

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Board of Examiners of Environmental Professionals

Board Members:
Kenneth M. Collette, Esq., Chair
John Adams, LEP
Russell J. Dirienzo, LEP
David Fiereck, LEP
Michelle Gamache
Robert F. Good, Jr., LEP
Louis H. Muratore, LEP
Carol Violette, PhD, CHMM
Daniel Wolfram, LEP, CHMM

MINUTES

State Board of Examiners of Environmental Professionals

Regular Meeting – July 14, 2022

A. Call to Order and Sign-In

A regular meeting of the State Board of Examiners of Environmental Professionals (“the Board”) was called to order on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 9:30 via a Zoom conference call, by Chair Kenneth Collette. Board members M. Gamache, J. Adams, D. Fiereck, L. Muratore, R. Dirienzo, R. Good, C. Violette and D. Wolfram were present via Zoom. Board Administrator Liz McAuliffe, and Selena Thornhill-Moody from DEEP, Lori Dibella representing the Attorney General’s Office, and Nelson Walter representing EPOC were also present on the Zoom call for the meeting. This meeting is being held via Zoom due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

B. Reading and Approval of the Minutes

The draft minutes of the Regular Board meeting of June 9, 2022 were read and approved; motion by R. Dirienzo, seconded by D. Fiereck, passed unanimously.

C. Public Participation

Mr. Nelson had nothing to contribute at this time.

D. Unfinished Business and General Orders

Update Regarding LEP Renewals.

Ms. McAuliffe reported that there are 331 licensed LEPs as of July 1, 2022. Newly licensed LEPs and their corresponding license numbers include:

640 Jesse Arroyo
641 Andrew Blicharz
642 Katherine Engler
643 David Granucci
644 David Lent
645 Christopher Lindahl
646 Kaitlyn Weider
647 Stefanie Wierszchalek

648 Francis Wright

We have six LEPs who are not renewing their licenses, listed below.

500 Nathan Epler

598 Erin Kirby

428 Michael Lehtinen

490 Lori Stocker

271 Dennis Unites

333 Michael Cote

403 Dennis MacCaskie (gave up his license in December)

E. New Business

Item Development Call for Volunteers

Needed are two board members to join two LEPs from the public (Mike Granata and John Carroll) and two DEEP employees (Kevin Vanderveer and Jeff Brais) in development of questions for the LEP exam bank. This exercise will take place on two or three days remotely between September 6th and the 16th depending on availability of participants. Board members D. Wolfram and R. Dirienzo volunteered to participate. .

Test Assembly Call for Volunteers

Needed are two board members, to join two LEPs from the public (Karen Goldenberg and Tim Burke) and two DEEP employees (Kevin Vanderveer and Jeff Brais) in assembling the next LEP exam to be administered in mid-May 2023. This exercise will take place on two or three days remotely between October 11th and the 21st depending on availability of participants. Board members D. Fiereck and L. Muratore volunteered to participate.

Course Related Requests

Alpha Analytical submitted an application for sponsorship and for the course length/CEC evaluated by Byron Raych, P.E. of Barton and Loguidice. A motion to approve the application for sponsorship was made by D. Wolfram, seconded by C, Violette, passed unanimously.

Approval request from the South Atlantic Well Drillers for an in-person conference titled, "*South Atlantic Jubilee*" for 9.5 CECs. A motion was made by D. Wolfram, seconded by C, Violette to deny credit for the seminar based on content, passed unanimously.

Correspondence

The individual will have 8 years of professional experience in April of 2023. However the application deadline is in February. They claim 4 years of responsible charge. Should they wait until 2024? Based on the regulations, the consensus of the Board is that the requirements for licensure must be met by 90-days prior to the exam date, consistent with the date when applications must be received for review.

Retirement Announcements

Chair Collette will be leaving DEEP and taking a position with Eversource. Chair Collette reiterated that when Denise Ruzicka asked me to replace her as chair after her long-term run, she advised that I would be joining a hard-working, dedicated, and fun group. I can confirm she was not just feeding me a line on her way to retirement and 100-day ski seasons. The opportunity to serve with this group has been a fulfilling one. I have learned a tremendous amount from all of you and greatly appreciate your dedication as you soldiered on through changes due to Covid, Board retirements, and the retirement of Kim Maiorano without missing a meeting for lack of a quorum. The new members have been incredibly engaged from the start and I know you will help guide the Board's business successfully.

Many thanks to Selena and Liz who ensured the Board's business behind the scenes continued seamlessly, including adding efficiencies to licensing services and renewing the testing contract. Their efforts will ensure the Board's business continues on as we try to retain the current roster of licensees while attracting new applicants to avoid any LEP retirement cliff.

My years on the Board have been of great benefit to me personally and professionally. I look forward to my new opportunity but will miss working with this group and hope to have an opportunity to interact with all of you going forward.

J. Adams commented that in the 27-year existence of the board, there have been countless board member, 2 administrators and only 4 Board Chairpersons. Bob Smith, Mike Harder, Denise Ruzicka and Ken Collette. He recognized the significant commitment of the Board members and understood when to give a little and when to push a little. That's what good leaders do and Ken you have served this Board well and we commend you for all of your effort on behalf of the LEP community, the environmental community and the business community. Thank you Ken and I wish you great success in your new position at Eversource.

Ms. McAuliffe appreciated Ken's calm demeanor and leadership style. She greatly enjoyed working with Ken on the Board and other matters. She wished Ken great success.

D. Wolfram congratulated Ken. He appreciated Ken's guidance when he joined the Board and looks forward to meeting Ken in person someday as the meetings have been virtual since he joined the Board.

Attorney DiBella remarked that it was unfortunate that Ken is leaving as she is coming starting to serve the Board. She appreciated all the work they have done together and will miss Ken.

M. Gamache thanked Ken for his guidance over the past few years. Eversource has a great pickup from this transition and she wished Ken the best in his future role.

R. Dirienzo concurred with all the previous comments and hoped to cross paths with Ken in the future. Good luck Ken.

Ms. Thornhill-Moody wished Ken well. She indicated that DEEP's loss is Eversource's gain.

Other Matters

J. Adams recognized the passing of a longtime Board member and Secretary Russ Slayback. Russ was an original member of the Board serving for over a decade. Russ made significant contributions to the Board and is recognized for setting a high bar for LEP standards. Previous Board member who have passed include Lisa Santacrocce and Kate Robinson.

Additional Information

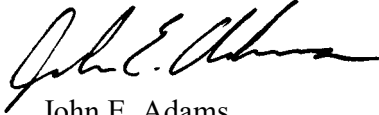
Next meeting is August 11, 2022 at 9:30AM.

F. Adjournment

On a motion by C. Violette, seconded by R. Good, Chair Collette declared the meeting adjourned at 10:12 AM.

Minutes were approved on August 11, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



John E. Adams
Board Secretary