

**Georgia State Board of Examiners for Certification of Water & Wastewater Treatment  
Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts  
Board Meeting Minutes –February 21, 2024  
Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Dr., Macon, GA 31217**

**Members Present:**

- Margaret Doss, Chair
- Kenny Green \*
- Debbie Wright
- Kartik Bhatt \*
- Asmita Patel \*

**Others Present:**

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

**Members Absent:**

- Gil Shearouse

\* *via teleconference*

**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 10:05 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:**

Kartik Bhatt moved, Debbie Wright seconded, and the Board voted to approve the February 21, 2024, Agenda.

**Minutes:**

Kartik Bhatt moved, Debbie Wright seconded, and the Board voted to approve the December 14, 2023, Open Session and Executive Session minutes.

**Ratification List:**

Licenses Issued through 12/11/2023 – 02/15/2024 (Total – 132):

License #	Licensee
WD017183	Dylan Nelson
WWID032303	Jefferson Lee Pendergrass
WD017184	Sidney Blake Gibson
WW2-015657	Taylor James Jones
W3-017212	Michael Larry Taylor
WD017186	Jeremy Kingston
WW3-018436	Matthew A Hyatt
W3-017213	Grace Victoria Williams
WW3-018437	Michael Allen Wilson
W1-015013	Lauren Megan Ochoa
WW3-018438	Chris Edward Harris
WWC033883	Ty Bryant Karney
WL014832	Eyasu Altaye
WWC033881	Michael Todd Miller
W2-015479	Alison Michelle Prem

License #	Licensee
WD017165	Jerrett Thomas Owens
WW3-018415	Blake Hoelscher
W3-017195	Hunter James Kvistad
W2-015480	Jean Bernard Jeanty Sr
WWL015019	Dennis Brandon Fallin
WWL015020	Mallory Downs
W3-017197	Talmadge Ernest Armistead
WD017167	Elijah Cayne Ford
WL014833	Armando Alvarez-Hernandez
W3-017196	Christina Kelley
W1-015008	Justin Tyler Chipman
WD017169	Brian Chandler Love
WW2-015654	Cortney Ariell Keller
W2-015481	James Andrew Jackson
WWL015021	Evelyn Brenda Calina

**Georgia State Board of Examiners for Certification of Water & Wastewater Treatment  
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License #	Licensee
W3-017198	John J Smith
WW2-015655	Morgan Stone Hennessy
W1-015009	Chad Anthony Robertson
WW3-018416	Brandon Gokey
WW3-018419	Ernest Eugene Roberson
WW1-015439	Hugh Smith Jr
W3-017202	Joshua Charles Robinson
W2-015482	Timothy James Panter
W3-017200	James Conner Williams
WWC033885	Matthew Douglas Wyatt
W3-017204	Jon Connor Caldwell
WW1-015440	Bryan Danelle Williams
W1-015011	Hugh Smith Jr
WW3-018424	Marvin H Brown
WW3-018423	Jeff Camilli
WW3-018423	Jeff Camilli
WL014834	Cindy Le Nguyen
WW3-018421	Jory Scott Summerton
WD017176	Jonathan Mark Buckridge
WW3-018422	Mark Harvey Miller
W2-015486	Sarah McCartney
WWC033886	Dillon Aubrey Dobbs
W3-017205	Twayn Randall Andringa
WW1-015441	Kevin Joseph Mesa
W2-015487	Jonathan Waggener
WD017180	George Barbieri Del Sol
WW3-018427	Louie Lee
WL014835	Yakira Leigh Chapman
WW3-018428	Matthew Gilmore
WD017179	Yahir Ferraro
WWC033888	George Barbieri Del Sol
WD017181	Adetunji Etim Roberts
WW3-018430	Tiarra Monay Kennedy
WW3-018435	Natalie Christine Keyt
WW3-018439	Sean Michael Obyrne
WW1-015437	Donald Keith Crawford Jr.
WWL015018	Hunter McCormick

