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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Occupational Licensure
Board of Certification of Operators of Drinking Water
Supply Facilities

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**Board of Certification of Operators of Drinking Water Supply
Facilities**

DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING HELD Aug 7, 2023

(Approved: October 6, 2023
Corrected and Approved: September 5, 2025)

All board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

MEMBERS	APPOINTMENT	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mr. Michael Celona	Chairman	X	
Mr. William Salomaa	Vice Chairman	X	
Mr. Blake Lukis	Member	X	
Mr. Dave Coppes	Member	X	
Mr. Andrew Reid	Member	X	
Ms. Ruth Alfasso	Member	X	
Mass. Labor Representative	Vacant		
STAFF	POSITION		
Lynn Read	Board Counsel	X	
Brian O'Connell	Acting Executive Director	X	
Aashna Alim	Office Admin	X	

MEETING CALL TO ORDER: at 10:01 A.M.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

- June 2, 2023, Open Session Board Meeting Minutes

A MOTION was made by Member Coppes and seconded by Member Alfasso to accept the Public Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2023. Roll Call Board Vote: – Unanimous – Alfasso, Coppes, Lukis, Reid, Salomaa, Celona in favor.

DOL UPDATE:

Discussed by Board Counsel Lynn Read

- PSI Exam Center issues
DOL has taken a multi-Board approach to reach out to PSI regarding these issues. A letter has been sent and counsel will report any progress.



DISCUSSION:

- Jason Federico – Discussion of D2 Full application and T3 Full licensure
Mr. Federico appeared at the meeting and upon review and discussion of his applications and experience, the Board decided he would be approved for a D2-OIT later in the meeting.
- Robert Bott – Appeal Board denial of T4-Full licensure
Mr. Bott appeared before the Board and upon review of further information provided by the applicant, a MOTION was made by Member Coppes and seconded by Member Alfasso to grant the applicant waiver from training to sit for T1-T3 exams, allow applicant to sit for the T3 exam, and grant waiver from taking the T1 and T2 exams in succession before the T3 exam. Roll Call Board Vote: – Unanimous – Alfasso, Coppes, Lukis, Reid, Salomaa, Celona in favor.
- Discussion on Student Licensing – Ms. Sarah Cammer
Ms. Cammer discussed whether students in vocational training programs may take the examinations for T1 and T2 licenses. Board members and counsel discussed that OIT licenses do not require a high school diploma. The PSI exam administrator will not permit such students to take the exams, so Board staff will follow up with PSI.
- Training Contact Hours (TCH) Policy
Mr. Celona reported he had received written comments but had not yet created a new draft. He will bring the next draft to the Board at the next meeting.
- Exam waiver – Wahlstrom
After brief discussion, MOTION was made by Member Lukis and seconded by Member Coppes to approve the waiver requested. Roll Call Board Vote: – Unanimous – Alfasso, Coppes, Lukis, Reid, Salomaa, Celona in favor.
- CORI Policy
Board Counsel Read discussed the updates made to DOL CORI Policy, going over new additions to sections I-IV. A MOTION was made by Member Reid and seconded by Member Alfasso to accept the revised CORI policy as presented and for the minutes to reflect that the Board accepted the Policy on the advice of Board Counsel. Roll Call Board Vote: – Unanimous – Alfasso, Coppes, Lukis, Reid, Salomaa, Celona in favor.
- Pre-Requisite courses for Reciprocity applications
The members discussed the need for a policy to address education requirements for licensees of other states that use different examinations and the need to maintain standards for applicants near state borders. No formal action taken.
- 2023 Audits
The Board has decided to conduct audits of TCHs obtained by licensees. DOL staff will figure out the logistics of this process and the audit will begin soon after license renewal period ends on December 31st, 2023.



- Future meeting dates: Specific dates were not discussed.

RECIPROCITY:

Last Name	First Name	Applying for	Outcome	Decision at meeting
Diaz	Mario	D2-Full	<i>Pending</i>	Denied
Diaz	Mario	T2-Full	<i>Pending</i>	Denied

Mr. Celona reported that the applicant did not have the required experience and that Texas classifies its water systems differently, making reciprocity evaluation difficult.

TRAINING CONTACT HOUR APPLICATIONS:

Organization	Course	Course ID#	TCHs	Status
NEWWA	Groundwater/Water Resources	DWT-2023-60	2.00	Approved
NEWWA	Management & Finance	DWT-2023-61	2.00	Approved
NEWWA	Distribution	DWT-2023-62	2.00	Approved
NEWWA	Organizational Diversity	DWT-2023-63	2.00	Approved
NEWWA	Water Treatment	DWT-2023-64	2.00	Approved
NEWWA	Asset Management & Data Integration	DWT-2023-65	2.00	Approved
NEWWA	Town Hall Discussion- Regulatory Focus	DWT-2023-66	2.00	Approved
Tata & Howard	Emergency Response Plan Training	DWT-2023-67	7.00	Approved

Mr. Celona reported that the Board is receiving more inquiries about asynchronous courses and that more review is needed for courses that track time spent but do not include quizzes.

