

# MINUTES

## MAINE WATER WELL COMMISSION

Thursday, August 14, 2025 – 9 am

Meeting – IN-PERSON / ZOOM

**CDC BUILDING, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Augusta, ME**

### ATTENDEES:

Commission Members: \*(present - 4 / zoom - 1 / absent - 2)

Present:

Edward Bowie (Chair)

Master Well Driller

Alex Pugh

Hydrogeologist, DWP

Bradley Tirone

Hydrogeologist, DOT

Mike Otley

Public Member

Zoom:

Mary Szatkowski

Geologist, MGS

Absent:

Frank Hegarty

Master Well Driller

Jesse Goodwin

Master Well Driller

Guests:

Lauren LaRochelle

AAG

April Bledsoe

Private Wells, DWP

Zoom:

Minutes Prepared By:

Tina Lemieux, Commission Clerk, DWP

### PROCEEDINGS:

**9:10 am**

### Review of Meeting Minutes:

**Wednesday, July 9, 2025 – Monthly Meeting**

Motion to approve.

❖ **MOTION:** Edward Bowie      **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Mike Otley      **VOTE:** Unanimous

### Exam Applications:

1. BRANDON LEVESQUE\_WD02286 – WD-J, PI-J

\*(Effective dates: PI-A, 10/4/2022; WD-A, 3/27/2020) - APPROVED

Motion to Approve.

❖ **MOTION:** Alex Pugh      **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Edward Bowie      **VOTE:** Unanimous

2. NICHOLAS LOHNDORF\_WD02420 – WD-J, PI-J

\*(Effective date: 6-25-2024) - APPROVED

Motion to Approve.

❖ **MOTION:** Mike Otley      **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Bradley Tirone      **VOTE:** Unanimous

3. FREDERICK RYAN II\_WD02421 – WD-J, PI-J

\*(Effective date: 6-25-2024) - APPROVED

Motion to Approve.

❖ **MOTION:** Alex Pugh      **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Mike Otley      **VOTE:** Unanimous

**Specialty Well Applications – Commission Review:**

1. NONE

**Specialty Well Applications – In-House Approval:**

1. SCHENA-GOODWIN\_SWA

**Other Business:**

**1. Open Discussions:**

**a. Statutory Legislation discussion – Lauren LaRochelle, AAG**

- i. Discussed statutes and possible changes
- ii. Draft available for next meeting

**b. Draft of Rules and Regulations, ~ Alex Pugh (cont.)**

- i. Update and discussion
- ii. The Commission will discuss Rules & Regs at the next scheduled meeting, (continued)

**c. Update for Exam Questions, ~pending review**

- i. Questions drawn from outdated manuals, new editions of manuals available
- ii. The Commission will discuss Exams and Questions for Exams, (pending)

**2. EXAMS: Tuesday, September 9, 2025 @ 10am**

- a. 286 Water Street, CDC Bldg., downtown Augusta
- b. Eligible candidates will be notified by email

**3. MWWC Meeting, Wed., Sept. 10, 2025**

- a. Site Evaluators Field Exam same day as MWWC Meeting
- b. May have to change MWWC date.

- MWWC Meeting date changed to: **Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 9:00am**

**OPEN COMPLAINTS:**

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**FLANAGAN – GALLANT ARTESIAN WELLS INC (1) – complaint, rcvd 3-18-24 – OPEN**

- 11-13-24, Motion – to revoke license, with stipulation to reinstate license if issues are corrected; allowance of licensure is approved to repair well; Vote: *Hegarty/Goodwin – unanimous*
- 11-15-24, letter of revocation crafted and sent certified mail
- 11-27-24, Company and Individual Licenses revoked
- 3-12-25, follow-up: complaint resolution and closure
- 3-12-25, Motion: Create “revoked” listing on webpage; Vote: *Goodwin / Doughty - Unanimous*
- 3-12-25, pending follow-up with counsel. Questions from Commission about alleged sightings of Gallant AWI drilling post-revocation of license.

**ANONYMOUS – GALLANT ARTESIAN WELLS INC (2) – complaint, rcvd 4-9-25 – OPEN**

- 4-9-25, complaint received
  - \*Lauren LaRochelle, AAG, will engage detective/officer from AG office to investigate; Alex Pugh is recused from voting on the case to facilitate investigation.
- 5-14-25, \*Review, Investigative Summary, by Detective Seth Blodgett
  - Motion to accept complaint; ***Doughty/Goodwin – 5 yea/1 recused (Pugh)***
  - Motion to accept pictures of alleged on-site drilling violation(s) of Gallant AWI; ***Doughty/Goodwin – 5 yea/1 recused (Pugh)***
- 7-9-25, Motion to have counsel draft a “Consent Agreement”(\*) and have Alex Pugh review and approve for the Commission. MOTION: **Alex Pugh / Bradley Tirone – 5-yea / 1-nay**
- 8-14-25,
  - ❖ Motion: once consent agreement is signed and notification received old well has been properly abandoned, then a representative of the Commission may approve reinstatement of license.
    - Alex Pugh / Bradley Tirone – unanimous
  - ❖ Motion to allow bentonite chips in abandonment of well as allowed by Rules and Regulations.
    - Alex Pugh / Edward Bowie – unanimous

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

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**MONTHLY MEETING: \*NOTE: Changes to meeting schedule for September:****Tuesday, September 16, 2025 – 9:30 am, (In-Person/Zoom)****Location: CDC Building, 286 Water Street, Augusta, ME**

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ADJOURNMENT:

**10:23 am**

Motion to Adjourn.

❖ **MOTION:** Edward Bowie      **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Alex Pugh      **VOTE:** Unanimous