License #	Licensee
WD017164	Lori Croft Cirami
W3-017190	Morgan Stone Hennessy
W3-017189	Logan Matthew Rocho
W3-017193	Kevin Matthew Pendleton
WW3-018411	Tabitha Ann Winchester
W3-017191	Michael John Chaco
WD017163	Mathew Justin Plemons
WW3-018412	John Denk
WW3-018413	Byron Lee Riebow
WW1-015438	Blake Dalton Haynie
WWC033882	Matthew Aaron Catlett
WD017166	Edward Lamar Sadler
W4-002893	Madison Wood Singletary
WW3-018417	Thomas Jerome Byrom
W3-017192	Ricky Lee Tyson Page
W3-017194	Thao Duong
WD017171	Delwin Barnes
W2-015483	Kelly Renea Jackson
WW3-018414	Dallas Edward Rutland
WD017168	James Ervin
WD017172	Thomas Gaddis
WD017170	Brandon James Barbella
WD017173	Robert Eric Rowland
W2-015485	Marissa Ann Rayburn
WW2-015656	Robert Eugene Goble III
W1-015010	L'Kardos KeTwan Ware
WD017174	Sara Felth
WD017175	Michael Paul Conley
WW3-018418	Gavin Lance
W2-015484	Stevie Nicole Drye
WW3-018420	Nathan Curtis Hill
W3-017201	K.C. Champion
W3-017199	Terry Shane Marsingill
WWC033884	Travis Dantonie Lucy
W3-017203	Jamie J Anderson
WW3-018425	David Martin Smith
W3-017206	Jeremy Edward Harris

**Georgia State Board of Examiners for Certification of Water & Wastewater Treatment  
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License #	Licensee
WW1-015442	John Mitchel Kennington
WWID032302	Alexander P Price
WWC033887	Yasah Robyn Lavala
WW3-018426	Cory Horne
WD017177	Yasah Robyn Lavala
WD017178	Bradley Dwight Wheelis
W1-015012	Matthew Gilmore
WD017182	Kojo Marilla
W3-017207	Jorge Nathan Ortiz
WW1-015443	Michael Edward Holland
W3-017209	Rodolfo Alvarado Ramos III
WW1-015444	Erika Joany Torres
WW3-018429	Jamal Donta Newson
W3-017208	Debra Ann Richard
WWC033889	Roy Joseph Hostetler

License #	Licensee
WWL015023	Thomas Dylan Hutchins
WW3-018431	Michael Braiden Cheatwood
WWL015022	Jensen Coy Christian Waugh
WW3-018432	Luis Navarro Vazquez
WW3-018433	Aaron Guerrero
WD017185	Parker Casey Pitisci
W3-017210	James Charles Dobbin
W3-017211	Matthew Joseph Zeigler
WW3-018434	Lucy Shuman
WL014836	Aliyah Martin
W2-015488	Avis Diane Gale
W4-002894	Nikolai Gardner
WD017187	Austin Ezra Lane Ansbro
WW2-015658	Dylan Robert Girard

Kartik Bhatt 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.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Kartik Bhatt moved, Debbie Wright seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session at 10:10 a.m. in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19(h) and 43-51, for the purpose of reviewing applications and hearing the Attorney General’s report.

At the conclusion of Executive Session, Margaret Doss, Chair, declared the meeting to be “open” at 10:21 a.m. pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq.

**OPEN SESSION**

Kartik Bhatt moved, Debbie Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to ratify the following recommendations made during Executive Session:

**Applications:**

3121289 – Donald Owen – Wastewater Collection System Operator – Approved.

4021746 – Jackson Corrigan – Wastewater Operator Class II – Approve education in lieu of experience.

3117659 – Stephen Lee Davis – Wastewater Industrial Operator – Approved.

4012431 – L.T. – Wastewater Collection System Operator - Approve with a Public Consent Agreement to include probation to run concurrent with criminal parole and probation.

4021376 – C.A.M. – Wastewater Collection System Operator - Approve with a Public Consent Agreement to include probation to run concurrent with criminal probation.

**Georgia State Board of Examiners for Certification of Water & Wastewater Treatment  
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Professional Licensing Boards Division, 237 Coliseum Dr., Macon, GA 31217**

**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.

**Continuing Education:**

Debbie Wright made a motion for the Board to approve applications for course renewals based on a cognizant’s recommendation between meetings for the remainder of the applications for the current renewal cycle, resulting in the applications not needing to go before the full Board for approval. Kenny Green seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Kartik Bhatt moved, Kenny Green seconded, and the motion was carried by the Board to accept the Continuing Education Committee’s recommendations as follows:

