. Motion passed 5-0.

**Review of February 18, 2021, Industrial / Commercial Exam Applications Exam Results and Statistics**

102	Applications Received
101	Applications Approved
1	Applications Denied
8	Did Not Show for Exam
93	Examinees wrote 183 exams
104	Exams were passed with a score of at least 70%
17	Examinees failed all exams attempted
63	Examinees passed at least one exam attempted
63	Certificates Issued

Staff discussed the large backlog of applications that were received less than a week before the exam date. Sarver, Wuestnick, Veldkamp and additional EGLE staff worked through the weekend leading up to the February 18, 2021 exam to ensure that all examinees who applied for an exam could take one. The Board acknowledged the time and effort put forth by staff and thanked them for their service.

Motion by Brown to recommend to the Director of the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy that appropriate certifications be issued to those who received a grade of 70% or greater on their written examinations, and to deny certification at the requested classification to those who received a grade of less than 70% on their written examination. Seconded by Veldkamp. Motion passed 5-0.

## **Board Contact Information Sheet**

Sarver shared her screen and asked the Board to review and provide feedback on the contact information listed. Staff will send updated Board Contact Information Sheet after this meeting.

## **Discuss Operator Supervisory Duties and Oversight at Several Facilities**

Veldkamp asked the Board if it had an opinion on the management/supervisory duties and expectations of operators who oversee multiple facilities. The Board held a lengthy discussion and shared ideas for possible EGLE actions moving forward. It was decided that, at the next Board meeting, Board members and staff will provide suggestions for a concept or framework that outlines operator/staffing requirements at facilities. Veldkamp also suggested drafting letters that state the rules and expectations as outlined in the Part 10 Rules and sending it to the operator and the facility when it is in non-compliance. Staff said they would share this information with supervisor, Sarah Ehinger, and come prepared in July with further discussion.

## **Other Items**

None.

## **Important Dates**

Next exam date – August 19, 2021

App. Deadline – July 20, 2021

Board Meeting – July 29, 2021 (Pre-Exam Meeting)

Exam Announcement – May 17, 2021

## **Next Meeting Date and Time**

The next Industrial/Commercial Board meeting is scheduled on July 29, 2021 (Pre-Exam Meeting), at 9:30 a.m. Location TBD.

## **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Alyssa Sarver