

# BOARD OF CERTIFICATION OF OPERATING PERSONNEL IN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS

## MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 17, 2024

Time: 10:30am – 2:30pm

Location: Kailua WWTP – Administration Building (Building 7A) Training Room  
95 Kaneohe Bay Drive

Kailua HI 96734 and via Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Join on your computer, mobile app or room device**

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Meeting ID: 260 627 664 332

Passcode: SR4NM8

**Dial-in by phone**

[+1 213-379-5743,,443942783#](#) United States, Los Angeles

[\(888\) 404-2493,,443942783#](#) United States (Toll-free)

Phone conference ID: 443 942 783#

Members: Robert Souza, Chair, City and County of Honolulu

Gary Hutchinson, HWEA

Virgil Viernes, County of Maui (not in attendance)

Emily Dong, P.E., Professional Engineer in Private Practice

Jon Nakashima, County of Kauai

Roger Babcock, P.E., University of Hawaii (not in attendance)

Kevin Nakamura, Private Sector

Maria Yamashita, Department of Health (not in attendance)

Attendees: Chelsea Faisca

### **Public Testimony**

Written Testimony/comments – To ensure the public as well as the Board of Certification of Operating Personnel in Wastewater Treatment Plants members receive testimony in a timely manner, written testimony/comments should be submitted 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date and time. Any written testimony/comments submitted after this time cannot be guaranteed to be distributed in time for the meeting.

Written testimony may be submitted by one of the methods listed below:

- By email to: [doh.wwb@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:doh.wwb@doh.hawaii.gov)
- By U.S. Postal Mail: State of Hawaii, Wastewater Branch, 2827 Waimano Home Road, Suite 207, Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

Members of the public are also welcomed to provide verbal testimony/comments at the stated above meeting location or via MS Teams when directed to do so. Public testimony is listed as Item B of the Agenda. Public testimony is limited to no more than three (3) minutes per individual.

## **AGENDA**

- A. Call to Order: Time - 10:55AM By – Robert Souza**
- B. Public testimony on agenda items**
- C. Review minutes of the previous Board of Certification (BOC) meeting held on March 21, 2024. Reviewed and accepted.**
- D. Old Business**
  - a. Gaxiola, Gregory (Gr. 4) – Reciprocity Certification Application (Re-review)
    - i. Approved for Hawaii Grade 4 License.
  - b. Homer Mangahis (Gr. 1) – Renewal Application (Re-review)
    - i. Renewal approved for Gr. 1 license.
- E. New Business**
  - 1. Review March Exam Results, if available before the meeting.
  - 2. DRC Notification
    - a. Kona Village WWTP
      - i. DRC notification form accepted for Frank Rodrigues (Grade 4) as primary DRC and James Ano (Grade 4) as secondary DRC for Kona Village WWTP.
    - b. Koloa Big Save Supermarket WWTP
      - i. DRC notification form accepted for Ryan H. Saiki (Grade 4) as primary DRC and Bert S. Uyeno (Grade 4) as secondary DRC for Koloa Big Save Supermarket WWTP.
    - c. Schofield Barracks WWTP
      - i. DRC notification form accepted for Wilder Parker (Grade 4) as primary DRC and Kevin Nakamura (Grade 4) as secondary DRC and Bydon Burdett as an additional DRC for Schofield Barracks WWTP.
    - d. Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort & Spa
      - i. DRC notification form accepted for Ryan H. Saiki (Grade 4) as primary DRC and Bert S. Uyeno (Grade 4) as secondary DRC for Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort & Spa.
    - e. Honouliuli WWTP
      - i. DRC notification form accepted for Warren Abamonga (Grade 4) as primary DRC and Dennis Venturini (Grade 4) as secondary DRC for Honouliuli WWTP.

3. Requests for Reciprocity
  - a. Chanel Fitch-Kirkpatrick, Gr. 4 – Arizona
    - i. Approved for Hawaii Grade 4 License.
  - b. David Robinson, Gr. 1 – Colorado
    - i. Approved for Hawaii Grade 1 License.
  
