

# **WATER WELL STANDARDS & CONTRACTORS' LICENSING BOARD MEETING**

**February 13, 2023**

**Revised 4/17/2023**

Tonny Beck, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. with roll call. The meeting was held at the Crown Plaza, 707 West Talmadge St, RM Bronze #4, Kearney, NE. Copies of the agenda were emailed to board members and other interested parties prior to the meeting. The meeting was advertised on the Public Notice page of the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy's website. The Open Meetings Act was posted at the front entrance of the room.

## **Item 1. Roll Call**

PRESENT:           Tonny Beck                               Sue Lackey  
                      Mike Thompson               Lynn Webster  
                      Daniel Mackin                        Brian Whitesel  
                      Scott Grosch                         Cody Christensen  
                      Laura Johnson

ABSENT:

OTHERS:   Lee Orton, Dan Egeland, Tim Sizer, Fred Rothauge, Mark Graf, Brad Peterson, and Pam Miller.

## **Item 2. Adoption of Agenda**

Mr. Whitesel moved to adopt the agenda. Ms. Lackey seconded the motion. Voting yes: Beck, Thompson, Mackin, Johnson, Christensen, Whitesel, Grosch, Lackey, Webster. Voting no: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

## **Item 3. Consideration of Minutes of Board Meeting – November 2, 2022**

Ms. Lackey moved to adopt the minutes. Mr. Webster seconded the motion. Voting yes: Beck, Thompson, Mackin, Johnson, Grosch, Lackey, Webster. Voting no: none. Abstain: Christensen, Whitesel. Motion carried.

## **Item 4. Consideration of Minutes of Board Meeting – December 14, 2022**

Mr. Webster moved to adopt the minutes. Mr. Whitesel seconded the motion. Voting yes: Beck, Thompson, Mackin, Johnson, Whitesel, Grosch, Lackey, Webster. Voting no: none. Abstain: Christensen. Motion carried.

## **Item 5. Continuing Education Requests**

1- Groundwater Monitoring Demonstrations, West Point, NE, by Nutrient Advisors, was held on October 25, 2022(8 hrs.) and will be held at various times TBD throughout 2023; Allen Kampschnieder

Requests: 4-8 hrs. Recommended: 7 hrs.

2- Water Programs Update, Central City, NE, by Central Platte NRD, will be held February 16, 2023; Marcia Lee

Requests: 4 hrs. Recommended: 3 hrs.

3- Focused Remediation Webinar, Carus Solutions, Online, by Focused Remediation Seminars was held March 25, 2021: Requested by; Brian Ortega

Requests: 2.5 hrs. Recommended: 2.5 hrs.

4- Focused Remediation Webinars, Remote Monitoring, Online, by Focused Remediation Seminars was held April 8, 2021: Requested by; Brian Ortega

Requests: 2.5 hrs. Recommended: 2.5 hrs.

5- Focused Remediation Webinars, Vapor Intrusion, Online, by Focused Remediation Seminars was held December 16, 2021: Requested by; Brian Ortega

Requests: 2.5 hrs. Recommended: 2.5 hrs.

6- Focused Remediation Webinars, MLO Next Gen ISCO Online, by Focused Remediation Seminars was held January 28, 2021: Requested by; Marco Vallotto Riascos

Requests: 2.5 hrs. Recommended: 2.5 hrs.

Items 3-6 are approved for 2.5 hrs. each. Credit can only be applied for one of the four courses per applicant, due to duplication of subject matter within each individual class.

7- KGWA Annual Convention, Mulvane, KS, by Kansas Ground Water Association was held January 18-20, 2023; David Schulenberg

Requests: 18 hrs. Recommended: 15 hrs.

Attendee must show documentation of each class taken. Hazwoper credit of 6.5 hrs. only

8- KGWA Fall Seminar, Salina, KS, by Kansas Ground Water Association was held September 30, 2022; Anthony Johansen

Requests: 8 hrs. Recommended: 7 hrs.

9- NeRWA Annual Conference, Kearney, NE, by Nebraska Rural Water Association will be held March 13-15, 2023; Patrick Petersen

Requests: Up to 12.5 hrs. Recommended: 12.5 hrs.

10- Vertical Turbine Pump School, Hastings, NE, by Mid America Pump and Supply was held September 28-30, 2022; Kelby Nelson

Requests: 10 hrs.

Recommended: 10 hrs.

11- Groundwater Week 2022 on demand courses, online, NE, by National Groundwater Association-Ongoing; Sue Tenney

- #1-Air Drilling Best Practices
- #2-Understanding your Inputs
- #3-A Proven Framework for Building your Brand
- #4-All Things Hammers and Bits
- #5-Alternate Drilling Fluids
- #6-Chlorine, the Most Misunderstood Chemical
- #7-Innovative Techniques for Well Design
- #8-Pump Panel Electrical Installation
- #9-Using Search Engine Optimization
- #10-HE IX Softening
- #11-Proper Drill Site Assessment
- #12-Understanding Internet of Things (IoT)
- #13-Energy Based Hazard ID
- #14-Smart Motors and Intelligent Systems
- #15-Water Well Decommissioning/Sealing
- #16-Basic Pump Sizing Tools & Calculations
- #17-Construct and Design a Well
- #18-Electrical Safety in Drilling/Pump Service
- #19-Hazards Identification Tactics
- #20-A Contract's Guide to VFDs
- #21-Fundamentals of Electric Motors
- #22-Family Business Succession
- #23-efficiency - All About Permanent Magnet Motors
- #24-From Well Driller to Groundwater Professional
- #25-Off-Grid Water Pumping

Request: 1 hr. per course, Recommended: 1 hr. per course for total credit hrs. of 25. A maximum of 6 hrs. are allowable for credit per renewal period.

