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Board of Certification of Operators of Drinking Water Supply Facilities
OPEN SESSION MINUTES

In accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 30A § 20, the Board convened a special meeting on:

Microsoft Teams Meeting February 13, 2026

The topics shown below were discussed at the aforementioned meeting: 12:34 P.M. the Chair called the open meeting to order.

INFORMATIONAL NOTE: All votes were taken by roll call.

Roll Call, by Chair:

Board members present: Michael Celona, Erin Graham, Blake Lukis, Dave Coppes, Ruth Alfasso

Board members absent: Andrew Reid

DOL Staff present: Ryan Doherty, Aashna Alim, Nirit Eriksson

OPEN MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 12:34 PM

I. Read and approve minutes:

- **December 5, 2025 Open Meeting Minutes:** MOTION was made by Member Lukis to approve. Seconded by Member Alfasso. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote:
 1. Chair called for a roll call vote
 2. Members in favor: Alfasso, Lukis, Coppes, Celona, Graham
 3. Members opposed: None.

II. DOL UPDATES:

- Number of OIT applications processed and licensed since the January 2026 meeting:

License type	
TA	11
TB	8
TC	5
TD	3



DA	15
DB	10
DC	7
DD	2
VT	2
Total	63

III. DISCUSSION:

- **Exam course waiver requests – A. LaFleur:** MOTION was made by Member Lukis to approve waiver requests for both Distribution and Treatment courses. Seconded by Member Alfasso. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote:
 1. Chair called for a roll call vote
 2. Members in favor: Alfasso, Lukis, Coppes, Celona, Graham
 3. Members opposed: None.
- **Substitutions for the Experience Requirement for Licensure:** The Board Chair gave a presentation on, and led a board discussion of, substitutions for the experience requirement for licensure, including background information and considerations for future updates to the regulations.
- **VSS Experience and the Special Provisions for Small System Operators in 236 CMR 4.01(14):** The Board Chair gave a presentation on, and led a board discussion of, VSS experience and the special provisions for small system operators, including background information and considerations for future updates to the regulations.
- **Full-time Experience Calculation for Licensure:** The Board Chair gave a presentation on, and led a board discussion of, the full-time experience calculation for licensure, including background information and considerations for future updates to the regulations.
- **Grade 4 License Education Requirements:** The Board Chair gave a presentation on, and led a board discussion of, Grade 4 license education requirements, including background information and considerations for future updates to the regulations.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Comments were made by members of the Public weighing in on some of the discussion items.

V. TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF MEETING: None.

VI. TRAINING CONTACT HOUR APPLICATIONS:

Organization	Course	Course ID#	TCHs	Status
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	Drinking Water Community of Practice Roundtable #6 - Future for which we are planning	DWT-2026-01	2.00	Approved
Dennis Water District	Confined Space Awareness Training	DWT-2026-02	7.50	Approved

VII. TEMPORARY EMERGENCY CERTIFICATE & PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE STATUS:

Name of PWS	TEC# or PC #	Status
Breezy Picnic Grounds	2026-03	Approved
Bedford VA Hospital	2026-04	Approved
Emerson Hospital	2026-05	Approved
Pequot Highlands	2026-06	Approved
Brockton VA	2026-07	Approved
Corrigan Mental Health Center	2026-08	Approved
Rutland Water Dept.	2026-09	Approved

VIII. RECIPROCITY

Last Name	First Name	Applying for	Outcome
LaFleur	Andrew	D3-Full	Approved
LaFleur	Andrew	T4-Full	Approved