4. CEU Approval (Operators)
  - a. Ariana Debutiaco – University of Hawaii Community Colleges Transcript
    - i. Approved for indirectly related CEUs for a total of 6 CEUs.
  - b. Gary Shiroyama – 2024 Pacific Water Conference
    - ii. Pacific Water Conference CEUs are approved for 1 CEU per 8 hours of contact time for 1.229 CEUs per certificate.
  - b. Gary Shiroyama – CEU Plan
    - i. CEU Plan is approved for 0.1 CEU per 1 hour course for 1.0 CEUs.
  - c. Robert Baltazar – 2024 Pacific Water Conference
    - i. Pacific Water Conference CEUs are approved for 1 CEU per 8 hours of contact time for 1.573 CEUs per certificate.
  - e. Ariana Debutiaco – Safety Intelligence – Confined Space for General Industry
    - i. Approved for 1 CEU.
  - f. Ariana Debutiaco – 2024 Pacific Water Conference
    - i. Pacific Water Conference CEUs are approved for 1 CEU per 8 hours of contact time for 0.906 CEUs per certificate.
  - g. George Paleudis – Hiram College Transcript
    - i. Approved for 30.64 CEUs.
  
2. Request for CEUs (Courses)
  - a. Emily Dong - City & County of Honolulu – Brown and Caldwell – Process Control, Secondary and Math Training.
    - i. Approved for 0.33 CEUs.
  - b. Emily Dong – City & County of Honolulu – Brown and Caldwell – Training on Suspended Growth and Pumping System Calculations

- i. Approved for 0.33 CEUs.
  - c. Emily Dong – City & County of Honolulu – Brown and Caldwell – Training on Activated Sludge and Advanced Treatments
    - i. Approved for 0.33 CEUs.
  - d. Langston Hood – EPA – Cybersecurity Awareness Training for Tribal Drinking Water and Wastewater Utilities
    - i. See below.
  - e. Langston Hood – EPA – Cyber Refresher Webinar
    - i. See below.
  - f. Kimberly Reeder – Veolia – Electrical Fundamentals Training Series
    - i. Approved for 1 CEU per 8 hours of contact time.
  - g. Kimberly Reeder – Veolia - Pumps & Pumping Training Series
    - i. Approved for 1 CEU per 8 hours of contact time.
  - h. Kimberly Reeder – Veolia – Collection System Operator Training Series
    - i. Approved for 1 CEU per 8 hours of contact time.
  - i. Kyra Russell – USEPA – EPA Cybersecurity for the Water Sector
    - i. Denied. Not directly applicable to wastewater.
  - j. Virgil Viernes – County of Kauai – Training Program
    - i. Deferred. Requires submission of additional documents.
  - k. Paige Brateman – General Dynamics IT – Cyber Refresher Webinar
    - i. Approved for 0.125 CEUs.
  - l. Paige Brateman – General Dynamics IT – Cybersecurity Awareness Training for Tribal Drinking Water and Wastewater Utilities
    - i. Approved for 0.25 CEUs.
  - m. Robin Collins – General Dynamics IT – WCAT Training
    - i. Denied. Does not provide contact time.
  - n. Robin Collins – General Dynamics IT – Cyber 102
    - i. Denied. Does not provide contact time.
- 3. Request for Temporary Certification
  - a. None.
- 7. Plant Classifications

a. None.

8. CBT Exams

a. Review exam results between March 18, 2023 – May 9, 2023

i. Grade 1 =  $4/7 = 57\%$  passing rate

ii. Grade 2 =  $3/5 = 60\%$  passing rate

iii. Grade 3 =  $2/2 = 100\%$  passing rate

iv. Grade 4 =  $1/3 = 33\%$  passing rate

b. Reid Kapeliela, Gr. 1 – Form 1. Approved to take Gr. 1 exam.

c. Joshua Ching, Gr. 1 – Form 1. Approved to take Gr. 1 exam.

d. David Robinson, Gr. 2 – Form 1. Denied, requires submission of CEUs. Eligible to take Gr. 1 exam.

