

**Georgia State Board of Examiners for Certification of Water & Wastewater Treatment
Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts
Teleconference Board Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2022
Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Dr., Macon, GA 31217**

Members Present:

Margaret Doss, Chair
Kenny Green, Vice-Chair
Debbie Wright
Gil Shearouse
Kim Hembree

Others Present:

Brad Coman, Executive Director
Melanie Foster, Licensing Supervisor
Kristin Mitchell, Board Support Specialist
Anna Saxton, Licensing Analyst
Mary Brannen, Sr. Assistant Attorney General

Members Absent:

Kartik Bhatt

Note: Visitors are excused during Executive Session unless scheduled for a personal appearance.

Margaret Doss, Chair, noted a quorum was present, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m., and declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§50-14-1 et seq.

OPEN SESSION:

Agenda:

Gil Shearouse moved, Debbie Wright seconded, and the Board voted to approve the April 27, 2022 Agenda.

Minutes:

Kenny Green moved, Kim Hembree seconded, and the Board voted to approve the February 16, 2022 Committee Meeting minutes and February 18, 2022 Meeting Open Session minutes.

Ratification List:

Licenses Issued through 2/14/2022 – 4/25/2022 (Total – 166):

License #	Licensee
W1-014951	Michael Patrick Stonebridge
W1-014952	Juan Antonio Garza
W1-014953	Owen Geoffrey Moss
W1-014954	Patrick Juan Person
W2-015400	De'Ja Moore
W2-015401	Jason Lee Alamo
W2-015402	Jose Francisco Ocegueda
W2-015403	Joseph Edward Revard
W3-016960	Dylan Brett Thiessen
W3-016961	Clinton Woodson Royce
W3-016962	Alan Nick Serrero
W3-016963	Brandon Reed Bush
W3-016964	Jeremy English Boatwright
W3-016965	Trevor Pinson Wheless
W3-016966	John Parker Middlebrooks

License #	Licensee
W3-016967	Emily Sisco
W3-016968	Koffi Ziga
W3-016969	James Andrew Jackson
W3-016970	Clinton W Harbin
W3-016971	Stephen Michael Jewell
W3-016972	Michael Trey Freeman
W3-016973	Justin Taylor Shaw
W3-016974	Kobie J Ousley
W3-016975	Aaron Michael Elkins, II
W3-016976	Carter Sheheane
W3-016977	Vincent Torre Washington, Jr.
W3-016978	Jarvis Quinney
W3-016979	Alex Lee
W4-002835	Nicholas Robert Allen
W4-002836	Ben Tyler Berryhill

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License #	Licensee
W4-002837	Brandon Michael Rogers
W4-002838	Daniel Scott Freeman
W4-002839	Joseph Anthony Moss
W4-002840	Charles C Berry
W4-002841	Miles Henry Beasley
W4-002842	James Kyle Spooner
W4-002843	Justin Tyler Brannen
W4-002844	Brett Grizzle
W4-002845	Teressa F Brown
W4-002846	Bryan Michael McClellan
WD016925	Chandler William Burns
WD016926	Christy Nichole Cockerham
WD016927	Kendell Bernard Williams
WD016928	John Staten Hughes
WD016929	Ashley Sommerville
WD016930	John Dwayne Epps, Jr.
WD016931	Tyler Daniel Peterman
WD016932	Jennifer L McDaniel
WD016933	Marcus Andrew McAllister
WD016934	Zachary Brian Stuart
WD016935	John D Snelling
WD016936	Ra'Shawn Jameel DeCastro
WD016937	David Ronald Sallette
WD016938	Randall B Hawkins
WD016939	Tyler Shoemaker
WD016940	Thomas George Pruett
WD016941	Takisha Johnson
WD016942	Nicholas Dollar
WD016943	Christopher Felton Collum
WD016944	Joshua Deatherage
WD016945	Daniel Paul Hyman
WD016946	Jacob Allen Whitman
WD016947	Avery Nathanael Davis
WD016948	Mckenzie Hitt
WD016949	Josh James Breeden
WD016950	Blake Sackett Bobe
WL014746	Brandon Mays Waters

License #	Licensee
WL014747	Brian Patrick O'Sullivan
WL014748	Seth Coberly Miller
WL014749	Alexis Nicole Bowick
WL014750	Arielle Leigh Hartford
WL014751	Jillian Amurao
WW1-015357	David Wayne Green
WW1-015358	Michael Trey Freeman
WW1-015359	Cylas Wayne Thompson
WW1-015360	Mark Whitlow
WW1-015361	Tracy Darlene Marlow
WW1-015362	William Cal Prince
WW1-015363	Michael Louis Mangold
WW1-015364	Maurice Lyroie Braddy
WW1-015365	Donavon Keith Head
WW2-015558	Luther Wendell Tyler Branch
WW2-015559	Harrison Thomas Hoyle
WW2-015560	Timmy Wilson Davis, Jr.
WW2-015561	Brandon Stanley
WW2-015562	Timothy Brown
WW2-015563	Caitlin Roman
WW2-015564	Conner Andrew Thomas
WW2-015565	Clifford Xavier Brown
WW2-015566	Sarah Nicole Burke
WW2-015567	Christian Alexander Shellabarger
WW2-015568	Matthew H Hatcher
WW3-018198	Kendall Wade Holcomb
WW3-018199	Yvette Robinson
WW3-018200	Dustin Mickel
WW3-018201	Chance Purvis
WW3-018202	Valerie D Clark
WW3-018203	Charles Brian Pence
WW3-018204	Caleb Kubala
WW3-018205	Stephen M Howard
WW3-018206	John Mitchel Kennington
WW3-018207	Nicholas Gage Letner
WW3-018208	Stephen Williams
WW3-018209	Noah Franklin Moss

