



Pat Quinn, Governor
Damon T. Arnold, M.D., M.P.H., Director

525-535 West Jefferson Street • Springfield, Illinois 62761-0001 • www.idph.state.il.us

MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Well and Pump Installation Contractors Licensing Board Members

George Gaffke (chair)
Larry Lyons
Michael Gross

David Dingledine
Greg Wilburn
John Pitz

FROM: Jerry Dalsin
Elaine Beard

DATE: October 15, 2009

SUBJECT: Minutes – April 2, 2009 Water Well and Pump Installation Contractors
Licensing Board Meeting

Attendance and Meeting Location

The meeting began at 4:02 p.m. on April 2, 2009. Board members present: David Dingledine, George Gaffke, Michael Gross, Larry Lyons, John Pitz, and Greg Wilburn. Department personnel: Jerry Dalsin. The meeting was held at the Ramada Limited North, 3280 Northfield Dr., Springfield, IL 62702.

Licenses Issued - 4

3 - Water Well Contractors (092)
1 - Water Well Pump Installation Contractor (101)

Examination - 27 Applicants -

12 registered to become water well contractors - 5 no shows
9 registered to become water well pump installation contractors - 0 no show
6 registered to become water well & pump installation contractors - 0 no show

Well Code had 8 score of 70 or above
Pump Code had 11 scores of 70 or above

Well Experience had 6 scores of 70 or above
Pump Experience had 1 score of 70 or above

All applicants were mailed their test scores in a letter of pass or fail on April 7, 2009. Successful applicants were mailed their licenses. A list of licensees was mailed to the Office of Mines and Minerals, Illinois State Water Survey, IAGP, IDPH regional offices and local health departments.

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda that was distributed in advance was adopted without change.

Motion: To Approve the Agenda for the April 2, 2009 Board Meeting

Made By: David Dingledine

Seconded By: John Pitz

Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of the January 22-23, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the January 22-23, 2009 Board meeting, with one correction - Ken Runkle of the Department was noted present for that part of the meeting held on January 22, 2009. He was present only for that part of the meeting held on January 23, 2009.

Motion: To Approve the January 22-23, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes

Made By: Larry Lyons

Seconded By: John Pitz

Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Contractor's License Examinations and Submission of Test Questions

George Gaffke reminded the Board members of their assignments for the examinations to be given on October 16, 2009 as follows:

October 16, 2009 (will begin with Pump Code)

Well Code - George Gaffke

Pump Code - Larry Lyons

Well Experience - Michael Gross

Pump Experience - David Dingledine

The above board members will prepare their selection of questions from the master questions list and submit to the Department for preparation at least 60 days before the date of the examination.

The Board scheduled the water well and pump installation contractor's license examinations during 2010 for April 9, 2010 and October 22, 2010. The Board meetings for 2010 were scheduled for April 8 and October 21. The meeting days for the January 2010 meeting are to be firmed up in the near future.

Suspension of Water Well Contractor Licenses

According to Jerry Dalsin, the water well contractor's license for Robert Strange, Sr., #092-006279, was suspended for one month during March 2009; the water well contractor's license for Robert Strange, Jr., #092-008192, was suspended for one month during February 2009. Violations cited for both contractors were for failure to obtain a permit to construct a well in violation of Section 920.130 a) of the Illinois Water Well Construction Code (IWWCC); failure to provide notification prior to constructing a well in violation of Section 920.130 g) of the IWWCC; and for failure to submit well construction reports in violation of Section 920.30 b) of the IWWCC. In addition to the license suspensions, both contractors were fined \$1500.00 each.

The Board recommended to the Department to provide a summary of the outcome of the legal cases to Sue Bohenstengel, Executive Director, Illinois Association of Groundwater Professionals, to be included in the next publication of the Association's newsletter,

Aquanotes. The names of the contractors and their license numbers are not to be included in the summary. However, code violations, suspensions and fines can be mentioned.

Changes to Water Well and Pump Installation Contractors License Board Bylaws

John Pitz summarized the proposed changes to the Water Well and Pump Installation Contractors Licensing Board Bylaws, Parts 3, 5, 8 and 10 as follows:

- 3. VICE CHAIRMAN** – The title for Part 3 was changed to Temporary Chairman. When the Chairman is absent at any Board meeting, the Board shall elect a Temporary Chairman. The Temporary Chairman shall preside at any Board meeting when the Chairman is absent.
- 5. COMPENSATION** - 5.B was added to provide reimbursement to Board Members when a hotel stay is required to attend assigned meetings and such other Board business functions and events.
- 8. ORDER OF BUSINESS** – Public Participation and Other business were deleted and the numbering for the business items corrected.
- 9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – This part was completely rewritten for the most part. Any person posing a question to the Board shall submit it in writing to the Department. The Board shall discuss the question and advise the Department on the response at the Board meeting following receipt of the question.

