

BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATING PERSONNEL IN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS

MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 19, 2021
Time: 10:30 am – 4:30 pm
Location: Kailua Wastewater Treatment Plant, 95 Kaneohe Bay Drive
Kailua, Hawaii 96734 and MS Teams Video Conferencing
Join on your computer or mobile app
[Click here to join the meeting](#)
Or call in (audio only)
[+1 213-379-5743,,147813939#](#) United States, Los Angeles
[\(888\) 404-2493,,147813939#](#) United States (Toll-free)
Phone Conference ID: 147 813 939#

Board Members: Robert Souza, Chair, City and County of Honolulu
Gary Hutchinson, HWEA
Virgil Viernes, County of Maui
Emily Dong, P.E., Professional Engineer in Private Practice
Jon Nakashima, County of Kauai
Roger Babcock, P.E., University of Hawaii
Kevin Nakamura, Department of Health

MINUTES

- A. Call to Order: Time - 10:38AM By – Robert Souza**
- B.** Review minutes of the previous Board of Certification (BOC) meeting held on June 24-25, 2021.
- C. Old Business**
- a. Steven Asselin (Gr. 4) – CBT Application (Re-review)
 - i. Denied. Insufficient CEUs. 10 CEUs for South Western State college transcript and 13 CEUs for Office of Water Program. 32 CEUs required.
 - b. Shantelle Clarke (Gr. 4) – Renewal Application (Re-review)
 - i. Denied. Courses have not been approved for CEUs.
- D. New Business**
- 1. Review August Exam Results, if available before the meeting.
 - 2. DRC Notification
 - a. Kohanaiki Shores WW Treatment Plant

- i. DRC notification acknowledged for Frank Rodrigues (Grade 4) as primary DRC and James Ano (Grade 4) as secondary DRC for Kohanaiki Shores WW Treatment Plant
 - b. Waialua Palms
 - i. DRC notification acknowledged for Sidney A. Remiticado (Grade 4) as primary DRC for Waialua Palms
 - c. Honouliuli WWTP
 - i. DRC notification acknowledged for Warren Abamonga (Grade 4) as primary DRC and Sheldon Sylva (Grade 4) as secondary DRC for Honouliuli WWTP
 - d. Waianae WWTP
 - i. DRC notification acknowledged for Cy Narusawa (Grade 4) as primary DRC and Roland Corpuz (Grade 4) as secondary DRC for Waianae WWTP
 - e. Paalaa Kai WWTP
 - i. DRC notification acknowledged for Cy Narusawa (Grade 4) as primary DRC and Alden Abe (Grade 4) as secondary DRC for Paalaa Kai WWTP
 - f. Kealakekua Ranch LTD
 - i. DRC notification acknowledged for Dwayne Fong (Grade 3) as primary DRC for Kealakekua Ranch LTD
 - g. Waimanalo WWTP
 - i. DRC notification acknowledged for Victor I Peltier (Grade 4) as primary DRC and Jon Nakamura (Grade 4) as secondary DRC for Waimanalo WWTP
 - h. Honouliuli WWTP
 - i. DRC notification acknowledged for Rambeau Gahan (Grade 4) as primary DRC for Honouliuli WWTP, Sludge Drying and Related Facilities.
 - i. Waimea Town Plaza
 - i. Denied. Pending additional information.
- 3. Requests for Reciprocity
 - a. Daniel Joslyn (Gr. 4) – California

- i. Denied. Must apply for an open position at a wastewater treatment plant in Hawaii, verified by a letter from the potential employer.
 - b. William Mercado (Gr. 4) – California
 - i. Denied. Recommend resubmit for Grade 3 reciprocity.
- 4. CEU Approval (Operators)
 - a. Randy Hanes – California State University, Sacramento – Secondary Treatment, Safety, Beginning Treatment, and Lagoon Systems, and Disinfection, Laboratory Procedures, and Math
 - i. Volume 1, completed in its entirety to be approved for 6 CEUs.
 - b. John Kainoa – California State University, Sacramento – Water Systems Operation and Maintenance Video Training Series
 - i. Denied. Course is not preapproved and will require additional information for review.
 - c. Prisca Eguchi-Padeken – Introduction to the Activated Sludge Control Process for Grade 1 and 2 WW Operators in Hawaii, Leeward Community College, and California State University, Sacramento.
 - i. Resubmit and provide transcript for Leeward Community College Process Technology Program course work.
 - d. Jeffrey Lasack – California State University, Sacramento – Operation of Wastewater Treatment Plants Vol I
 - i. Volume 1, completed in its entirety to be approved for 6 CEUs.
- 5. Request for CEUs (Courses)
 - a. Manny Guerzon – Introduction to Cybersecurity: Workshop and Response Exercise (Virtual)
 - i. Approved for 0.5 CEUs.
 - b. Alicia Suzuki – Wailuku-Kahului WWRF Aeration Study Workshop 1
 - i. Pending.
 - c. Alfred Boateng – USEPA – Water Security Summit (Virtual Event)
 - i. Approved for 0.4 CEUs, subsequent Water Security Summit requests must be approved yearly.
 - d. Parker Jones – USEPA – Lesson from the Field: Tips to Mitigate Supply Chain Challenges

