

MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATING
PERSONNEL IN WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITIES

Date: Thursday, December 17, 2009
Place: Statewide Wastewater Operator Training Center, Sand Island, Oahu
Time: 8:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Charles Dawrs, Wesley Lim, Marshall Lum, Eassie Miller, Victor Moreland, Myron Nomura, Bradley Pierce, Dana Riddle, and Bert Uyeno

ABSENT: None

- I. Charles called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.
- II. Board members approved the September 24, 2009 meeting minutes as amended, and the October 1, 2009 meeting minutes.
- III. REVIEW BUDGET
 - a. Budget was approved as amended to reflect ABC conference costs in the 2nd quarter instead of the 3rd quarter.
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - a. Reviewed Deputy AG's informal written opinion in response to Boards' questions on certification and DRC issues. Board decided to request a formal opinion from the Attorney General.
 - b. In response to the City and County of Honolulu's letter seeking clarification of HRS section 340-8, it is the Board's opinion that the policy should be all operators working at a wastewater treatment plant must be duly certified. In addition, a designated DRC must be onsite at all times while the plant is being operated by staff.
 - c. Board will request additional college transcript information from Albert Wah Keung Kung, and allow 1.8 years of his Hong Kong wastewater experience.
 - d. Agreed to allow 3 CEUs for the Mec Tech course taught by Nichole Magnin.
- V. NEW BUSINESS:
 - a. "*Open Line*", Hawaii's Office of Information Practices newsletter (available online).
 - b. "*The Certifier*" ABC newsletter (available online).
 - c. "*The High Road*" Hawaii State Ethics Commission newsletter was not available.
 - d. Reviewed operator exam applications and determined eligible applicants.
 - e. No plant classifications were made.
 - f. Discussed plant classification request from Mauna Loa Mac Corporation WWTP. Board will request information on the plant's solids disposal and the availability of a backup solids disposal plan. Board discussed if it is the DOH Director's responsibility to exempt plants from classification if they are not sugar mills or refineries.
 - g. Jim Watts of National Rural Water Association informed the Board of their interest in providing wastewater operator training and possibly assist with the

existing SWOTC program. Marshall indicated that the Statewide Wastewater Operator Training Center will continue to provide training courses through February 2010. The DOH is also in discussions with AECOM Inc. to run the training center till June 30, 2010 to fulfill obligations under a MEPAC Services consent order that is still outstanding.

- h. Agreed to include a note to operators, at the time they are notified whether their exam applications have been approved, to view the ABC website for additional certification exam study information and reference materials.
- i. Accepted DRC notifications for the following plants: Guy Moriguchi (Turtle Bay WWTP), and Kenny Huy (Synagro). Denied John Poe Tyler's DRC notification for the Kaupulehu WWTP on the island of Hawaii because he does not reside on the island.
- j. Decided to review the previous Board's DRC policy/requirement to have an operator onsite for at least one (1) hour per week. The Board is considering requiring a DRC operator to be present at all times that a plant is being operated by staff. The Board agreed that a designated DRC operator must reside on the same island that the plant is located. This is because the DRC operator cannot respond to a plant emergency in a reasonable time due to travel and response time delays caused by residing on another island.
- k. Approved Grade 1 Temporary Certification applications for: Isaia Ah Kiong, and Cresencio Camero, and Steve Yamamoto. Applications for William Berasis, Paul Kulp, and Charles Sloan were denied because the Board had previously determined that they met the qualifications to take their respective certification grade exams. Section 11-61-3(d)(2), HAR, states that temporary certificates may be issued to operators accumulating experience in order to qualify for certification by examination. Application for Roger Miller was denied because the DRC (Paul Kulp) signing the application did not have an active operator certificate. Approved Grade 2 reciprocity application from Christopher Kopy of Alaska. Board will request educational background verification from William Martin for his Grade 4 application from Arizona. Tanya Matosich's application was denied because she holds an Operator in Training certificate in Washington which is not comparable to Hawaii certifications.
- l. Allowed a maximum of 0.8 CEUs for attendance at the HWEA Collection Systems Workshop based on 1 CEU per 8 hours of operator contact time.
- m. Confirmed Board's earlier decision to disallow any CEUs for instructors teaching a course for the first time.
- n. Corrected CEU computation error (0.4 CEUs instead of 0.3 CEUs) allowed for the Excavation Safety for a Competent Person course approved at the October 1, 2009 meeting.
- o. Dana Riddle's trip request to the 2010 ABC conference was approved by the Governor.
- p. Allowed 0.5 CEUs (indirect) for the Innovative Energy Workshop sponsored by EPA that will be held on various islands.
- q. Approved Hawaii County's request for continuing CEU approval (2 CEUs) on additional Brown Environmental, Inc. Certification Review courses given to operators who have not taken the course before and did not take the Statewide Wastewater Operator Training Center's certification exam review course No. 202 for Grade 1 and 2 operators.
- r. Reviewed requests from Triana Armando and Mario Dacuycuy for allowable CEUs for a Hazardous Substance Incident Response Management course.

- Approved 1.5 CEUs (indirect) for operators who have not taken the course and a HazCom course before. Both Triana and Mario had previously taken HazCom courses in the past so no CEU credits were allowed for the course.
- s. Deferred decision on Jimmy Bresenco's request for CEUs for his Sailor Marine transcripts to the next meeting due to insufficient time to review documents.
 - t. Board will request additional information from Stephen Green and David Porter concerning their requests for CEUs for the Innovation Thru Experience MBR and PAD Systems workshop.
 - u. Discussed the following topics for the HWEA conference presentation: Creation of Standing Committees; Certification Renewals; HRS 340B; DRC; ABC Conference update; and Statewide Wastewater Operator Training Center status.
 - v. Selected exam proctors for the February 2010 exam.
 - w. Selected February 2010 certification exam questions for each grade level.
 - x. Discussed creating standing committees for CEU requests, exam applications, and complaint investigations.
 - y. Approved motion to add the following new agenda items: Napua Springer's DRC notification; Cassandra Martin's reciprocity application; Brent Murphy's Temporary Certificate application and Gary Carolino's request for supervisor's course CEUs.
 - z. Napua Springer's DRC notification for Germaine's Luau WWTP was denied because he resides on a different island than where the plant is located.
 - aa. Additional information will be requested from Cassandra Martin regarding her reciprocity application from Arizona.
 - bb. Approved Brent Murphy's Grade 3 Temporary Certificate.
 - cc. Additional information will be requested of Gary Carolino concerning his request to obtain CEUs for the Storm Water Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Supervisors course by Environmental Compliance Assessment, Training, and Tracking System (ECATTS) course.

V. ADJOURNMENT 3:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 15, 2010

Location: Statewide Wastewater Operator Training Center, Sand Island, Oahu

Time: 8:00 a.m.