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License #	Licensee
WW3-018210	Mark Allen Risinger
WW3-018211	Cortney Ariell Keller
WW3-018212	Vincent Luis Valencia
WW3-018213	Sheila Darlene Kern
WW3-018214	Tyler Keith Watkins
WW3-018215	Christopher Michael Oglesby
WW3-018216	Brandon James Drake
WW3-018217	Rodney Jamaal Moore
WW3-018218	Joseph Brent Howell
WW3-018219	Shane Allen King
WW3-018220	Caiden John Arvai
WW3-018221	Cameron Christian Barber
WW3-018222	Aaron Michael Elkins, II
WW3-018223	Rory Patrick Cavagnaro
WW3-018224	Glenn Eugene Price, Jr.
WW3-018225	Mason Garrett VanWert
WW3-018226	Carl Henry Williams, II
WW3-018227	Chris Jax McDougal
WW3-018228	Corey Drew Anderson
WW3-018229	Hunter Oldham
WW3-018230	William Richards Kendrick, Jr.
WW4-000215	Robert Paltz
WWC033658	Alex DiFranco
WWC033659	Andrew Porter
WWC033660	William Franklin Swaim, IV
WWC033661	Connor Davis Whittle
WWC033662	Clayson Lyle Kansanback
WWC033663	Anthony Robert Arcuri
WWC033664	Tage Craddock
WWC033665	Cary Charles Jones
WWC033666	Gary Nicholas Dempsey

License #	Licensee
WWC033667	John Thomas Huey
WWC033668	Steve Brooks
WWC033669	Randel Scott Hardesty
WWC033670	Jarrod Deshon Thomas
WWC033671	Juan Jeffrey Floyd
WWC033672	Michael David Dean
WWC033673	Richard Wesley Williams
WWC033674	Jennifer L McDaniel
WWC033675	Taylor Jordan Cline
WWC033676	Robert Elliott
WWC033677	Andrew C Martin
WWC033678	Steven Andrew Watts
WWC033679	Isaac J Fraley
WWC033680	Tyler Shaun Cox
WWC033681	Morris Brenson Sims, Jr
WWC033682	Charmarre Booze
WWC033683	Gerardo Meraz
WWC033684	Randall H Jones
WWC033685	Corey Alonzo Harris
WWID032270	Monteish R Disher
WWID032271	Joshua Parr
WWID032272	Joshua Cain Simpson
WWL014946	Emma Smith
WWL014947	Carmen M Bonal
WWL014948	Susannah Speagle
WWL014949	Ray Charles Rozier, Jr.
WWL014950	Jozef Petrak
WWL014951	Sheena Latice Lewis
WWL014952	Kevin Tyler Gibbs
WWL014953	Morgan Leigh Stone
WWL014954	Sidney P Pharr

Kim Hembree moved, Debbie Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to ratify the licenses issued between meetings by application and reinstatement that were issued in accordance with Board Rules and Policies.

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Rules Adoption Hearing:

Margaret Doss called the rules adoption hearing to order at 10:05 a.m. A court reporter was present. Brad Coman noted that no comments regarding the proposed rules had been received.

Edward Urheim, Jay Matthews, and Brent Matthews, all representing Georgia Rural Water Association, were in attendance to offer comments regarding the proposed rules. They asked that the Board consider changing the proposed amendment of Rule 750-3-.04 to reduce the length of the pre-certification course for the newly proposed groundwater subclassification of the existing Water Operator Class III certification from 40 hours to 24 hours, indicating that there might not be enough material for a 40 hour course.

Edward Urheim, Jay Matthews, and Brent Matthews also asked the Board to consider allowing the subclassification to not be limited to a Class III but be issued as a general Groundwater Operator certification. The Board noted that the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources provides the ultimate recognition and authorization necessary for certified operators to function within the State and the Division's support for this newly proposed subclassification was based on the understanding that the subclassification would service public water systems with populations of 1,000 to 10,000, as is the case for the existing Water Operator Class III certification. The Board also noted that they were proposing that the pre-certification course be 40 hours in length so that the requirements would be equivalent to that of the existing Class III certification.

BOARD RULE CHAPTER 750-3 CLASSIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

The Board believes it is necessary to amend Rule 750-3-.03 and Rule 750-3-.04 to allow for a subclassification of the existing Class III certification, specifically, a Class III Public Water Supply System Operator that is groundwater only. These proposed amendments also outline the specific certification requirements for this new sub-class. As previously established by the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources ("Division"), Class III operators currently service public water systems with populations of 1,000 to 10,000 and it is the Board's intention, with the addition of the IIIG certification, to address an ongoing need for groundwater specific operators in more rural areas of the state within this established Class III population size. The Board has received written support for this newly proposed subclassification from the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, which is critical as the Division itself will provide the ultimate recognition and authorization necessary for certified IIIG operators to function within the State. The Board has considered multiple variations, and the changes proposed are believed by the Board to be the least restrictive way to accomplish the Board's goals.

