



The State of New Hampshire
WATER WELL BOARD



Bart Cushing, *Technical Driller, Chair*
Peter W. Caswell, C.W.D. - P.I., *Water Well Contractor*
Scott Costa, C.W.D. – P.I., *Water Well Contractor*
Abigail Fopiano, P.G., *Staff*

Norman Harris, III, W.W.C., *Pump Installer*
Rene Pelletier, P.G., *Dept. of Environmental Services*
Frederick H. Chormann, Jr., P.G., *State Geologist*
Steve Lamb, P.G., *Public Member*

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NH WATER WELL BOARD MINUTES

February 11, 2021

The New Hampshire Water Well Board held a meeting on February 11, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. Due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, the Board met electronically via GoToMeeting. There was no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. All members of the Water Well Board had the ability to communicate contemporaneously during the meeting and the public had access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through a phone line or website viewing.

Present were: Bart Cushing, Chair
Board Members: Scott Costa, Norman Harris, Rick Chormann, Steve Lamb, Peter Caswell and Rene Pelletier
DES Staff: Abigail Fopiano

Mr. Cushing brought the Board meeting to order at 9:36 A.M.

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the Minutes for the October 2020 Board meeting. Mr. Cushing and Mr. Chormann noted edits that shall be made. Mr. Chormann motioned to approve the October 2020 Water Well Board Minutes with revisions. Mr. Costa seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to accept the amended October 22, 2020 Board meeting minutes with edits.

Mr. Cushing acknowledged that the December 2020 Board meeting was not held.

New License Applications

Two license applications were presented to the Board.

Corey Wragg is seeking a domestic pump installers license. He works for Wragg Brothers in Ascutney, Vermont. Following review of the application, Mr. Costa motioned to allow the applicant to sit for the exam. Mr. Chormann seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the applicant to sit for the exam(s); Mr. Caswell abstained.

Scott Boggis is seeking a domestic and industrial pump installers license. He works for Skilling and Sons in Amherst, New Hampshire. Following review of the application, Mr. Chormann motioned to

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allow the applicant to sit for the exam. Mr. Pelletier seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the applicant to sit for the exam(s).

2020-2021 License Renewal Update

Ms. Fopiano presented the list of 20 non-renewed licenses to the Board. The Board discussed sending letters to these licensees reminding them to renew, and specifically noting they are not currently licensed and if they do not renew by June 30, 2021 they will need to re-apply and pass the examinations. Ms. Fopiano noted that all the licensees on the list did get a similar letter in November, which was sent from the desk of Andrew Koff, in Ms. Fopiano's absence. Mr. Harris noted that if the amount of effort to send the letter is not too intensive; it is worth the effort to alert licensees. Mr. Cushing requested Ms. Fopiano draft the letters for his review prior to sending them out.

Probation Report

Ms. Fopiano referenced two companies that were on probation: Wash Well Company (License #1464) and T&K Drilling (License #1516), and discussed the count of reports from these entities during their respective probation period(s). Ms. Fopiano noted that GeoSearch (License #1782) had completed their probationary period and a letter noting such would be sent to them.

DES Enforcement Report

Ms. Emily Jones of DES presented a brief summary for the Board on the enforcement actions initiated by DES for violations of RSA 482-B and the rules of the Board, We 100 – 1000. The report included an overview of the violations, DES actions and the status of correspondence in currently active cases.

Update on Drought Assistance Program Initiative

Ms. Fopiano introduced Mr. Steve Roy, NHDES Hydrology and Conservation Programs Manager, who provided an update of the state's Emergency Drought Assistance Program. Mr. Roy noted that of the \$1.5 million in funding, there were currently 70 projects submitted with approximately \$630,000 in approved work. Ninety-two percent (92%) were replacement well projects. Ms. Fopiano introduced Mr. Thomas O'Donovan, NHDES Water Division Director and Drought Management Team Chair, who provided an update of the current drought status. Mr. O'Donovan noted that the snowpack so far this year is low. If we do not have a good snow melt or normal rainfall this spring, we may be looking at a multi-year drought.

Legislative Item Update

Ms. Fopiano updated the Board that HB 667, the bill related to private well sampling, is no longer moving forward. This bill had passed the House and was moving to the Senate at the end of 2019. Due to COVID and the 2020 election, it was now dead. If the industry wants to move forward with this, new legislative sponsors and a new bill would have to be proposed.

New Business

Ms. Fopiano noted she will be sending out information to pump installers related to online continuing educational opportunities. The Board noted that many suppliers offer training.

Ms. Fopiano thanked the Board for their understanding and support as she took a leave of absence from work (November 15, 2020 - February 1, 2021).

Mr. Harris motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Costa seconded the motion, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 10:42 A.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rene Pelletier", enclosed in a yellow rectangular box.

Rene Pelletier, Water Well Board Secretary