12- 2023 Legislative Conference Lincoln, NE, held by NARD, was held January 24-25, 2023; Jennifer Swanson

Requests: 5 hrs.

Recommended: 5 hrs.

13- Groundwater Monitoring for NRDs, Kearney, NE, held by NDEE, will be held March 8, 2023; Dave Miesbach

Requests: 4 hrs.

Recommended: 4 hrs.

Mr. Thompson, CEU Committee Chair, submitted the recommendations for board approval of CEU hours as stated. Voting yes: Beck, Thompson, Mackin, Johnson, Christensen, Whitesel, Grosch, Lackey, Webster. Voting no: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried

Ms. Johnson shared that a chapter reference error was made on board Policy P-14 and should be updated to the correct Title 178 chapter.

Ms. Johnson made a motion to correct the chapter referenced in board Policy P-14. Chapter 11 should be corrected to read Chapter 10. Mr. Whitesel seconded the motion. Voting yes: Beck, Thompson, Mackin, Johnson, Christensen, Whitesel, Grosch, Lackey, Webster. Voting no: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried

Ms. Johnson made a motion to approve board Policy P-14 as amended. Ms. Lackey seconded the motion. Voting yes: Beck, Thompson, Mackin, Johnson, Christensen, Whitesel, Grosch, Lackey, Webster. Voting no: none. Abstain: none. Motion carried

### **Item 6. Program Report**

Ms. Miller filled in for Mr. Miesbach and presented the program report that was included in the Board Packet. It outlined the declaratory orders/pre-notifications, violations, licensure information and testing information.

- Review of program report.

### **Item 7. Legislative Report**

- LB721 to provide general funds to run the WWS program was introduced to the legislature and has been assigned to the appropriation committee. Two motions/proposals are attached to the bill for funding for the next two fiscal years. The hearing will take place on March 13, 2023.

## **Item 8. Agency Reports**

### **A. UNL – Conservation & Survey – Sue Lackey**

- CSD is still in need of a driller helper.
- Geophysical equipment has been procured, including an electromagnetic walking unit. CSD and ENWRA will be testing the unit.
- Water level maps are completed and are on the web.
- The Middle Niobrara NRD, Sandhills Interactive Educational Natural Resources Complex in Valentine was discussed. Possible NRD tech trainings and educational hours for well drillers will take place at the new facility. It was suggested that the June board meeting be held in Valentine to tour the complex.

### **B. Department of Natural Resources – Mike Thompson**

- Review of well registrations-three statistical handouts were distributed to the Board.
- Coordination with the NRDs on suspense well letters is ongoing. The well registration team will push to clean up the suspense list. These are registrations for replacement wells for which, no documentation has been submitted on fate of the original well. More letters will be going out to help this effort.
- Recommendation for registering livestock and domestic wells that are replacements of unregistering wells, would be to register the new well without reference to the old well to avoid suspense status delays.
- Refund program for reverse osmosis by NDEE requires well registration. DNR has provided a guidance document on the website to help the public complete the required paperwork. The deadline for funding is March 31, 2023

### **C. Dept. of Environment and Energy – Laura Johnson**

- Confirmation hearing for Mr. Macy was this morning, with no decision made at this time.
- The Legislative breakfast that is held annually was not put on this year due poor attendance, as a lot is currently going on. Plans are to continue the breakfast next year.
- The department is working on two GIS coordinators positions.
- NDEE has an OCIO enterprise license agreement; the layers on Nebraska map may be difficult to load.
- Hiring for a wellhead coordinator position is underway.

**D. Natural Resources Districts – Lynn Webster**

- NRD supports the legislation for funding of the WWS program
- There is a lot of no travel areas currently with the snow, but work continues to get spring static levels done with these limitations.

**E. HHS – Division of Public Health – Position is pending representation**

- DHHS has been notified of the need to fill this position per statute. To date no response has been provided by the Department.

**Item 9. Public Comment**

- Mr. Lee Orton shared UNMC’s interest in sitting on the board for the vacant DHHS public health seat. An open discussion took place. The board agreed that a letter to DHHS to consider filling the seat by a member of UNMC, be drafted.

Ms. Lackey made the motion to have Mr. Lee Orton with the Nebraska Well Drillers Association compose a letter for the Chairman of the Water Well Standards & Contractors Licensing Board to sign, requesting the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services to consider appointing a person from the University of Nebraska Medical Center’s, Water, Climate and Health Programs, to serve as a member of the Water Well Standards & Contractors Licensing Board, as required by state statute 46-1217. Mr. Christensen seconded the motion. Voting yes: Beck, Thompson, Johnson, Christensen, Whitesel, Grosch, Lackey, Webster. Voting no: none. Absent: Mackin. Abstain: none. Motion carried.

**Item 10: Closed Session**

NONE

**Item 11. Adjourn**

Mr. Grosch moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 p.m.



5/12/2023

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**Mike Thompson, Board Secretary**

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**Date**