

MINUTES
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR CERTIFICATION OF
MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATORS
December 10, 2020 – Lansing, Michigan Virtual Teams Meeting

Meeting was called by announcement dated October 8, 2020 Meeting was called to order by Chairman Brian Ross at 9:06 a.m. Roll call of Board members:

Members Present: Brian Ross
Todd Sneathen
Louise Lieberman
Christine Veldkamp
Myron Erickson

Staff Present: Earl Wuestnick
Alyssa Sarver

Public Present: Matt Hocking (PEA Group Troy, MI), was present for the entire meeting

Keith, joined at 9:41 a.m.

Opportunity to Amend Agenda:

Agenda not amended.

Consideration of Minutes from October 8, 2020

Motion by Sneathen to accept October 8, 2020 minutes. Second by Liberman. Motion passed 5-0.

Results of November 5, 2020 Examination:

The results of the certification examination given on November 5, 2020, were presented to the Board by Wuestnick.

There were 133 No Shows to the exam for personal reasons, COVID19, and employers not allowing employees to take the exam due to the pandemic. Ross asked if these no shows will be put in the May 2021 exam. Wuestnick indicated they would be placed into the May 2021 exam. Wuestnick further indicated the possibility of two May 2021 exams to accommodate the no shows and new applicants. EGLE management is considering two exams for May 2021 but no decision has been made to date. Ross thought this would be a good idea for May 2021 as well as the rest of the Board Members.

Motion by Erickson to accept the grades of the November 5, 2020, examination as provided by EGLE staff and recommend to the Director of the Department of EGLE the appropriate certification of those with exam scores of 70% or greater and to deny attempted certification to those with exams scores less than 70%.

Second by Veldkamp. Motion passed 5-0.

Requests for Acceptance of Courses for CECs:

Sarver presented the CEC courses list to the Board with a recommendation to approve. She discussed the Sewer Cleaning Technology Course and the Utility Safety Course to the Board and recommended approval.

Motion by Veldkamp to accept approval of courses listed for CEC values and categories as recommended by staff. Second by Erickson. Motion passed 5-0.

Erickson Stated that management CEC Courses are hard to find for the operators and Brian Ross indicated that Technical Courses are also limited in numbers.

The Board asked if they had role the classroom vs online determination in their approval of CEC Classes. It was determined by Staff and the Board after discussion that this was up to the course provider and not the Board.

Other Items

Discussion by Sarver with Board on future virtual meetings. Sarver stated if an emergency exists in the State of Michigan, such as the pandemic, we will have the ability to hold virtual meetings in the future.

Discussion by Wuestnick and Sarver that EGLE staff will not provide a list of names and exam scores in the future, as we did in the past. Staff indicated that this information is not needed for the Board in the exam score approval process; operators need to get their results first and to protect the examinees exam scores information from becoming public. Ross agreed as did the rest of the Board to these reasons as not to include a document with examinees names and scores in the future.

Next Exam

May 6, 2021

Next Meeting

Next Board meeting is set for Thursday, March 25, 2021. Starting time will be at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting Dates for 2021

March 25	9:00 a.m.
June 10	9:00 a.m.
October 7	9:00 a.m.
December 9	10:00 a.m.

Chairman Ross and other Board Requests for Next Meeting:

1. List of all CEC Courses in the Technical Category and Management Category.

Wuestnick Indicated that we will provide a list for technical, management and other CEC categories.

2. Status of State email for Board Members.

Sarver indicated she will ask Sarah Ehinger the status and report back to the Board.

Motion to adjourn by Erickson. Second by Veldkamp. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted: _____

Earl Wuestnick
Recording Secretary