- i. Denied. Not directly applicable to wastewater operations.
 - e. Jennifer Franklin – Jacobs Engineering – Wastewater Operator Course
 - i. Approved for 2.0 CEUs.
 - f. Emily Dong – Brown and Caldwell – Wastewater Process Control Training for Primary & Secondary Clarifiers.
 - i. Approved for 0.5 CEUs.
- 6. Request for Temporary Certification
 - a. Daniel Akana III, Gr. 1
 - i. Approved for temporary certification Grade 1.
 - b. Megan Waialae, Gr. 1
 - i. Approved for temporary certification Grade 1.
 - c. Thomas Gehring, Gr. 1
 - ii. Approved for temporary certification Grade 1.
 - d. Archibald Acidera, Gr. 2
 - i. Approved for temporary certification Grade 2.
 - e. Randy Hanes, Gr. 2
 - i. Approved for temporary certification Grade 2.
 - f. Eric Guevara, Gr. 2
 - i. Approved for temporary certification Grade 2.
 - g. Kendra Dantzman, Gr. 1
 - i. Approved for temporary certification Grade 1.
- 7. Plant Classifications
 - a. Approval to Use 3,000 GPD WWTP
 - i. Requires additional information to be scheduled.
 - b. Haleiwa Beach House Restaurant WWTP
 - ii. To be scheduled.
 - c. Approval to Use 1,200 GPD WWTP
 - i. Requires additional information to be scheduled.

8. CBT Exams

b. Review exam results between June 21, 2021 – November 15, 2021

i. Written Exam:

(1) Grade 1 = $2/12 = 17\%$ passing rate

(2) Grade 2 = $1/5 = 20\%$ passing rate

(3) Grade 3 = $0/5 = 0\%$ passing rate

(4) Grade 4 = $0/3 = 0\%$ passing rate

ii. Computer Exam:

(1) Grade 1 = $5/8 = 63\%$ passing rate

(2) Grade 2 = $0/2 = 0\%$ passing rate

(3) Grade 3 = $0/4 = 0\%$ passing rate

(4) Grade 4 = $1/8 = 13\%$ passing rate

c. Randy Hanes, Gr. 2 – Form 1. Approved to take Grade 2 exam.

d. William Wegesend, Gr. 2 – Form 1. Approved to take Grade 2 exam.

e. John Bowman, Gr. 4 – Form 1. Approved to take Grade 4 exam.

f. Zane Higa, Gr. 3, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 3 exam.

g. Keith Rollins, Gr. 4, Form 1. Denied. Unable to confirm CEUs.

h. Scott Carr, Gr. 1, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 1 exam.

i. Trevor Gerhardt, Gr. 1, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 1 exam.

j. John Choate, Gr. 4, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 4 exam.

k. Kelika Higa, Gr. 4, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 4 exam.

l. Justin Davidson, Gr. 3, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 3 exam.

m. Joseph Edsman Jr, Gr. 1, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 1 exam.

n. Ronnie Tuliao, Gr. 1, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 1 exam.

o. Wilder Parker, Gr. 4, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 4 exam.

p. Alberto Pita, Gr. 4, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 4 exam.

q. Christopher Mitobe, Gr. 2, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 2 exam.

r. Brandon Berinobis, Gr. 1, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 1 exam.

s. Dick Lehano-Boyce, Gr. 2, Form 1. Approved to take Grade 2 exam.

9. Other

a. Challenge question: Steven Bacalso (August Paper Exam)

- i. Reviewed.
- b. Alicia Nakano – Waimea WWTP Operations Process Control Seminars
 - i. Pending.
- c. 2022 Board Meeting Schedule/Exam Dates
Tentative, pending December discussion.
 - i. February 1-3, 2022 – Virtual Pacific Water Conference
 - ii. March 24-25, 2022 – Hilo
 - iii. May 12-13, 2022 – Oahu, schedule plant visits
 - iv. June 23-24, 2022 – Kauai, exam applications
 - v. September 2, 2022 – Oahu
 - vi. October 13-14, 2022 – Maui
 - vii. December 8-9, 2022 – Kona
- d. Certification by Reciprocity – Should the certificates issued to those individuals be different than those earned by Examination?
 - i. Pending.

10. Executive Session Discussion - An anticipated executive meeting may be held. The meeting may be convened for the purpose of discussing an investigation into a complaint about two operators falsifying their operating experience required in accordance with Section 11-61-4, Hawaii Administrative Rules. It is alleged that the operators provided this false information in their wastewater operator exam application.

- a. All in favor to hold executive meeting.

B. Adjournment: Time - 4:16PM By – Robert Souza

Next Scheduled BOC meeting: December 9-10, 2021 – Teleconference

- 1. Request reschedule meeting to December 16-17, 2021.

Next BOC Activity: WW Operator Examination – TBD

Note: Any person requiring an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, please contact Sina Pruder (808) 586-4294 or sina.pruder@doh.hawaii.gov no later than 5 days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made.