

MINUTES

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

April 7, 2022
12:00 P.M.

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS:

Jerry Hunt, Chairman
Wes Moody, Vice-Chairman
John Midkiff
Michelle Christopher
Aaron Wilson
Lily Barkau
Lisa Lindemann

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Matt Bebout-President Wyoming Groundwater Association

PARTICIPATING PROFESSIONAL STAFF:

Darren Cook, Assistant Attorney General
Kristin Baker, Chief Fiscal Officer State Engineer's Office
Jimmy Gordon, Executive Director, WWCB

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Hunt called the State Board of Examining Water Well Drilling Contractors and Water Well Pump Installation Contractors (WWCB) meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

REVIEW & APPROVE AGENDA

The Board reviewed and approved the meeting agenda as circulated. John Midkiff made a motion to approve the agenda. Michelle Christopher seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES:

The Board reviewed and approved the January 11, 2022 meeting minutes as circulated. John Midkiff made a motion to approve the minutes. Michelle Christopher seconded the motion. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Rule Changes-

Executive Director Gordon updated the Board on the two rules that are currently in the State Rulemaking Process. The changes affect Chapter 2, removing the annual Board meeting at a certain place and time. Also, Chapter 5, removing the requirement for licensed contractors to submit a notice of intent at least five days prior to constructing a new water well or installing pumping equipment in a newly constructed water well. He also informed the Board that no other rule change suggestions or comments were received from Board members or license holders since the last meeting. The Board discussed the two rule changes, and had no changes or edits as written. John Midkiff made a motion to approve the two rule changes as written, and to have

E.D. Gordon proceed with the next step of the State Rulemaking process. Michelle Christopher seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ratification of New Licenses

Aaron Wilson asked that the Board make one motion to approve all new licenses, Chairman Hunt agreed.

Michelle Christopher made a motion to approve all licensees presented before the Board. John Midkiff seconded the motion, Motion carried.

State Engineer's Office Fiscal Manager Update

Kristin Baker informed the Board that the budget overall was in good standing. Revenue overall was flat or steady from Groundwater fees being up, and license fees being down. She informed the Board that they currently have \$25,000 set in the 900 series unencumbered for Contracts. Also, there was a surplus in the Supply account. She recommended that the Board take a closer look at the 200 series Supply account to see if the surplus is needed or not. The contract with InLumon was committed from a previous Budget (2019) roughly \$39,000 remains on that contract. Funds remaining on the Board's budget will not be forfeited. She asked the Board if they would prefer budget material to be available for meetings, the Board all agreed that would be helpful. Chairman Hunt asked what items are included in the 200 series account. Mrs. Baker listed common items that fall into that series. Discussion was had regarding the Board office relocation. The current lease is good through June 2023. She made herself available for any questions, which the Board members had none.

Executive Director Update

Director Gordon provided the Board with an update of his office since the January 11 meeting. 45 exams were given to 17 applicants, 37 exams were given at the annual Wyoming Groundwater Association Convention in Casper. He mentioned that he appreciated the opportunity to host applicants at the convention, it seemed to be a popular option for those needing to take exams. 18 new licenses had been issued since the last Board meeting, 14 Wyoming residents and 4 non-residents. He also announced that the Governor had appointed a new State Engineer, Brandon Gebhart.

Continuing Education

Director Gordon discussed the Board's responsibility to provide continuing education courses to license holders. There is no language in the Board's Rules that require the Licensing Board to provide education courses. Discussion was had on past courses that the Board was responsible for. Aaron Wilson expressed interest in the Board hosting or providing courses in the future, but did not have any suggestion on the specific courses. President Bebout offered his perspective of hosting the annual convention and courses offered during the convention. They very rarely receive any suggestions from attendees on courses or topics they would like to see. The topic of continuing education course topic, is something that is widely discussed and varying opinions exist. Michele Christopher offered the suggestion of a round table type forum to get discussions going between license holders on current or existing topics. Chairman Hunt stated that he felt the availability of continuing education courses was plentiful. Multiple options exist for license holders to obtain their required hours.

Miscellaneous

President Bebout mentioned the Groundwater Association will be having it's next meeting in Casper on April 22, at 11am. He welcomed anyone interested to attend if they are available.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at the State Engineer's Office in Cheyenne on September 7, 2022 at 11:00am.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Hunt adjourned the meeting at 1:17 p.m.