

**Unapproved Minutes  
Operator Certification Board Meeting  
September 14, 2021  
Rapid City-Ramkota Inn**

**Members Present:** Chris Schmit, Dave Van Cleave, Robin Bobzien, Craig Wagner, Bill Sarringar, Ryan Allen

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Rob Kittay-Secretary to the Board, Bill Thorson-SDARWS, Mark Ward/Wayne Lovelis-Watertown Municipal Utilities, and Mark Mayer via cell phone

Call to Order by Chairperson Sarringar at 2:00 pm.

**Approval of Agenda:** An agenda had been sent previously and copies were also available at the meeting. Kittay wanted to put Mark Mayer on agenda for Capacity Development Strategy Revision under Other Business. Schmit moved to approve the amended agenda. Bobzien seconded. Motion passed.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes had been emailed previously to the Board members and had been available on the internet. Van Cleave moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Schmit seconded. Motion passed.

**Old Business:** There was no Old Business.

**Reciprocity:** Robert Cole-He has Water Treatment Class T3 and WW Treatment Grade III certificates from California. The WT certificate requires two years of experience and high school graduation while the WW certificate requires four years of work experience with high school graduation. Van Cleave moved to grant Class II WW and Class II WT certificates from SD. Bobzien seconded. Motion passed.

Mark Ward-He has a WW Treatment Grade 4, Water Treatment Grade 4, and Water Distribution Grade 4 certificates from Iowa. These certificates require four years of experience and four years of post-high school education plus two years direct responsible charge. Wagner moved to grant Class IV WT/WW/WD certificates from SD. Allen seconded. Motion passed.

Chris Jones-He has a WW Treatment Class 1 from Georgia. This certificate requires three years of experience and high school graduation. Allen moved to grant a Class II Wastewater Treatment certificate from SD. Schmit seconded. Motion passed.

Keith Ferriero-He has a Water Treatment Grade IIA from New York. This certificate requires one year of experience and high school graduation. Schmit moved to grant a Class I Water Treatment certificate from SD. Van Cleave seconded. Motion passed.

**Final Hearings:** There were no final hearings scheduled.

**Preliminary Hearings:** Beaver Lake Campground-This water system requires a Small Water Treatment System certificate. Julian Starr is scheduled to take an exam on September 30 in RC.

Sugar Shack-This water system requires a Small Water Treatment System certificate. Trevor Kautzman has contacted Kittay several times about training and there have not been any small system classes since he got the system.

Kittay suggested that these cases be held at the preliminary hearing stage as there had been no small water system classes held by SDARWS since these water systems became deficient. Schmit moved that both systems have a final hearing at the next board meeting. Van Cleave seconded. Thorson said that he would look into having a small water system class this fall rather than having two in the spring. Motion passed.

**Contract Approvals:** Kittay reviewed each contract for the Board.

Lourie Lane Homeowners/Pat Hasson-Allen moved for approval. Bobzien seconded. Motion Passed.

Spearfish Forest Products/Pat Hasson-Schmit moved for approval. Wagner seconded. Motion Passed.

Rushmore Candy Company-Dakota Pump-Wagner moved for approval. Van Cleave seconded. Motion Passed.

Shep's Canyon Cove MHP/Gabe Shagla-Shagla is the former owner but staying on to help with water system. Van Cleave moved for approval. Schmit seconded. Motion Passed.

Harrisburg/Mark Hierholzer-Wagner moved for approval. Allen seconded. Motion Passed.

**Status of Certification:** The Board reviewed the latest status information on systems without certified operators. Kittay updated the Board.

Schmit moved that the following systems have a preliminary hearing at the next board meeting-

Fairburn	WD I
High Country-HC West	SWT I
High Country-HC East	SWT I
Valley Springs	WT I/ WW I
Willow Lake	SWT I/WD I
DemKota Beef	WW II

Allen seconded. Motion passed.

Schmit moved that the following systems also have a preliminary hearing at the next board meeting-

Wessington	WD I
Wakonda	WD I
Tulare	WD I
Whispering Willows	WD I

Van Cleave seconded. Motion passed. Kittay will notify the systems.

**Public Comment Period:** This is now a requirement of public meetings as of legislative action. Lovelis had some questions on reciprocity. He expressed his displeasure about not being able to transfer his certificates from Montana that had been acquired thru reciprocity. He was told that he could take any exam that he was qualified for and that SD does not require that exams be passed sequentially. He does not have to pass the Class I before he would take a Class II, etc.

**Other Business-**Kittay reminded the Board that Jim Zeck will be retiring in the near future. Thorson will be taking over the training classes for SDARWS.

Mark Mayer (via cell phone) spoke on Capacity Development Strategy Revision. Speaking to the OpCert Board is a stakeholder effort for DWP. EPA is forcing some changes including asset management. There is some question if this is valuable to a water or wastewater system. SD must submit a package to EPA for approval. SD does not want to be the first Region 8 state to submit.

**Next Meeting-**April 19, 2022 at the Matthew Center in Pierre at 2:00 pm. This is prior to the WW Seminar.

Schmit moved for adjournment. Allen seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

*Rob Kittay*

September 20, 2021

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Rob Kittay

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Date