e. Michah Flores, Gr. 1 – Form 1. Approved to take Gr. 1 exam.

f. Skyler Ano, Gr. 4 – Form 1. Approved to take Gr. 4 exam.

g. Zane Higa, Gr. 4 – Form 1. Approved to take Gr. 4 exam.

h. Gary Akimseu, Gr. 1 – Form 1. Denied. Requires submission of high school diploma or GED.

i. Darek Childress, Gr. 1 – Form 1. Approved to take Gr. 1 exam.

j. Darek Childress, Gr. 2 – Form 1. Approved to take Gr. 2 exam.

k. Ronnie Tuliao, Gr. 2 – Form 1. Approved to take Gr. 1 exam.

9. Renewal Applications

a. John Bly, Gr. 3. Renewal approved for Gr. 3 license.

b. Gary Hutchinson, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.

c. Gregory Jerves, G. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.

d. Zane Higa, Gr. 2. Renewal approved for Gr. 2 license.

e. Lan Delos Santos, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.

f. Christopher Mitobe, Gr. 2. Renewal approved for Gr. 2 license.

g. Channing Tada, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.

h. Kevin Kim, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.

i. Gary White, Gr. 3. Renewal approved for Gr. 3 license.

j. Johan Casallo, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.

k. Glen Lindbo, Gr. 2. Renewal approved for Gr. 2 license.

- i. Leila Kamakele, Gr. 4. Renewal is pending submission of CEUs. During the meeting, they were received and the application will be reevaluated during the next meeting.
  - m. Salvatore Marino, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - n. Dominick Marino, Gr. 3. Renewal approved for Gr. 3 license.
  - o. David Heard, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - p. Jonathan Baker, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - q. Henry Chang, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - r. Maile Leslie, Gr. 1. Renewal approved for Gr. 1 license.
  - s. Herman Santos, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - t. Martin Guilmette, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - u. Frank Rodrigues, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - v. Henry Talaro, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - w. Curtis Wakayama, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - x. Hisato Oshiro, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - y. Jonathan Doi, Gr. 3. Renewal approved for Gr. 3 license.
  - z. Virgilio Viernes, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - aa. Abigail Bush, Gr. 3. Renewal approved for Gr. 3 license.
  - bb. Robert Souza, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - cc. Jeffry Wilson, Gr. 3. Renewal approved for Gr. 3 license.
  - dd. Wade Thode, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - ee. Jon Nakamura, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
  - ff. Jonah Napoleon, Gr. 4. Renewal approved for Gr. 4 license.
10. Other
- a. TPC Training Provider and Course Cancellation
    - i. Deferred until next meeting for full application.
  - b. CEU Request Form Application
    - i. Board will separate the CEU request checklist form into the CEU Request Checklist and a Formal Education Review.
  - c. Kona Village Wastewater Reclamation Facility O&M Inspection
  - d. Approved CEU update for BOC website.
    - i. Board to work on information to update website.
  - e. Review of the Certificate Renewal CEU for next cycle.

- i. If you hold a **State of Hawaii** Certificate/License you are required to obtain and submit 2.0 CEUs for each renewal period
- ii. 1.5 CEUs required if you get your **first State of Hawaii license** before 2/15/23
- iii. 1.0 CEUs required if you get your **first State of Hawaii license** between 2/15/23 and 8/15/23
- iv. 0.5 required if you get your **first State of Hawaii license** between 8/15/23 and 2/16/24
- v. 0 CEU required if you get your **first State of Hawaii license** after 2/16/24

11. Executive Session Discussion – An anticipated executive meeting may be held. The meeting may be convened for the purpose of discussing policies and procedures to maintain and increase consistency and efficacy.

- a. Hostile workplace

**B. Adjournment: Time - 1:45 PM**

**By - Robert Souza**

Next Scheduled BOC meeting: June 27-28, 2024 – Kauai, DOH Conference Room

Next BOC Activity: WW Operator Examination – August 15, 2024, Paper Exam

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