IX. APPLICATION REVIEW

Last Name	First Name	Applying for	Outcome
Sturtevant	Cory	T2-Full upgrade	Approved
Snape	Keith	D2-Full upgrade	Approved
Potter	Scott	D1-Full	Approved for OIT
Potter	Scott	T1-Full	Approved for OIT
Andrews	Gary	T3-Full upgrade	Approved
Bruno-Galindez	Felix	D1-Full	Request additional information
Daniels	Craig	D1-Full	Approved
Connolly	Marc	D2-Full	Approved
Donahue	Connor	T1-Full	Approved for OIT
Medeiros	Jonathan	T3-Full upgrade	Denied
Medeiros	Jonathan	D3-Full upgrade	Denied
Salvador	David	D1-Full upgrade	Denied
Bernash	Samuel	T1-Full upgrade	Approved
Dewberry	Nicole	D3-Full upgrade	Approved
Reid	Steven	D2-Full	Approved
Reid	Steven	D3-Full	Approved
Miller	Chase	D3-Full	Request additional information
Kupiec	Nicholas	D2-Full	Approved
Decker	John	T3-Full	Approved
Bercume-Brisbois	William	D2-Full	Request additional information
Recupero	Giovanni	D3-Full	Approved
Spender	Travis	T2-Full	Approved
Ortiz	Hector	D2-Full	Approved
Noel	Kyle	D1-Full	Approved

Noel	Kyle	D2-Full	Approved
Cadima	Jason	D3-Full	Approved
O'Hearn	Shaun	T2-Full upgrade	Approved
Ruddock	Jason	D3-Full	Approved
Boudreau	Steven	T2-Full upgrade	Approved
Staruski	Michael	T1-Full	Approved
Bowers	Nicholas	T1-Full	Approved for OIT
Leahey	Philip	D1-Full upgrade	Approved
Clark	Christopher	D1-Full	Approved
Clark	Christopher	D2-Full	Approved
Brault	William	T1-Full upgrade	Denied
Godfrey	Corey	T3-Full	Approved
Godfrey	Corey	D3-Full	Approved
Macaruso	Daniel	T3-Full upgrade	Request additional information
Fulford	Ian	D2-Full	Approved for OIT
Thiem	Jeffrey	D1-Full	Approved
Bettencourt	Keith	T2-Full upgrade	Approved
Bettencourt	Keith	D1-Full upgrade	Approved
Kalyan	Milo	D2-Full	Request additional information
Rau	Nathaniel	D2-Full	Approved for April
Lesser	Joseph	D2-Full	Approved
Zingg	Chet	D2-Full upgrade	Denied (approved for D1-Full if desired)
Gage	Dan	T2-Full upgrade	Denied

*Member Coppes recuses himself from any MWRA license applications.

**Member Lukis recuses himself from any Dedham-Westwood Water District license applications.

***Member Celona recuses himself from any Lynn Water & Sewer Commission applications.

****Member Reid recuses himself from any Weston & Sampson applications.

MOTION was made by member Alfasso to approve all the decisions reflected above, second by Member Coppes. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote:

1. Chair called for a roll call vote
2. Members in favor: Alfasso, Graham, Lukis, Coppes, Celona.
3. Members opposed: None.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION: CLOSED PER M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(1), INDIVIDUAL CHARACTER RATHER THAN COMPETENCE

- Reserved if needed, not needed.

XI. QUASI-JUDICIAL SESSION: CLOSED PER M.G.L. c. 30A, § 18

- Reserved if needed, not needed.

XII. INVESTIGATIVE CONFERENCE: CLOSED PER M.G. L. c. 112, § 65C

- Reserved if needed, not needed.

XIII. Adjournment

MOTION was made by Member Lukis to adjourn, second by Member Alfasso. The Chair called for a Roll Call Vote:

4. Chair called for a roll call vote
5. Members in favor: Alfasso, Celona, Coppes, Graham, Lukis.
6. Members opposed: None.

The Meeting was adjourned at or around 1:56 PM.

Documents used in the Open Public session:

- Agenda for February 13, 2026
- Draft Minutes of December 5, 2025 Open Meeting
- Information for Course waiver – A LaFleur
- Memo on Drinking Water Operator Experience Substitutions
- Memo on Full-Time Experience and Overtime
- Memo on VSS Experience and the Small Systems Provision
- PowerPoint Presentation titled Discussion Topics for Potential Regulation Changes
- Applications for review pending decisions