BOARD OF LICENSURE OF WATER SYSTEM OPERATORS Jan 26, 2012 Meeting

Members Present:

Trevor Hunt, Chairman, Bath Water Dist David Bartlett, Assistant Chair David Beaulieu, Maine Water Daniel Levasseur, Huber Woods VSWS Kerry Smart, Alfred Water Dist Greg Kidd, Water Educator Rep. Teresa Trott, DWP

Others Present:

Jessica Bishop, Clerk Jeff McNelly, MWUA Tom, Bahun, MRWA

Called to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 A.M.

General Administration:

- <u>Approval of the November 17, 2011 minutes</u>, David Bartlett motioned to accept the minutes. Kerry Smart 2nd. Board approves. Passed
- Officers: Kerry Smart motions to keep the same officers as 2011. Greg Kidd 2nd the motion. Board approves. Passed.
- <u>Financial Report</u>: Advertising has come up to \$2,000 instead of \$200. This is due to rule making, seat positions and special meeting postings. Printing is also higher due to buying the expiration decals for licensing certificates.
- <u>System Update:</u> Systems will be notified that they need to have active Designated Operators for those operators in responsible charge that have not renewed.

Operators Update:

Complaints

There is a potential complaint of an operator conducting business without a renewed license. The drinking water program has given this operator seven days to get TCH's and to obtain an active license. There have been several issues found in a sanitary survey that need to be taken care of immediately. This operator was going to get a contract operator but has failed to do so at this time.

Greg Kidd motions to go into executive session. David Bartlett 2nd the motion. Board goes into executive session. Passed unanimously.

Greg Kidd requested a formal complaint from the DWP to come to the board for consideration of license reprimand, suspension or revocation. David Bartlett 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

Renewals:

583 renewals were sent out.

25 were returned because of a wrong address.

421 have renewed so far.

137 have not renewed.

<u>TCH</u>: Kerry Smart motions to adopt all three TCH policies as amended. Teresa Trott 2nd the motion. Passed unanimously.

Online Testing: Computer based testing will be in Portland by the end of March. AMP is still looking for a place that they approve of in Bangor. The Board has given AMP the licensing application to give to those who pass their examination.

Old Business

<u>Rules</u>: The new rules have now taken effect. An operator can take any level of exam that he or she wishes to take.

SWOCS TCH's are currently being added to SWOCS.

<u>Board member status:</u> All board members have been reinstated. The class III seat is still vacant. Discussion was held over possibly having board members change seats to have a different seat vacant as no one is coming forward with a class III license.

Operator Issues:

See Operator Compliance for Operator Complaints.

New Business

Discussion was held over providing a certificate to operators who have been working in the field for over 20-25 years and the Board finds out. The certificate might have the signatures of all the board members. Discussion was held about putting an operator inactive for when not renewing. Then when the operator wants to work again and have license active would only take credit hours for that renewal cycle. Operators pay a fee to keep a license inactive but do not take TCHs during that time. Under an emergency circumstance, he or she could get an emergency license for six months only. At which point, he or she would need to have an active license. A couple of other states have done this, but Maine has not agreed to this type of inactive operator.

DWP-

ABC -

Annual Conference: Greg Kidd attended and learned more about the procedures for computer based testing.

EPA -

NEWWA -

MWUA -

MRWA – They are offering a Managerial Certificate.

JETCC -

The Calendar of meetings and exams for 2012

Meetings:

May 17, 2012, meeting in Topsham

September 20, 2012, meeting in Augusta

November 15, 2012, meeting in Topsham

Exams:

March 27, 2012- Paper exams will be held in Bangor Deadline February 4, 2012

October 25, 2012- Paper exam will be held in Presque Isle Deadline September 1, 2012

The meeting adjourned at 1:04 P.M.

Next Meeting: May 17, 2012 in Brunswick/ Topsham