Gil Shearouse moved that the formulation and adoption of these rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of the applicable laws as required by O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4. Kenny Green seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Kenny Green moved to adopt Rules 750-3-.03 and 750-3-.04. Gil Shearouse seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Chapter 750-3 Classifications and Requirements

Rule 750-3-.03 Classifications

Operator and Laboratory Analysts shall be certified as follows:

- (a) Public Water Supply System Operator: Class I, II, III, IIIG, or IV;
- (b) Water Distribution System Operator;

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- (c) Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operator. Class I, II, III or IV;
- (d) Industrial Wastewater Treatment System Operator;
- (e) Wastewater Collection System Operator;
- (f) Water Laboratory Analyst;
- (g) Wastewater Laboratory Analyst.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 43-1-25, 43-51-5, 43-51-6, 43-51-6.1, and 43-51-10.

Rule 750-3-.04 Requirements

For certification in a particular class or category, an applicant must meet the following:

- (a) Education. Applicants must have earned a minimum of a high school diploma or GED certificate and must provide proof of education when submitting the application for certification to the Board.
- (b) Course(s). Applicants must have completed Board-approved course(s) prior to taking the examination and must provide proof of such when submitting their application for certification to the Board, unless otherwise noted in this rule. The Board may evaluate, on a case-by-case basis, post-secondary education to determine satisfaction of the course requirements. The course requirements are as follows:
 - 1. Public Water Supply System Operator
 - Class IV - 6-hour basic water operator course
 - Class III - 40-hour basic water operator course
 - Class IIIIG - 40-hour basic groundwater operator course
 - Class II - 48 hours of advanced water operator courses
 - Class I - No additional courses
 - 2. Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operator
 - Class IV - 6-hour basic waste stabilization pond operator course
 - Class III - 40-hour basic wastewater operator course
 - Class II - 48 hours of advanced wastewater operator courses
 - Class I - No additional courses
 - 3. Industrial Wastewater Treatment System Operator - 27-hour industrial wastewater operator course
 - 4. Water Laboratory Analyst - 27-hour basic water laboratory course or, a minimum of an Associate Degree in Biology or Chemistry, or, at the Board's discretion, other degrees containing sufficient courses in biology or chemistry
 - 5. Wastewater Laboratory Analyst - 27-hour basic wastewater laboratory course or, a minimum of an Associate Degree in Biology or Chemistry, or, at the Board's discretion, other degrees containing sufficient courses in biology or chemistry.
 - 6. Water Distribution System Operator - 27-hour water distribution course
 - 7. Wastewater Collection System Operator - 27-hour wastewater collection course
- (c) Experience. Required experience for certification is dependent upon the applicant's education, as follows:
 - 1. Public Water Supply System Operator or Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operator
 - (i) High School Diploma, GED
 - Class IV - 1 month of experience; Class III - 3 months of experience;
 - Class IIIIG - 3 months of experience; Class II - 24 months of experience;
 - Class I - 36 months of experience
 - (ii) Accredited Associate Degree in Biology, Chemistry, or, at the Board's discretion, other degrees containing sufficient courses in biology or chemistry
 - Class IV - 1 month of experience; Class III - 3 months of experience;
 - Class IIIIG - 3 months of experience; Class II - 18 months of experience;

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Class I - 30 months of experience

- (iii) Accredited Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology, Chemistry, or, at the Board's discretion, other degrees containing sufficient courses in biology or chemistry
Class IV - 1 month of experience; Class III - 3 months of experience;

Class IIIG - 3 months of experience; Class II - 12 months of experience;

Class I - 24 months of experience

- 2. Industrial Wastewater Treatment System Operator or Water or Wastewater Laboratory Analyst or Wastewater Collection System Operator or Water Distribution System Operator
 - (i) High School Diploma, GED, Accredited Associate Degree in Biology, Chemistry, or, at the Board's discretion, Accredited Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology, Chemistry, or other degrees containing sufficient courses in biology or chemistry - 3 months experience required
- (d) Examination.
 - 1. An applicant must pass a written examination in order to receive a certification.
 - 2. Applicants must apply for a certification within twelve (12) months of passing an examination.
 - 3. A designated agent of the Board may administer the examinations. Examination shall be offered at least six (6) times annually.
 - 4. The Board, through its designated agent, will provide reasonable accommodations to a qualified applicant with a disability in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The request for an accommodation by an individual with a disability must be in writing to the designated agent of the Board prior to the application deadline, along with appropriate documents, as indicated in the Request for Disability Accommodation Guidelines.
- (e) Current Certification. Applicants must hold the following certificates before taking an examination for the next level of certification:
 - 1. Public Water Supply System Operator
 - (i) No previous certification needed to take examination for Class IV
 - (ii) No previous certification needed to take examination for Class III or IIIG
 - (iii) Must hold Class III or Class IIIG prior to taking examination for Class II
 - (iv) Must hold Class II prior to taking examination for Class I
 - 2. Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operator
 - (i) No previous certification needed to take examination for Class IV
 - (ii) No previous certification needed to take examination for Class III
 - (iii) Must hold Class III prior to taking examination for Class II
 - (iv) Must hold Class II prior to taking examination for Class I
 - 3. Industrial Wastewater Treatment System Operator or Water or Wastewater Laboratory Analyst or Wastewater Collection System Operator or Water Distribution System Operator
 - (i) No previous certification needed to take examination
- (f) Applicants for the following certifications may take the examination before the experience requirement is met, but shall not apply for the certifications until completing the requisite experience in the actual system operation:
 - 1. Public Water Supply System Operator Class IV;
 - 2. Public Water Supply System Operator Class III or IIIG;
 - 3. Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operator Class IV;
 - 4. Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operator Class III;
 - 5. Industrial Wastewater Treatment System Operator;
 - 6. Water Laboratory Analyst;
 - 7. Wastewater Laboratory Analyst;
 - 8. Water Distribution System Operator;
 - 9. Wastewater Collection System Operator.

