



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*
Greg Barker, P.G., *NHDES Staff*

Norman Harris, III, W.W.C., *Pump Installer*
Rene Pelletier, P.G., *NHDES*
Shane Csiki, *State Geologist*
H. Keith DuBois, P.G., *Public Member*

NH WATER WELL BOARD MINUTES

June 6, 2023

The New Hampshire Water Well Board held a meeting on June 6, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held in Room 208C in the NHDES office at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH. Members of the public, if necessary, could participate in this meeting in person.

Present were: Chair: Bart Cushing
Board Members: Scott Costa, Shane Csiki, Keith DuBois, Norman Harris, and Stephen Roy sitting in for Rene Pelletier
NHDES Staff: Greg Barker
Public: William Nichols, Pump Installer Contractor Applicant; Craig McGraw; Jerome Thomas of Thomas & Sons Well Drilling; Mark Lazazzera of Thomas & Sons Well Drilling; Luna Severino, Technical Driller Applicant; and Kelly Dobrowolski

Mr. Cushing brought the Board meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes for the April 2023 Board meeting. Mr. Costa made a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. DuBois seconded this motion. The Board voted unanimously to accept the motion and minutes with Mr. Roy abstaining.

Licensing

During the April meeting, the Board requested additional information from Mr. William Nichols concerning his experience to become a pump installer. Mr. Nichols provided a written summary of his experience, which the chair, Mr. Cushing, read aloud to the Board. Mr. Nichols, being present, was asked to testify on his behalf. Much discussion was had, and Mr. Nichols acknowledged that on average, his experience specifically encompassing pump installation and maintenance included approximately 10 hours per week over the course of his experience. Based on this acknowledgement, the Board concluded that Mr. Nichols did not have the requisite experience to meet the license requirements. Mr. Cushing made a motion to deny Mr. Nichols from sitting for the pump installers test. Mr. Harris seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously on the motion.

The Board next reviewed a domestic pump installer license application from Ms. Kimberly Butler. Again, after much discussion amongst the Board members, Mr. Harris made a motion that Ms. Butler provide additional information concerning her length of experience installing well pumps, as the length of experience was not clear in the application, particularly due to Ms. Butler's part-time experience and that the company performs irrigation work. Mr. Costa seconded the motion, and the Board unanimously approved the motion.

Mr. Barker next provided an overview of the license renewal process for the current yearly cycle. It was announced by Mr. Roy that NHDES would be proceeding with online-only processing of payment and renewal applications. Board members expressed a mix of support and skepticism.

Probation and Enforcement Reports

NHDES had no probation or enforcement activity to report on.

Old Business

Mr. Roy provided an overview of legislation pending in the General Court. The only bill of interest remaining was HB 534, which supports providing funding for low-income households to provide replacement of their water supply if it has been impacted by a natural disaster. This bill has passed the House and Senate. However, because the bill was modified by the Senate, it is awaiting a committee of conference.

New Business

During the April meeting, Gosselin Well Drilling was requested to provide a request for waiver due to construction conditions in two close looped geothermal wells. The Board reviewed the waiver request. Mr. Costa made a motion to grant the request. Mr. DuBois seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the request.

The next issue before the Board was a reported electrical code violation by Thomas & Sons Well Company. Mr. Barker provided a summary of his Note to File and a synopsis of the violation. In short, the Moultonborough Code Enforcement Officer brought a complaint to the State Electrical Inspector concerning the installation of the electrical line from the pump to the electrical panel being deficient due to lack of protective conduit and junction box transitioning the wiring from outside to inside installation. The State Electrical Inspector had also questioned if this practice extended to other installations. Mr. Mark Lazazzera and Mr. Jerome Thomas (licensee) testified on behalf of Thomas & Sons Well and explained that the initial setup was temporary and remedied to the Code Enforcement Officer's satisfaction. The Board discussed the situation and made no recommendation or motion concerning this issue.

Mr. Luna Severino requested to speak before the Board to respond to the Board's April meeting request for further delineation of his work experience in support of his application to become a Technical Driller. The Board granted his request and heard his testimony. After much discussion, Mr. Costa made a motion to accept Mr. Severino's application and be allowed to sit for the test. Mr. DuBois seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously in favor, with Mr. Roy abstaining.

The last item before the Board was an allegation that Wash Well Company/Mr. Robert Tupper was installing wells and pumps without a license. The Chair requested that Mr. Barker issue a letter to Mr. Tupper, indicating he needs to cease performing licensed contractor work. Much discussion ensued concerning licensing and enforcement.

Edit: It should be noted that it was subsequently found that Mr. Tupper did have a valid Water Well Contractor license and needed to renew his Pump Installers license by completing his required Continuing Education hours.

At 10:44 a.m., Mr. Cushing requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Costa made the motion for adjournment, and Mr. Csiki seconded this motion. The Board voted unanimously to the adjournment motion.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rene Pelletier". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

Rene Pelletier, Water Well Board Secretary