

# Minutes of the Advisory Board of Examiners for Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification August 11, 2005

Present for the meeting on August 11th were: Deborah Metz chair; Richard Lorenz, member; Kirk Leifheit, member; Vui Chung, member, Dail Holloper, member; Robert Brown, member; David Bornino, OEPA; Chris Bowman, OEPA/DSW; Andrew Barienbrock and Susan Parkins, Certification Unit.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 8:29 a.m. Robert Brown made a motion, seconded by Kirk Leifheit, to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2005 meeting. Motion carried.

- 1) The Board immediately began working on the Class IV examination revisions
- 2) **Class IV, Applications**

The Board received notification that the Division of Drinking and Ground Waters, the Division of Surface Water and the Office of Legal Services have reviewed and recommended the following actions related to Part I applications:

## WATER

NAME	EMPLOYER	TYPE	ACTION
Charles S. Heimlich	Ottawa County	Water	DDAGW and Office of Legal Services Recommend Approval

- 2) **Class IV, Examination Actions**  
**Water**

NAME	EMPLOYER	TYPE	ACTION
Frank Woyma	City of Cleveland	Water	Returned for additional Information

**WASTEWATER**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>EMPLOYER</b>	<b>TYPE</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
Richard Felton - resubmittal	Delaware Co	WW	Return for additional information
Paul Menz - resubmittal	City of Lancaster	WW	Return for additional information
Keith Radick	Floyd Brown	WW	Recommended for approval

Dail Hollopeter made a motion, seconded by Vui Chung recommending approval of Keith Radick's examination and returning Frank Woyma's, Richard Felton's, and Paul Menz's examinations for additional. Motion carried.

**3) Class IV, Examination (in review)**

**WATER**

<b>NAME, LOCATION</b>	<b>KL</b>	<b>CC</b>	<b>VC</b>	<b>RL</b>	<b>DH</b>	<b>DM</b>	<b>BB</b>
Ronald E. Trissel, City of Piqua – resubmittal	**		**	**		**	
Martin Kielbasa, Mahoning Valley Sanitary District (1 copy) (resubmittal)	X			**		X	

\*\* denotes who currently has package  
 x denotes who has reviewed package

**WASTEWATER**

<b>NAME, LOCATION</b>	<b>KL</b>	<b>CC</b>	<b>VC</b>	<b>RL</b>	<b>DH</b>	<b>DM</b>	<b>BB</b>
William Steiner, Kurtz Bros. Compost – resubmittal		**	**		**		**

\*\* denotes who currently has package x denotes who has reviewed package

#### 4) OIT's - Actions

NAME	EXAM TYPE	ACTION
Christopher T. Hartung	WS III	Recommended approval
Ronald D. Kline	WW I	Recommended approval
Brad S. Long	WS I	Recommended approval
Roger H. Lyons	WS III	Recommended approval
Bruce W. Martin	WS I	Recommended approval
Kirk Morris	WW III	Recommended approval
Vincent N. Piro	WD I	Recommended approval
Paul E. Ritzler	WS I	Recommended approval
Anthony G. Saia	WS I	Recommended approval
Jeffrey Wiler	WW I	Recommended approval
Kenna W. Wilson	WW II	Recommended approval

Vui Chung made a motion, seconded by Richard Lorenz, recommending approval and the issuance of certificates to the operators above. Motion carried.

#### 5) Reciprocity

Richard Lorenz made a motion, seconded by Vui Chung recommending that the Director grant reciprocity to Roger D. Green, who holds an Indiana Wastewater II certificate, as a Wastewater I operator, upon documentation of employment in Ohio and payment of exam fee, based on the fact that Indiana has submitted a copy of their Wastewater II examination and the Advisory Board of examiners has deemed it equivalent to the Ohio Wastewater Supply Class II examination; pending receipt of additional information from Indiana, Mr. Green may be granted a Water Supply certificate; not grant reciprocity to Stephen H. Fields who holds a Florida Water Treatment Class A, as Florida will not provide a copy of their examination for Board Review. Motion carried.

Subsequent conversations with Indiana's drinking water certification officials indicated that they were unable to release a copy of their exam. However, Indiana's Class 3 water treatment exam would be equivalent to the ABC Class II exam. Therefore, based on the Board's previous determination that the ABC class II water exam was not equivalent to any Ohio examination the Board would recommend denial of reciprocity.

## 6) Strategic Plan

Collection Systems Need to Know Criteria was tabled.

List of examination references was reviewed and discussed. The list will be posted to the Opcert Website, <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/opcert> by the end of August, 2005. Security references will be added later in the year and the first security related questions will appear on the Spring 2006 examinations.

## 7) Exam Challenges

Exam Number	Action
000783	No Credit
000711	No Credit
000757	No Credit
000817	Credit - No Pass
000830	Credit - Pass
000807	No Credit
000772	No Credit
000552	No Credit
000524	No Credit
000413	Pending Chris Clark review (Credit-no pass)
000293	Credit - Pass
000441	Credit - Pass
000245	No Credit
001627	No Credit
001594	No Credit
001548	No Credit
001466	No Credit
001418	No Credit
001250	Credit - Pass
000921	Credit - Pass

Kirk Leifheit made a motion, seconded by Richard Lorenz, recommending that exams #000830, 000293, 001250, and 000921 be credited with two points resulting in a passing score; exam #000441 be credited with four points resulting in a passing score; exam #000817 be credited with two points, action does not

result in a passing score, exam #000413 (pending Chris Clark review) credit with two points, action does not result in a passing score; and all other challenges be denied. The Board discussed the number of challenges being received by examinees claiming to have either worked a problem correctly and mistakenly marked an answer, or just mistakenly marked an answer on the theory section. The Board feels that transferring data is an important skill and concerns regarding "fishing" for answers are beginning to surface. In order to address these issues, credit will no longer be given to examinees that have mistakenly marked either math or theory answers. All exams should have language indicating this, the initial announcement should make this clear and; the letters informing operators to come to the exam should have language indicating this as well. Motion carried.

## **7) Other Business**

The Board reviewed a request from Ken Yee for an additional six months to submit his Class IV examination. Kirk Leifheit made a motion, seconded by Robert Brown, recommending that a six-month extension be granted to Mr. Yee until June 2006. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the format of current examinations. Spring 2005 examinations consisted of fifty questions on each exam, half math, and half theory. The Board believes that theory questions are the most important and future examinations will begin reflecting that with the increase in theory questions. Fall 2005 examinations will have twenty math questions and thirty theory questions.

The Board also discussed an operator from Tennessee who left Ohio with a Class II certificate. He received reciprocity in Tennessee and has progressed in certification since he was there. He has not maintained his Ohio certification but in the event that he applies for reciprocity, the Board felt it could potentially recommend reciprocity at the Class II level at least based upon the level of exam he passed in Ohio and the fact that he has kept his Tennessee certificate current. In the event Tennessee is willing to release exam information, a higher level of reciprocity may be considered.

## **8) Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 11, 2005. Dail Hollopeter motioned, Vui Chung seconded. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held Thursday, September 15, 2005

**Board Approved: September 15, 2005**