TEMPORARY EMERGENCY CERTIFICATE & PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE STATUS:

Name of PWS	TEC#	Status
Melrose Water Division	2023-53	Approved
Lowell Regional Water Utility	2023-54	Approved
Scituate Water Division	2023-55	Approved
Tewksbury Water Treatment Plant	2023-56	Approved
Second Congregational Church	2023-57	Approved

Mr. Celona reported on applications received and asked that the Board develop a policy to capture the factors used to evaluate course proposals.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Ms. Pederson made suggestions for applications and the audit, and requested copies of the Board's draft policies. Mr. Bunker spoke about record retention of TCHs provided by his organization as well as rounding up TCHs obtained.

ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY BOARD: None.



APPLICATION REVIEW:

Last Name	First Name	Applying for	Outcome	Decision at meeting
McCartney	Tegan	T1-Full upgrade	<i>Pending</i>	Approved
Bott	Robert	T4-Full upgrade (appeal)	<i>Pending</i>	Denied
Murawski	Jeffrey	T1-Full	<i>Pending</i>	Approve for OIT
Federico	Jason	D2-Full	<i>Pending</i>	Approve for OIT
Walsh	Timothy	T1-Full upgrade	Approved	—
Flamand	Jamie	T3-Full	<i>Pending</i>	—
Caliri	Hannah	D3-Full	Approved for OIT	—
Clarke	Dennis	T2-Full upgrade	Approved	—
Santella	Matthew	T1-Full upgrade	<i>Pending</i>	Approved
Zeletz	Matthew	T2-Full upgrade	Approved	—
Danese	Michael	D3-Full	Approved	—
Mattus	Daniel	T2-Full upgrade	Approved	—
Clark	Eric	T2-Full upgrade	Denied	—
Caliri	Hannah	T2-Full upgrade	Approved	—
Peraino	John	D3-Full	Approved	—
Colonna	Daniel	D3-Full	Approved	—
Smidy	Jason	T3-Full	Approved	—
Griffin	Louis	D3-Full	Approved	—
Stuart	Michael	D3-Full	Approved	—
Senecal	Denis	T1-Full upgrade	Approved	—
Thebeau	Marc	T2-Full	<i>Pending</i>	Approved
Earnest	Joshua	T2-Full	<i>Pending</i>	Request additional information
Bosini	Kevin	D2-Full	Approved	—
McDonald	Dennis	D3-Full	<i>Pending</i>	Approved
Gallagher	Connor	D2-Full	<i>Pending</i>	Approved
Davis	James	D1-Full	Approved	—
Morales	Jonathan	T1-Full upgrade	Denied	—
Ciallela	Michael	D3-Full	Approved	—
Soares	Jason	D1-Full	Approved	—
Tickel	Jack	D1-Full	Approved	—
Soares	Jason	D2-Full	Approved	—
McPhee	Nicholas	D3-Full	Request additional information	—
Greenleaf	Elizabeth	T1-Full	<i>Pending</i>	Approved
Cardinal	Nathan	D2-Full	Approved	—
Sabatino	Steven	D1-Full	Approved	—
Sabatino	Steven	D2-Full	Approved	—
Chase	Aaron	D3-Full	Approved	—
Kirby	Sean	D2-Full	Approved	—



Wintour	Megan	VSS-Full upgrade	Approved	—
Wintour	Megan	T1-Full upgrade	<i>Pending</i>	Denied
Wintour	Megan	D1-Full upgrade	<i>Pending</i>	Denied
Heaslip	Scott	T2-Full	Approved	—
Musto	Andrew	D1-Full	Approved	—
Medeiros	Jon	T2-Full upgrade	Approved	—
Snell	Bryan	D1-Full upgrade	Approved	—

*Member Coppes recuses himself from any MWRA license applications.

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

***Member Reid recuses himself from any Chelmsford Water District license applications.

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

A MOTION was made by Member Alfasso and seconded by Member Lukis to approve licenses indicated in the above chart. Roll Call Board Vote: – Unanimous – Alfasso, Coppes, Lukis, Reid, Salomaa, Celona in favor.

INVESTIGATIVE CONFERENCE CLOSED UNDER G. L. C. 112, § 65C

Investigative conference was tabled until the September 8, 2023, meeting.

The Board did not have any need to hold the Executive Session or Quasi-Judicial Session that were reserved on the Agenda.

Adjournment

A MOTION was made to adjourn was made by Member Lukis and seconded by Member Alfasso. Roll Call Vote – Unanimous — Alfasso, Coppes, Lukis, Reid, Salomaa, Celona in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at or around 12:36 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted By:

DRAFT

Michael Celona, Chair

Board of Certification of Operators of Drinking Water Supply Facilities

Documents Used in Meeting:

Agenda for August 7, 2023

Draft Public Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2023

DW CORI Policy

Revised TCH Policy

Exam waiver - Wahlstrom

Applications for licensure pending decisions

