

# MINUTES

## STATE BOARD OF EXAMINING WATER WELL DRILLING CONTRACTORS AND WATER WELL PUMP INSTALLATION CONTRACTORS

October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

1:00 P.M.

Teleconference Call

### **PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS:**

John Midkiff, Chairman

Lisa Lindemann

Michelle Christopher

Lily Barkau

Aaron Wilson

### **ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS:**

Jerry Hunt

Wes Moody

### **PARTICIPATING PROFESSIONAL STAFF:**

Sean Towles, Assistant Attorney General

Jimmy Gordon, Executive Director, WWCB

### **OTHER'S IN ATTENDANCE:**

Matt Bebout- President Wyoming Groundwater Association

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Midkiff called the State Board of Examining Water Well Drilling Contractors and Water Well Pump Installation Contractors (WWCB) meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### ***Continuing Education Credit hour requirement for 2020.***

Jimmy Gordon provided the Board with a summary of the current situation surrounding the Wyoming Groundwater Association's decision to cancel their annual convention. A number of water well contractors attend the yearly conventions to obtain continuing education credits to renew their state license. This year's convention would have provided between 12 and 14 ½ credit hours to attendees. Sean Towles outlined the options the Board could choose to pursue according to the state statutes and rules applicable to continuing education requirements for license renewals. Mr. Matt Bebout gave a brief explanation to the Board on what lead the Groundwater association to cancel this year's event. The main reason being the local government's restrictions on public gatherings. Michele Christopher informed the Board that other water associations where still planning to have in-person events before the end of the year, and wondered if the Board could accept these hours towards a water well contractor's license

continuing education credit? Aaron Wilson expressed his support on giving all license holders “a pass” for 2020, citing that no one could foresee this pandemic and its effect on in-person training options. Chairman Midkiff agreed and supported some form of exemption on continuing education hours for 2020. Sean Towles expressed concern that if an exemption was given to license holders who renew in 2020, that an argument could be made by license holders that expire in other years, that an unfair treatment was given with a exemption for one year’s renewals only. After some more discussion, and with support from Sean Towles Aaron Wilson made the following motion; The Board will issue an exemption on the continuing education hour requirement for one year’s Groundwater Association Convention worth of credit hours (13 hours). This would apply to all licenses that expire in year’s 2020, 2021 and 2022. All other renewal requirements must be met before the expiration date on the license, including proof of at least 5 hours of continuing education credits. This announcement will be distributed to all license holders in the form of a letter sent out by the Executive Director. Michelle Christopher seconded the motion. Motion Carried

***Next Meeting***

The next meeting will take place January 12<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m., location and format TBD.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Michelle Christopher made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:53 p.m. Aaron Wilson seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.