

MINUTES

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

September 7, 2023

10:00 A.M.

PARTICIPATING BOARD MEMBERS:

Aaron Wilson- Chairman
John Midkiff- Vice-Chairman
Michelle Christopher
Lily Barkau
Tim Moloney for Lisa Lindemann

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Parker Blakeley- Wyoming Groundwater Association

PARTICIPATING PROFESSIONAL STAFF:

Patrick Kent, Assistant Attorney General
Kristin Baker, State Engineer's Principal Accountant
Jimmy Gordon, Executive Director, WWCB

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Wilson called the State Board of Examining Water Well Drilling Contractors and Water Well Pump Installation Contractors (WWCB) meeting to order at 10:01 a.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 & APPROVE April 26th MEETING MINUTES

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

OLD BUSINESS:

Online Licensing Software-

Director Gordon shared the contract termination letter sent to InLumon by the Attorney's General office. To date there has been no response or communication from InLumon. He also informed the Board that he had begun conversations with Tyler Technologies. They have completed a software for the Professional Engineer's and Land Surveyors Board. The plan will be to have them provide a demo software to the Board at the next meeting. Chairman Wilson asked if there was a requirement to obtain a response from InLumon to legally end the Board's commitment to the contract. Patrick Kent informed the Board that a confirmation was not a legal requirement, and that the Board had exercised their right provided in the contract to terminate. Some other discussion involved the possibility of obtaining more than one bid for a software and the state procurement process in general as it pertains to this type of product and service.

SEO Forms Completion-

Director Gordon reviewed the last meeting discussion on SEO forms completion from contractors. He also shared his newsletter insert that was sent to all contractors going over the problem and the possible discipline that could come from a contractor not timely submitting the proper forms. He asked Parker Blakely, of the Wyoming Groundwater Association if a meeting ever took place between the SEO and Groundwater Association. He informed the board that no meeting has taken place, and that the SEO had not responded to a meeting request. Tim Moloney as the representative of the SEO, offered to work with the Groundwater Association to work towards possible improvements to the SEO forms or other ideas that could move towards an increase in form completion and accuracy.

Regular Meeting Requirement-

Director Gordon informed the Board that after consultation with Patrick Kent, this Board is not required to set a regular meeting annually. The current schedule and system of Board meetings meets all applicable rules and statutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

State Engineer's Office Fiscal Manager Update-

Kristin Baker provided the Board with an overview of the current budget, and the current overall health of the Board's finances. She reported that everything is tracking normal at this time, and that the Board should expect a similar budget for the next fiscal period. She reviewed the statewide compensation package adjustment and its effect on the budget. She also explained that the line item for office rental has been opened up since Director Gordon is working remotely full time. She suggested possibly moving that money to the contracts section for any future vendor contracts.

Ratification of New Licenses '-

Brett Chadwick 04WDPI136, Tysen Peavler 04WDPI148, Chad Douglas MTWDPI148, James Unger 04PI 141, James Miller 04WD 151, Justin Thomas IDWD 084, Larry Thoren UTWD 084, Anthony Garcia COWDPI129, Director Gordon presented the licenses of the following contractors for ratification; Michelle Christopher made a motion to ratify all licenses. John Midkiff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Executive Director Update

Director Gordon provided the Board with an update of his office since the April 26th meeting. 13 exams were given to 7 applicants. 7 new licenses had been issued since the last Board meeting, 4 Wyoming residents and 3 non-residents. He also shared a breakdown of the current license count, and compared it the previous few years. This comparison showed that license numbers are overall steady with a slight trend upward.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place in Casper WY at the Thyra Thompson State Building on January 9, 2024, time 1:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Wilson adjourned the meeting at 10:54 a.m.