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- (g) Applicants for the following certifications must have completed experience in the actual system operation prior to taking an examination:
1. Public Water Supply System Operator Class II;
 2. Public Water Supply System Operator Class I;
 3. Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operator Class II;
 4. Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operator Class I.
- (h) For those applicants who have a high school diploma or GED certificate, the Board may consider other factors, including post-secondary education and other training and experience, to determine satisfaction of the experience requirements.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 43-1-25, 43-51-5, 43-51-6, 43-51-6.1, and 43-51-7.

BOARD RULE CHAPTER 750-5 OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES WITHOUT FURTHER CERTIFICATION

The Board believes it is necessary to amend Rule 750-5-.01 to clarify what water distribution systems the new sub-class of certification can operate without further certification. The addition of the IIIG certification is intended to address an ongoing need for groundwater specific operators in more rural areas of the state within this established Class III population size. The Board has received written support for this newly proposed subclassification from the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, which is critical as the Division itself will provide the ultimate recognition and authorization necessary for certified IIIG operators to function within the State. The Board has considered multiple variations, and the changes proposed are believed by the Board to be the least restrictive way to accomplish the Board's goals.

Gil Shearouse moved that the formulation and adoption of these rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of the applicable laws as required by O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4. Kim Hembree seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Kim Hembree moved to adopt Rule 750-5-.01. Debbie Wright seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Chapter 750-5 Operational Activities Without Further Certification

Rule 750-5-.01 Operational Activities Without Further Certification

- (1) Certified Class I, II, or III Public Water Supply System Operators may operate water distribution systems without further certification.
- (2) Certified Class IIIG Public Water Supply System Operators may operate water distribution systems that are exclusively supplied by groundwater without further certification.
- ~~(2)~~ (3) Certified Class I, II or III Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operators may operate wastewater collection systems without further certification.
- ~~(3)~~ (4) Certified Class I, II or III Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operators may operate industrial wastewater treatment plants without further certification.
- ~~(4)~~ (5) Certified Industrial Wastewater Treatment System Operators may operate industrial wastewater treatment plants and/or collection systems tributary to their plant.
- ~~(5)~~ (6) Certified Class I or II Public Water Supply System Operators may perform the duties of a water laboratory analyst. Certified Class I or II Biological Wastewater Treatment System Operators may perform the duties of a

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wastewater laboratory analyst in conducting certain tests for reporting purposes as defined by the Board without further certification.

~~(6)~~ (7) Certified Class IV Very Small Water System Operators may operate only very small public water supply systems and their distribution systems.

~~(7)~~ (8) Certified Class IV Wastewater Treatment System Operators may operate only Class IV Wastewater Treatment Systems and their collection systems, as defined by the Division.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 43-51-5, 43-51-6, and 43-51-6.1.

BOARD RULE CHAPTER 750-6 EXPIRATION, RENEWAL, AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Board believes it is necessary to amend Rule 750-6-.02 to outline the CE requirements for the new sub-class of certification. The addition of the IIIG certification is intended to address an ongoing need for groundwater specific operators in more rural areas of the state within this established Class III population size. The Board has received written support for this newly proposed subclassification from the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, which is critical as the Division itself will provide the ultimate recognition and authorization necessary for certified IIIG operators to function within the State. The Board also believes it is necessary to amend its Fee Schedule and charge a registration fee to education providers at the time of each biennial renewal period pursuant Board Rule 750-6-.04(6)(a) and recent legislative change to O.C.G.A. § 43-51-6(d). The Board intends to exempt government agencies (e.g. EPA) and public utilities from this fee because they are not-for-profit entities. The Board has considered multiple variations, and the changes proposed are believed by the Board to be the least restrictive way to accomplish the Board's goals.

Gil Shearouse moved that the formulation and adoption of these rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of the applicable laws as required by O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4. Debbie Wright seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Kim Hembree moved to adopt Rule 750-6-.02 and changes to the Fee Schedule. Gil Shearouse seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Chapter 750-6 Expiration, Renewal, and Continuing Education

Rule 750-6-.02 Expiration and Renewal of a Certificate

- (1) Certificates expire on June 30 of odd-numbered years and must be renewed every two (2) years.
- (2) Applicants approved for initial certification are exempt from continuing education requirements for their first renewal period.
- (3) Renewal of a certificate must be accompanied by a renewal application, fee (see Fee Schedule), and attestation of Board-approved continuing education ("CE") points completed since the last renewal period. The required number of points for each renewal certification is as follows:

CURRENT CERTIFICATION / REQUIRED CE POINTS / SPECIFICATIONS

Class I Operator Water & Wastewater / 24 CE Points / At least 50% of the points must be in course(s) approved for Water, Wastewater, or both.

