

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Board of Examiners of Environmental Professionals

Board Members:
Elizabeth McAuliffe, Esq., Acting Chair
John Adams, LEP
Russell J. Dirienzo, LEP
David Fiereck, LEP
Michelle Gamache, MAI
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 – January 11, 2024

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, January 11, 2024, at 9:31 AM via an in-person and Zoom conference call, by Acting Chair and Board Administrator Elizabeth McAuliffe. Board members including D. Wolfram and L. Muratore were present in-person and J. Adams, D. Fiereck, R. Good, R. Dirienzo and M. Gamache were present via Zoom. Selena Thornhill-Moody from DEEP was present in-person. Lori DiBella from the Attorney General's Office representing the Board was present via Zoom. Dan Nelson representing the Environmental Professionals of Connecticut (EPOC) was present virtually for the meeting.

B. Reading and Approval of the Minutes

The draft minutes of the Regular Board meeting of December 14, 2023, were read and approved with minor corrections; motion by M. Gamache, seconded by R. Good, passed unanimously.

C. Public Participation

On behalf of EPOC Mr. Nelson thanked Acting Chair McAuliffe and R. Dirienzo for the presentation provided to Young Environmental Professionals group concerning the application and examination process.

D. Unfinished Business and General Orders

R. Dirienzo said he received a lot of great feedback concerning the presentation that was given on January 9th via Zoom. Acting Chair McAuliffe complimented R. Dirienzo on his presentation which included what could happen when you submit a Verification and that audits are a part of the process and should not be feared.

Acting Chair McAuliffe indicated that seven new applications have been submitted so far. EPOC had asked that if the regulations change before the exam date, which regulations will be applicable to the test. Acting Chair McAuliffe indicated that once the exam is created, the regulations in place at that time will be the applicable version for the test. Considering that the earliest date the new regulations would be adopted is the Fall 2024. This may dictate that the existing regulations are still applicable to the May 2025 exam.

D. Wolfram suggested that upon adoption of the new regulations more time may be required to review questions that have previously been developed to determine if they are still relevant. J. Adams suggested that an executive session be added to meetings after the adoption of the regulations to spread out the review process.

E. New Business

J. Adams made a motion that the Board discuss commenting on the draft regulations at this meeting, the motion was seconded by D. Fiereck and passed unanimously. Acting Chair McAuliffe indicated that she would recuse herself from the drafting of comments and signing of a letter due to her conflicting position at DEEP. J. Adams suggested that the previous comments/letters issued by the Board may be a good starting position by determining if the letters still represented the position of the current Board members. D. Wolfram asked M. Gamache if she or others at M&T Bank were monitoring the regulations. M. Gamache indicated that she had sat in on some previous working groups to evaluate impacts to the lending industry. After subsequent discussions it was decided that the Board would wait for the issuance of draft regulations and determine if they would comment at that time.

R. Good commented that EPOC/DEEP are putting on a seminar summarizing the new regulations on January 16, 2024.

R. Dirienzo made a motion to add to the agenda a discussion of the current scarcity of courses available for CECs, the motion was seconded by J. Adams and passed unanimously. R. Dirienzo indicated that there were very few courses that were available over the fall for LEPs to take credits. D. Nelson indicated that R. Dirienzo should direct his concerns to Seth Molofsky and Brent Henebry at EPOC. There were discussions that courses are available from the LSP, NY PG and LSRP.

There was discussion concerning a regulatory change that would require certain mandatory courses be taken to renew a license. Specifically, that if regulatory changes occurred or perhaps ethics courses may be dictated by the Board. L. Muratore identified the need for enforcement if the Board mandated certain courses.

Additional Information

Next meeting is February 15, 2024, at 9:30AM.

F. Adjournment

On a motion by R. Dirienzo, seconded by L. Muratore, Acting Chair McAuliffe declared the meeting adjourned at 10:14 AM.

Minutes were approved on February 15, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Adams Board Secretary