



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

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Water Well and Pump Installation Contractors Licensing Board Members

George Gaffke (chair)	David Dingledine
Larry Lyons	Greg Wilburn
Michael Gross	John Pitz

FROM: Jerry Dalsin
Elaine Beard

DATE: April 14, 2011

SUBJECT: Minutes – October 21, 2010 Water Well and Pump Installation Contractors Licensing Board Meeting

Attendance and Meeting Location

The meeting began at 4:00 p.m. on October 21, 2010. Board members present: David Dingledine, George Gaffke, Michael Gross, Larry Lyons, John Pitz, and Greg Wilburn. Department personnel: Ken Runkle, Dave Johnson, Elaine Beard, Jamie Tosetti and Jerry Dalsin. The meeting was held at the Ramada Limited North, 3280 Northfield Dr., Springfield, IL 62702.

Licenses Issued - 2

2 – Water Well Pump Installation Contractors (101)

Examination - 17 Applicants -

8 registered to become water well contractors – 0 no show
6 registered to become water well pump installation contractors - 2 no show
2 registered to become water well & pump installation contractors – 1 no show

Well Code had 3 score of 70 or above
Pump Code had 4 scores of 70 or above

Well Experience had 3 scores of 70 or above
Pump Experience had 2 score of 70 or above

All applicants were mailed their test scores in a letter of pass or fail on November 1, 2010. 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 October 21, 2010 Board Meeting

Made By: David Dingledine

Seconded By: Greg Wilburn

Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Approval of the April 8, 2010 Board Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed and approved the minutes of the April 8, 2010 Board meeting.

Motion: To Approve the April 8, 2010 Board Meeting Minutes

Made By: Michael Gross

Seconded By: David Dingledine

Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Contractor's License Examinations During 2011

George Gaffke reminded the Board members of their assignments for the examinations to be given during 2011 on April 15, 2011 and October 21, 2011.

April 15, 2011 (will begin with Well Code)

Well Code – David Dingledine

Well Experience - Larry Lyons

Pump Code - Michael Gross

Pump Experience - George Gaffke

October 21, 2011 (will begin with Pump Code)

Pump Code – David Dingledine

Pump Experience - Larry Lyons

Well Code – Greg Wilburn

Well Experience - George Gaffke

The Board set the examination dates during 2012 for April 20, 2012 and October 19, 2012.

George Gaffke will select the questions for the examinations and submit them to Elaine Beard during January 2011. Elaine Beard will in turn prepare the examinations and submit them to the Board for their review.

Follow-up on the Indie Energy Closed Loop Well Construction Demonstration on August 5, 2010

Jerry Dalsin handed out the October 18, 2010 report from Indie Energy of their grouting test conducted on October 15, 2010. The purpose of the pressure test was to determine the effectiveness of the grout seal in a closed loop well where the casing in the upper part of the closed loop well is left in place. The Board recommended further testing on additional Indie Energy closed loop well construction sites. The Department/local health departments should be on site to observe and witness the tests. The additional tests will be compared with each other and the first test to verify the consistency of the effectiveness of the grout seal. The Department concurred with their recommendation.

Amendments to the Illinois Water Well Construction Code and Legislation to Delete Provisions for the Sunset of the Water Well and Pump Installation Contractor's License Act

According to Ken Runkle, the Department's Office of Health Protection has accepted as packages proposed amendments to the Water Well Construction Code and the Water Well and Pump Installation Contractor's License Code. The Department has submitted a

legislative proposal to the Governor's Office to amend the regulatory Sunset Act to delete provisions that require the Water Well and Pump Installation Contractor's License Act to sunset on January 1, 2012.

Clarification of the Requirements for Grouting Closed Loop Wells, and Sealing the Lower Part of a borehole Left Open when Constructing a Water Well

Jerry Dalsin handed out correspondence from and to Mr. Donnie Simmons of Livingston County Health Department, regarding his concerns over the grouting of closed loop wells, and what well sealing procedures should be taken when the lower part of the borehole is left open when constructing a water well. The Board concurred with Jerry Dalsin's written response to Mr. Simmons: Section 920.180 a) is interpreted to mean that a closed loop well shall be topped off to the ground surface with additional grout by the drilling contractor, whenever settling occurs; and, if the lower part of the borehole is left open as part of the water well construction, it shall be sealed in a manner consistent with the Illinois Water Well Construction Code, Section 920.120.