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Class II Operator Water & Wastewater / 18 CE Points / At least 50% of the points must be in course(s) approved for Water, Wastewater, or both.

Industrial Wastewater Operator / 18 CE Points / At least 50% of the points must be in course(s) approved for Water, Wastewater, or both.

Laboratory Analyst Water & Wastewater / 18 CE Points / At least 50% of the points must be in course(s) approved for Water, Wastewater, or both.

Class III Operator Water & Wastewater / 12 CE Points / At least 50% of the points must be in course(s) approved for Water, Wastewater, or for both.

Class IIIG Water Operator / 12 CE Points / At least 50% of the points must be in course(s) approved for Water.

Water Distribution System Operator / 12 CE Points / At least 50% of the points must be in course(s) approved for Water, Wastewater, or both.

Wastewater Collection System Operator / 12 CE Points / At least 50% of the points must be in course(s) approved for Water, Wastewater, or both.

Class IV Operator Water & Wastewater / 6 CE Points / All of the points must be in course(s) approved for Water, Wastewater, or both.

- (4) Points must be earned from a Board-approved continuing education course. The same course shall not count more than once during a renewal period in meeting the total points required for certificate renewal.
- (5) Certificates may be renewed during the late renewal period between July 1 and July 31 of odd-numbered years with submission of a renewal application, renewal fee, and penalty fee as noted on the Fee Schedule. Continuing education points acquired to renew that certificate during the penalty period may not be used again during the next renewal cycle.
- (6) Proof of continuing education as required by Rule 750-6-.05(1) must be retained by the certificate holder for three (3) years and shall be submitted to the Board upon request.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-51-5, 43-51-6, and 43-51-6.1

Rule 750-6-.04 Education Providers, Courses, and Points

- (1) The Board shall maintain a list of currently approved course providers in accordance with eligibility criteria published by the Board. Course providers must be approved by the Board or its designee in order for applicants to receive credit. The Board may also elect to approve individual courses. A request by a course provider for approval must be submitted on a form that may be obtained from the Board and must be accompanied by the appropriate fee and supporting documents as required by the Board (See Fee Schedule). Effective July 1, 2013, course providers shall agree to provide rosters in electronic format of all attendees for all courses approved by the Board. The Professional Licensing Boards Division shall provide the electronic format for use in submitting rosters. All course approvals shall expire on or before January 31 of even-numbered years.
- (2) Providers of Basic and Advanced courses must teach such courses in a traditional classroom setting or by Webinar, as defined in Rule 750-2-.01. These courses are required for applicants to be eligible to sit for a certification examination.
- (3) Education Providers desiring Board consideration for approval must submit to the Board a completed Registration Form and required information to the Board; and
- (4) The Board may conduct an audit of Education Providers and education courses to ensure compliance.

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- (5) The Board may require Education Providers to submit an electronic roster of attendees for all courses approved by the Board.
- (6) Continuing Education Courses.

Approved education courses expire January 31 of even numbered years. The Board may approve continuing education courses for Management Safety, Water, Wastewater, or both Water and Wastewater, which are offered in person, online, through correspondence courses, and Webinars and webcasts subject to the following:

- (a) Submission of completed application and appropriate fee; and
- (b) documentation of topic(s) to be taught, indicating hours of instruction for each topic; and
- (c) credentials of the educators/presenters involved; and
- (d) name of the moderator documenting on-site attendance/registration.
- (e) Only operational or regulatory topics will be approved for Webinars or webcasts.
- (f) Certificates of completion must be presented to attendees who complete the Webinars or webcast.
- (7) Determination of Continuing Education Points.
- (a) Points shall be awarded in whole numbers. No partial points shall be awarded for courses that total less than whole hours.
- (b) Traditional classroom courses and Webinars on operational, analytical, safety and management topics shall be granted one point per contact hour up to a maximum of 6 points per day and 12 points per event.
- (c) Online courses on operational, analytical, safety, and management topics shall be granted one-half point per contact hour up to a maximum of 6 points, unless the course is a Webinar, or unless the course provider demonstrates greater credit is justified through beta testing results, or unless the course provider is IACET (International Association for Continuing Education and Training) approved.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 43-1-4, 43-1-25, 43-51-5, 43-51-6, and 43-51-6.1

BOARD RULE CHAPTER 750-7 REVOCATION AND REINSTATEMENT FOR FAILURE TO RENEW

The Board believes it is necessary to amend Rule 750-7-.01 to reflect recent changes to Joint Secretary Rule 295-2-.01, which provides, in relevant part, that Wastewater and Water Treatment Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts have a lapsed last renewal period from July 1 to July 31st of odd numbered years. The Board also believes it is necessary to amend Rule 750-7-.02 in order to treat reinstatement and reciprocity applicants consistently, especially with respect to examination requirements. The Board has considered multiple variations, and the changes proposed are believed by the Board to be the least restrictive way to accomplish the Board's goals.

