

Maine Board of Licensure of Water System Operators

Meeting Minutes

~ Friday, September 22, 2023 – 9:00 am ~
Meeting via Zoom / In-Person

Members Present via In-Person:

- Mary Bowers – (Chair), NTNC Representative, Waterworks Mgmt. LLC
- Keith Levasseur – (Vice Chair), Class III Representative, Sanford Water District
- Brian McBride – Class IV Representative, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, and Wells
- Amy Lachance – Director, Maine DHHS, Drinking Water Program
- Kerry Smart – Class II Representative, Alfred Water District
- Suzanne Yerina – VSWS Representative, Haley Ward, Inc
- Shaun Yeatts – Educator Representative, Maine Rural Water Association
- Louis (Rob) Durgin – Water System Management Representative, Dover-Foxcroft Water District

Members Present via Zoom: *(no vote)

- None

Members Absent:

- Brian Tarbuck – (Secretary), Professional Engineer Representative, Greater Augusta Utility District

Board Coordinator and Clerk:

- David Welch – Maine DHHS, Drinking Water Program; Licensing Coordinator
- Tina Lemieux – Maine DHHS, Drinking Water Program; Licensing Clerk

Guests:

- Bradley Sawyer, Public
- Tom Healy, WPI

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Meeting called to order at **9:00 AM** by Mary Bowers.

1. Introduction of Board Members
  - a. 8 members In-Person present, 0 members Zoom present, 1 member absent, 2 guests
2. Approve meeting minutes

Motion to accept the minutes with changes – **Friday, June 30, 2023**

❖ 1<sup>st</sup>: Suzanne Yerina      2<sup>nd</sup>: Keith Levasseur      Vote: Unanimous

3. Public Comment
  - a. None
4. New Business
  - a. BLWSO Examinations – Tom Healy, (WPI)

At the request of Board Members, Kerry Smart and Brian McBride, Tom Healy from WPI has joined us via Zoom to discuss and answer Board Member questions about the exams.

    - i. Concerns are about the 10 extra questions used by WPI as test questions for future exams.
      1. Perceived Problem:

Extra time spent on 10 questions that do not count for or against the exam grade.  
How to compensate?
      2. Solutions Discussed:

increase time to take exam, or place question before or after exam,

- a. Tom Healy assured commission that there is enough time allowed to compensate for the extra 10 question, citing that most examinees do not use more than 2-hours for the exam, and there is ample time to answer an extra 10 questions.
- b. The questions are random throughout the exam to ensure each question is given adequate attention to consider the correct possible answer.

b. Budget Update – David Welch, Licensing Coordinator

- i. Board discussed, Budget Update 2023

Motion to accept budget.

❖ 1<sup>st</sup>: Keith Levasseur      2<sup>nd</sup>: Kerry Smart      Vote: Unanimous

c. Conference 2024 – registration

- i. 2<sup>nd</sup> week of January 9-12, 2024
- ii. Suzanna Yerina – possible candidate

5. Old Business

- a. None

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Motion to adjourn.

❖ 1<sup>st</sup>: Amy Lachance      2<sup>nd</sup>: Brian McBride      Vote: Unanimous

ADJOURNED – **10:10 AM**

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**\*\*Next scheduled meeting: Friday, December 1, 2023**