Comments from the Illinois Association of Groundwater Professionals on the Department's Review of the Macon County Geothermal Ordinance

Jerry Dalsin handed out correspondence from Ms. Sue Bohenstengel, Executive Director of the Illinois Association of Ground Water Professionals (IAGP), regarding their concerns over the differences of the Macon County Geothermal Systems Ordinance with the model geothermal closed loop systems ordinance. The Board recommended the following response for the Department to IAGP:

The model geothermal closed loop systems ordinance was developed as a guide for local health departments in the regulation of the construction of geothermal closed loop systems and the registration of geothermal closed loop system contractors. To be effective, it needs to be science based, reasonable, enforceable, and consistent among the local health departments. The main goal is for the local health departments to adopt a closed loop well ordinance and use one that is the same.

If there are differences from the model ordinance, then they need to be discussed with the Department and representatives of the Water Well and Pump Installation Contractors Licensing Board. When appropriate, these differences can be taken into consideration toward changing the model ordinance.

Licensing Requirements or Installing Pumps on Dewatering Wells by Contract Dewatering Services, Inc.

Jerry Dalsin handed out correspondence from Mr. John Flak, representing Contract Dewatering Services, Inc, regarding the licensing requirements for installing pumps on dewatering wells. As described in their correspondence, Contract Dewatering Services, Inc. have been unsuccessful in passing the water well pump installation contractor's license examination and cannot secure a licensed contractor for their water well pump installations on dewatering wells. The Board affirmed that they must still have a licensed water well pump installation contractor for their water well pump installations in accordance with the Department's Guidance Document on Dewatering Wells. Since their dewatering wells exceed 20 feet in depth, they need to have a licensed water well pump installation contractor.

Proposal by the Illinois Association of Local Environmental Health Administrators to Amend the Water Well and Pump Installation Contractor's License Act.

Jerry Dalsin handed out the Illinois Association of Local Environmental Health Administrators (IALEHA) letter of a proposal to amend the Water Well and Pump Installation Contractor's License Act, whereby there would be two additional Water Well and Pump Installation Contractors Licensing Board members, added to the existing number of six members. One additional member would be appointed by IALEHA and the second additional member would be appointed by the Illinois Environmental Health Association (IEHA). Board member's response was as follows:

The local health department's proposal for representation on the Licensing Board demonstrates a lack of comprehension of the role of the Licensing Board. The sole basis of the local health department's proposal is to address administrative concerns.

The Licensing Board's role is to advise and aid the Department on the technical issues of the water well industry. The requirement that the members of the Board shall be licensed is to insure that the Board member will possess the skills, competencies, and experience necessary to be competent in the role of a Board member. All the described Board's duties are based upon the Board member possessing these characteristics. Members of the local health departments are neither licensed nor possess the required skills, competencies, and experience to be an effective and productive Board member.

The members of the local health departments already have the ability to address administrative issues directly with the Department. Since administrative issues are not within the scope of duties of the Board, the expectation that the Board would address administrative issues is an unrealistic expectation of the local health departments. Having members of the local health department on the Board would be counterproductive. The local health department member would not be able to assist the Board in its defined roles and would attempt to engage the Board in issues that are outside the scope of the Board's duties.

The Department has demonstrated an ability and willingness to dialogue on issues. The local health departments would be better served by concentrating on improving their communication with the Department.

Motion: To Approve Board Member John Pitz's Response to IALEHA Proposal to Amend the Water Well and Pump Installation Contractor's License Act To Establish Representation on the Board by IALEHA and IEHA

Made By: Larry Lyons

Seconded By: Greg Wilburn

Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Runkle stated that the Department concurs with the Board's response.

Other Business

George Gaffke presented a plaque from the Department to outgoing Board member John Pitz in recognition of his 25 years of dedicated and unselfish service on the Board as both Chair and member. All Board members and representatives of the Department expressed their appreciation to Mr. Pitz for his years of service and dedication to groundwater protection and the water well industry. Mr. Pitz will continue to be very valuable resource to both the Board and the Department.

Local Health Protection Grant Rules – Larry Lyons expressed the concerns of licensed water well contractors and local health departments, regarding the amendments to the Local Health Protection Grant Rules to reduce the minimum number of required water sealing inspections per licensed water well contractor, and to allow reciprocal inspections between local health departments for the same licensed contractor. The proposal for the amendments was made some time ago and Jerry Dalsin plans to bring this to the Department's attention to keep the rule process moving.

Next Meeting

George Gaffke Scheduled the next Board meeting for April 14, 2011, to be held at the Ramada Limited North in Springfield, beginning at 4:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the Board meeting.

Made By: David Dingledine

Seconded By: Greg Wilburn

Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.