Since the changes were proposed without the 14-day notice under the Bylaws, Part 1, Rules, it was necessary to elect for a waiver to the 14-day requirement before the Board could adopt the changes to the Bylaws.

Motion: To approve a waiver of the 14-day notice, under Rule 1 of the Water Well and Pump Installation Contractors License Board Bylaws.

Made By: David Dingledine

Seconded By: Michael Gross

Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Motion: To adopt the changes to the Water Well and Pump Installation Contractors License Board Bylaws, Parts 3, 5, 8, and 9.

Made By: Michael Gross

Seconded By: Greg Wilburn

Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Dewatering Well Construction Issues

George Gaffke, John Pitz, and Jerry Dalsin attended the Northern Illinois Public Health Consortium meeting on March 20, 2009 during which time they explained dewatering construction as it relates to permitting and water well/pump installation contractor licensing requirements. Several dewatering well contractors also attended. Much of the discussion evolved around as to how dewatering wells are constructed and what actually constitutes a dewatering well, e.g., construction by backhoe and bucket rig methods; pump installations, e.g., sumps, submersibles and generators.

Dewatering well construction can vary widely. In some instances, a dewatering well can extend 4-5 feet through the bottom of a trench, or offset from the trench or excavation. If the depth of the well is greater than 20 feet deep, it should be constructed by a licensed water well contractor. It is important to know where the wells were constructed and that they are properly sealed. The Board is to review the current dewatering well guidance document and provide input as to what types of dewatering well excavations constitute a water well.

SB254 – Registration of Closed Loop Contractors and Permitting of Closed Loop Well Systems

Senate Bill 254, requiring the registration of closed loop well contractors and permitting of closed loop well systems, passed the Senate on April 2, 2009 as amended, and immediately went to the House. On that same date, it progressed through the first reading in the House and then sent to the Rules Committee.

Other Business

WWCC, Section 920.120 c) Non-producing well – Jerry Dalsin asked the Board for a letter of interpretation of WWCC Section 920.120 c). George Gaffke submitted a draft of the clarification to the Department. The Board recommended the Department send the clarification to the Department's regions and local health departments.

Indie Energy Closed Loop Well Construction – The Board asked the Department for an update, regarding closed loop well construction at North Central College (NCC) in DuPage County, and Little Red School House (LRS) in Cook County by Indie Energy. Jerry Dalsin reported that according to DuPage CHD, the casing at the NCC site is to be pulled and the closed loop wells grouted. DuPage is making ongoing inspections at the NCC site and Jerry Dalsin plans to enquire as to the outcome of those inspections. The Board had concerns over the LRS site, where the closed loop wells were constructed within the minimum setback distance to a non-community water well, and the grouting of the casing with bentonite granules. Jerry Dalsin reported that a letter was sent to LRS, informing them of the setback violation and the requirement to seal the well.

Continuing Education Session for Water Well and Pump Installation Contractors, held in Roscoe on March 24, 2009 – The Board reminded the Department that the Independent Water Well Contractors, who sponsored the CE session for licensed water well and pump installation contractors, held in Roscoe on March 24, 2009, only provided notification of the training event to some of the contractors, rather than to all the contractors, contrary to the Department's letter, dated January 26, 2009, informing the Independent Contractors of the notification requirement under the Water Well and Pump Installation Contractor's License Code, Section 915.80 c). George Gaffke will inform the Department in writing of the violation.

Water Well and Pump Installation Contractor License Examination Questions

The Board moved into a closed session and discussed questions for the water well and pump installation contractor license examinations.

Motion: To move into a closed session to discuss contractor license examination questions

Made By: David Dingledine
Seconded By: John Pitz

Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Following the discussion on the examination questions, the Board moved out of the closed session.

Motion: To move out of the closed session for discussing contractor license examination questions

Made By: Greg Wilburn
Seconded By: David Dingledine

Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the Board meeting.

Made By: Michael Gross
Seconded By: John Pitz

Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.