Gil Shearouse moved that the formulation and adoption of these rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rules cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of the applicable laws as required by O.C.G.A. § 50-13-4. Kim Hembree seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Kenny Green moved to adopt Rules 750-7-.01 and 750-7-.02. Debbie Wright seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Chapter 750-7 Revocation and Reinstatement for Failure to Renew

Rule 750-7-.01 Revocation for Failure to Renew

Failure to renew a certificate by ~~October~~ August 1 of renewal year shall have the same effect as revocation of the certificate and reinstatement is required.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-51-5, 43-51-6, and 43-51-6.1

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Rule 750-7-.02 Reinstatement

- (1) Certificates that have been lapsed for less than 2 years may be reinstated at the discretion of the Board as follows:
 - (a) Submission of a reinstatement application and reinstatement fee (see Fee Schedule); and
 - (b) evidence of the completion, since the last renewal, of the total number of continuing education points which would have been required if the certificate had been maintained in a current status.
- (2) Certificates that have been lapsed for over 2 years may be reinstated at the discretion of the Board when the applicant has submitted a reinstatement application and reinstatement fee and met the following criteria:
 - (a) Retaken and passed the examination for the certificate requesting to be reinstated; ~~and or~~
 - (b) ~~submitted a reinstatement application and reinstatement fee.~~ submitted a verified certificate in good standing issued by another country, or by any state, territory, or possession of the United States which has requirements for certification substantially similar to the Board.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 43-1-4, 43-1-7, 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-51-5, 43-51-6, 43-51-6.1, 43-51-7, and 43-51-8.

The rules adoption hearing was adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Kim Hembree moved, Kenny Green seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session at 10:40 a.m. in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19(h) and 43-51, for the purpose of reviewing applications, complaints, and hearing the Attorney General's report.

At the conclusion of Executive Session, Margaret Doss, Chair, declared the meeting to be "open" at 11:34 a.m. pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq.

OPEN SESSION:

Gil Shearouse moved, Kim Hembree seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to ratify the following recommendations made during Executive Session:

Applications:

3000857– C.W.H. – Water Operator Class III – Table – Needs to complete Basic 40-hour Water Operator course. Education cannot be accepted in lieu of training.

3003232 – R.W.O. – Water Operator Class II – Approved with public Consent Order with probation to run concurrent with criminal probation. Refer to Attorney General's office.

3007703 – C.W.S. – Wastewater Operator Class III – Table – Needs to submit more thorough job description.

3006060 – Michael Charles Thompson – Wastewater Industrial Operator – Approved.

3006519 – Marcus Jerome Brown – Wastewater Operator Class II – Approved.

3009595 – Michael Joseph Roderick – Wastewater Operator Class III – Approved.

3014134 – Samuel Higgins Rawlins – Wastewater Operator Class I – Approved.

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Complaint:

WW220004 – Close – Lack of information.

Attorney General’s Report:

The Board reviewed and accepted the Attorney General’s report, which included information on any cases referred for action or requests for advice. The Board made the recommendation to release the Attorney General’s Memorandum of Authority for Amendments to Rules Chapters 750-3, 750-5, 750-6, and 750-7.

Continuing Education:

Kim Hembree moved, Debbie Wright seconded, and the motion was carried by the Board to accept the Continuing Education Committee’s recommendations as follows:

Continuing Education Applications and Results:

Program Provider/Sponsor	Course Title / Notes	Results / Points
Clayton County Water Authority	Temporary Traffic Control Safety Workshop - Lecture, Workshop, Instructive Tour	6 MS
Technical Learning College	Activated Sludge	8 WW
Technical Learning College	Basic Electricity	5 W/WW
Technical Learning College	Basic Plumbing	4 W
Technical Learning College	Chemical Contaminants 201	6 W/WW
Technical Learning College	Chemical Handling	5 MS
Technical Learning College	Chlorination 101	4 /W/WW
Technical Learning College	Collection Construction	6 WW
Technical Learning College	Cross-Connection Identification	3 W/WW
Technical Learning College	Disinfection Basics	6 W/WW
Technical Learning College	Distribution 404	6 W
Technical Learning College	Distribution Advanced Study	6 W
Technical Learning College	Distribution Basics	5 W
Technical Learning College	Distribution Basics (2nd Edition)	5 W
Technical Learning College	Hazard Communication	5 MS
Technical Learning College	Hydraulic Principles	4 W/WW
Technical Learning College	Modern Disinfection	12 W/WW
Technical Learning College	Laboratory Safety	6 MS
Technical Learning College	Nutrient Removal	8 WW
Technical Learning College	Nutrients and Microbes	6 WW
Technical Learning College	Operator Math Review	6 W/WW
Technical Learning College	Operational Management	5 MS
Technical Learning College	Pathogens 101	6 W/WW
Technical Learning College	POU Water Treatment	4 W
Technical Learning College	Pretreatment 101	6 WW
Technical Learning College	Plumbing 101	4 W
Technical Learning College	Pumping Principles	6 W
Technical Learning College	Pumps and Motors	6 W/WW
Technical Learning College	Storage Facilities	4 W/WW
Technical Learning College	Tertiary Treatment	6 W
Technical Learning College	Valves & Controls	3 W
Technical Learning College	Water Chemistry	6 W/WW
Technical Learning College	Water Quality – 6 W	6 W
Technical Learning College	Wastewater Treatment Water Quality	6 WW

