

MINUTES

MAINE WATER WELL COMMISSION

Thursday, August 14, 2025 – 9 am

Meeting – IN-PERSON / ZOOM
CDC BUILDING, 3rd Floor, Augusta, ME

ATTENDEES:

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

Present:

Edward Bowie (Chair) Master Well Driller	Mike Otley Public Member
Alex Pugh Hydrogeologist, DWP	<u>Zoom:</u> Mary Szatkowski Geologist, MGS
Bradley Tirone Hydrogeologist, DOT	

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 **2nd:** 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 **2nd:** Edward Bowie **VOTE:** Unanimous

2. NICHOLAS LOHDORF_WD02420 – WD-J, PI-J

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

Motion to Approve.

❖ **MOTION:** Mike Otley **2nd:** 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 **2nd:** 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 - i. Questions drawn from outdated manuals, new editions of manuals available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:**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:**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

ADJOURNMENT:**10:23 am**

Motion to Adjourn.

❖ **MOTION:** Edward Bowie **2nd:** Alex Pugh **VOTE:** Unanimous