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Program Provider/Sponsor	Course Title / Notes	Results / Points
Technical Learning College	Wastewater Collection	5 WW
Technical Learning College	Water Treatment	5 W
Technical Learning College	Wastewater Treatment	5 WW
Technical Learning College	Water Treatment Process Control	12 MS
Technical Learning College	Water Treatment Utilization	6 W
Technical Learning College	Water/Wastewater Sampling – 12 MS	12 MS
Technical Learning College	Water Treatment 404	6 W
Technical Learning College	Wellfield Operations	6 W
Technical Learning College	Wet Lab Procedures	6 WW
Western States Alliance	2022 National Fats, Oils and Grease Pretreatment Training Program - Lecture	6 WW
Water Environment Federation	Utility Management Conference 2022 – WEF/AWWA - Lecture/Workshop	12 MS
Tyler Union	Fundamentals of Ductile Iron Fittings - Lecture	1 W/WW
American Water Works Association	EL285 - Corrosion Control Theory and Treatment - Online	1 W
American Water Works Association	EL286 - Assessing Need for a Corrosion Control Evaluation - Online	2 W
Jacobs Engineering Group Inc	Phase 1 Compliance & Reporting Operator Course Application - Lecture	6 WW
McWane Plant and Industrial	Municipal Water / Waste Water Valves Types, Uses, and Maintenance - Lecture	1 W/WW
North Georgia Water Resources Partnership	2022 Annual Meeting/Educational Seminar – Lecture	4 MS
Henry County Water Authority	Henry County Water Authority Summer 2022 CE Symposium – Lecture	6 W/WW/MS
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Water Security Division	America’s Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Workshop – Online Webinar	1 MS
Nezat Training and Consulting, Inc	Sewer Cleaning 102 Program of Study - Lecture/Workshop	6 WW
American Water Works Association	Sewer Collection Piping Systems and Appurtenances (EL209) – Online	1 WW
American Water Works Association	Flushing, Disinfection, and Bacteriological Tests (EL211) – Online	1 W
American Water Works Association	Backflow Prevention & Cross-Connection Control (EL227) – Online	1 W
Douglasville-Douglas County Water and Sewer Authority	Microbiology Laboratory Proficiency Testing – Lecture	Gil Shearouse recused. 2 W
California State University Sacramento	Math Applications in Collection Systems (101C) – Online/Correspondence	9 WW
California State University Sacramento	Math Applications in Water Treatment (102C) – Online/Correspondence	10 W
California State University Sacramento	Math Applications in Water Distribution (103C) – Online/Correspondence	9 W
California State University Sacramento	Small Water System: Wells (702A) – Online/Correspondence	9 W
California State University Sacramento	Small Water System: Treatment Plants (702B) – Online/Correspondence	9 W
California State University Sacramento	Small Water System: Disinfection (702C)– Online/Correspondence	9 W

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Program Provider/Sponsor	Course Title / Notes	Results / Points
California State University Sacramento	Small Water System: Safety and Introduction to Small Water System Management (702D) – Online/Correspondence	9 MS
California State University Sacramento	Small Water System: Laboratory Procedures (702E) –Online/Correspondence	9 W
California State University Sacramento	Water Distribution: Safety (703A) – Online/Correspondence	9 MS
California State University Sacramento	Water Distribution: Distribution Facilities (703B) – Online/Correspondence	9 W
California State University Sacramento	Water Distribution: Disinfection (703C) – Online/Correspondence	9 W
California State University Sacramento	Water Distribution: Operation & Maintenance (703D) –Online/Correspondence	9 W
California State University Sacramento	Water Distribution: Management (703E) – Online/Correspondence	9 W
California State University Sacramento	Advanced Waste Treatment – Online/Correspondence	12 ADV, 12 WW
California State University Sacramento	Collection System Operation & Maintenance Training Videos –Correspondence	3 WW
California State University Sacramento	Collection Systems: Methods for Evaluating and Improving Performance –Correspondence	12 WW
California State University Sacramento	Industrial Waste Treatment Volume I – Correspondence	12 WW, 13.5 BAS Industrial WW
California State University Sacramento	Industrial Waste Treatment Volume II – Correspondence	12 WW, 13.5 BAS Industrial WW
California State University Sacramento	Membrane Bioreactors – Correspondence	5 WW
California State University Sacramento	Manage for Success: Effective Utility Leadership Practices – Correspondence	12 MS
California State University Sacramento	Operation & Maintenance of Wastewater Collection System Volume I –Correspondence	12 WW, 13.5 BAS Collection WW
California State University Sacramento	Operation & Maintenance of Wastewater Collection System Volume II –Correspondence	12 WW, 13.5 BAS Collection WW
California State University Sacramento	Operation of Wastewater Treatment Plants Volume IA - Safety, Beginning Treatment, and Lagoon Systems – Correspondence	12 WW, 7 BAS Collection WW. Basic Courses cannot receive partial credit – must complete parts A, B, and C to get full credit.
California State University Sacramento	Operation of Wastewater Treatment Plants Volume IB -Secondary Treatment – Correspondence	12 WW, 7 BAS Collection WW. Basic Courses cannot receive partial credit – must complete parts A, B, and C to get full credit.
California State University Sacramento	Operation of Wastewater Treatment Plants Volume IC - Disinfection, Laboratory Procedures, and Math – Correspondence	12 WW, 7 BAS Collection WW. Basic Courses cannot receive partial credit – must complete parts A, B, and C to get full credit.
California State University Sacramento	Operation of Wastewater Treatment Plants Volume II – Correspondence	12 WW, 20 BAS WW
California State University Sacramento	Pretreatment Facility Inspection – Correspondence	12 WW, 13.5 BAS Industrial WW

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Program Provider/Sponsor	Course Title / Notes	Results / Points
California State University Sacramento	Pretreatment Facility Inspection Training Videos – Correspondence	3 WW
California State University Sacramento	Small Water System O & M – Correspondence	12 W, 6 BAS W
California State University Sacramento	Small Water Systems Video Information Series – Correspondence	12 W
California State University Sacramento	Small Wastewater System Operation & Maintenance Volume I – Correspondence	12 WW, 3 BAS WW
California State University Sacramento	Small Wastewater System Operation & Maintenance Volume II – Correspondence	12 WW, 3 BAS WW
California State University Sacramento	Treatment of Metal Waste streams – Correspondence	12 WW, 13.5 BAS Industrial WW
California State University Sacramento	Utility Management – Correspondence	8 MS
California State University Sacramento	Water Systems Operation & Maintenance Video Training Series – Correspondence	12 W
California State University Sacramento	Water Distribution System O & M – Correspondence	12 W, 27 BAS W Distribution
California State University Sacramento	Water Treatment Plant Operation Volume I – Correspondence	12 W, 20 BAS W
California State University Sacramento	Water Treatment Plant Operation Volume II – Correspondence	12 W, 20 BAS W
American Water Works Association	Basic Math I and Chemistry I (EL228) – Online	1 W
American Water Works Association	Membrane Processes (EL229) – Online	1 W
American Water Works Association	Risk and Resilience of Water and Wastewater Systems (EL262) – Online	2 MS

OTHER BUSINESS:

Docketed Orders:

Kim Hembree moved, Kenny Green seconded, and the Board voted to accept the docketed order as presented:

Type	Name	Application #	Complaint #	Docket #	City
Consent Agreement	John Dwayne Epps, Jr.	2982758	WW220003	2022-0342	Athens

Approved Basic and Advanced Courses

The Board reviewed and discussed a draft spreadsheet of Basic and Advanced courses approved by the Board. Gil Shearouse moved to approve and post the spreadsheet on the Board’s website. Debbie Wright seconded, and the motion passed.

WPI Testing Fees

The Board reviewed an update on testing service fees for 2022-2023 from Water Professionals International. These fees are set to go into effect on June 1, 2022.

Agency Update

The Board reviewed an update on changes to the agency licensing system.

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Executive Director's Report

The Board reviewed the Executive Director's report, which provided the Board with data relevant to the applications received, pass rates for exams, lapsed licenses due to non-renewal, and active license for calendar year 2021. Debbie Wright moved to accept the Executive Director's Report. Gil Shearouse seconded and the motion carried.

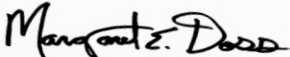
There being no further business, Margaret Doss, Chair, declared the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.


The next meeting of the Georgia Board of Examiners for Certification of Water & Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts will be held on Thursday, June 30, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, GA.

Minutes recorded by: Kristin Mitchell, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by: Brad Coman, Executive Director

Minutes approved on:


Margaret Doss, Chair


Brad Coman, Executive Director

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1/1/2021-12/31/2021

Operator Class	Applicants ¹	Applicants by Exam ²	Exam ³ Candidates	First Time Candidates	% Pass for First Time	Repeat Candidates	% Pass for Repeat	Certs. Issued ⁴	Lapsed for Non-Renewal	Active Licenses
Water Operator Class I	53	45	167	60	25.0%	107	20.6%	45	81	764
Water Operator Class II	77	75	104	62	67.7%	42	42.9%	65	58	409
Water Operator Class III	136	130	276	160	49.4%	116	24.1%	112	155	837
Water Operator Class IV	65	58	72	67	85.1%	5	60.0%	42	178	504
Water Distribution Operator	148	136	256	164	54.3%	92	31.5%	117	257	1,624
Water Laboratory Analyst	46	45	60	47	70.2%	13	53.8%	39	64	530
Wastewater Operator Class I	66	44	158	63	23.8%	95	18.9%	51	112	891
Wastewater Operator Class II	52	49	198	74	24.3%	124	21.0%	45	51	402
Wastewater Operator Class III	142	134	404	212	27.4%	191	23.0%	106	275	1,250
Wastewater Operator Class IV	13	11	11	6	66.7%	5	40.0%	5	11	39
Wastewater Collection Systems Operator	133	128	164	122	74.6%	42	38.1%	111	183	1,223
Wastewater Industrial Operator	28	25	52	36	41.7%	16	31.3%	24	57	253
Wastewater Laboratory Analyst	57	56	80	53	58.5%	27	59.3%	51	75	584

¹ This number includes applications by Reciprocity, Endorsement, Examination, and Reinstatement.

² This number only includes individuals that have applied for certification with the Secretary of State's Professional Licensing Boards Division.

³ This number only reflects the amount of people that took the test and includes individuals who have not yet applied for certification.

⁴ This number includes certifications issued by Reciprocity, Endorsement, Examination, and Reinstatement.