**Continuing Education Applications and Results:**

<b>Program Provider/Sponsor</b>	<b>Course Title / Notes</b>	<b>Results / Points</b>
Brunswick-Glynn Joint Water & Sewer Commission	Basic Wastewater – Lecture	40 BAS WW, 12 CE WW
Brown and Caldwell	Big Creek WRF Expansion Training Course – Influent Control and Headworks – Lecture	3 WW
Brown and Caldwell	Big Creek WRF Expansion Training Course - Electrical Safety – Lecture	3 WW
Brown and Caldwell	Big Creek WRF Expansion Training Course - Primary Clarifiers – Lecture	3 WW
Brown and Caldwell	Big Creek WRF Expansion Training Course - Membrane Bioreactor System – Lecture	3 WW
Brown and Caldwell	Big Creek WRF Expansion Training Course - UV Disinfection System – Lecture	3 WW
Brown and Caldwell	Big Creek WRF Expansion Training Course - S2EBPR System – Lecture	3 WW
Brown and Caldwell	Big Creek WRF Expansion Training Course - BNR Process – Lecture	3 WW
Industrial Furnace Company, Inc	Maximum Achievable Control Technology Compliance Training-New Operator – Lecture	6 WW
Industrial Furnace Company, Inc	Sewer Sludge Incinerator MACT Refresher Training – Lecture	4 WW
Chattahoochee Technical College	Introduction to Water Treatment Processes – Lecture	40 BAS, 12 W
Chattahoochee Technical College	Introduction to Wastewater Treatment – Lecture	40 BAS, 12 WW
Chattahoochee Technical College	Water Distribution Operation	27 BAS WD, 12 W
Fayette County Water System	Field Operations Coliform Sampling and Analysis – Lecture	1 W
Fayette County Water System	Laboratory and Field Compliance Sampling – Lecture	2 W
City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management	OSHA 10 Hour Construction – Lecture	6 MS
City of Atlanta Department of Watershed Management	OHS 10 Hour Construction – Online	3 MS
Southern Crescent Technical College	Water Treatment Processes – Live Webinar	40 BAS, 12 W
Southern Crescent Technical College	Wastewater Treatment Operator Class 3 – Live Webinar	40 BAS, 12 WW
Dalton Utilities	Activated Sludge: Equipment & Facilities – Online	2 WW
Dalton Utilities	Activated Sludge: Process Control – Online	2 WW
Dalton Utilities	Activated Sludge: Process Overview – Online	2 WW
Dalton Utilities	Activated Sludge: Safety Considerations – Online	2 WW
Dalton Utilities	Activated Sludge: Sampling, Analysis and Data Management – Online	2 WW
Dalton Utilities	Activated Sludge: Troubleshooting – Online	2 WW
Dalton Utilities	Basic Water Treatment Module 1 – Online	2 WW
Dalton Utilities	Basic Water Treatment Module 2 – Online	2 WW
Dalton Utilities	Basic Water Treatment Module 3 – Online	2 WW
Dalton Utilities	Basic Water Treatment Module 4 – Online	4 WW

**Georgia State Board of Examiners for Certification of Water & Wastewater Treatment  
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Board Meeting Minutes – February 21, 2024  
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<b>Program Provider/Sponsor</b>	<b>Course Title / Notes</b>	<b>Results / Points</b>
Dalton Utilities	Basic Water Treatment Module 5 – Online	2 WW
Dalton Utilities	NSC Defensive Driving Course (Online) – Online	2 MS
Dalton Utilities	NSC Defensive Driving Course – Lecture	6 MS
Dalton Utilities	NSC First Aid, CPR & AED (Blended - Part 1 of 2, Online Course) – Online	2 MS
Dalton Utilities	NSC First Aid, CPR & AED (Blended - Part 2 of 2, Instructive Tour) – Lecture	1 MS
Dalton Utilities	NSC First Aid, CPR & AED – Lecture	5 MS
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Accident Investigation – Lecture	6 MS
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Basic Wastewater Treatment – Lecture	40 BAS, 12 WW
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Basic Water Treatment – Lecture	40 BAS, 12 W
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Confined Space Entry & Program Development – Lecture	6 MS
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Distribution Sampling – Lecture	6 W
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Excavation and Trenching Safety Awareness – Lecture	6 MS
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Operation & Maintenance of Wastewater Collection Systems – Lecture	27 BAS WWC, 12 WW
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Pump Station Operation & Maintenance – Lecture	6 W/WW
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Valve & Hydrant Repair – Lecture	6 W
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Wastewater Collection System Math – Lecture	6 WW
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Wastewater Operator Review – Lecture	6 WW
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Wastewater Treatment Math – Lecture	6 WW
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Water Distribution Math – Lecture	6 W
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Water Distribution System Operation & Maintenance – Lecture	27 BAS WD, 12 W
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Water Operator Review – Lecture	6 W
Georgia Utility Training Academy	Water Treatment Math – Lecture	6 W
At Your Pace Online	Advanced Oxidation and UV Disinfection – Online	1 W
At Your Pace Online	Basic Electrical Concepts for Water Operators – Online	1 W
At Your Pace Online	Coagulation and Flocculation – Online	1 W
At Your Pace Online	Disinfection – Online	1 W
At Your Pace Online	Electrical Safety (NFPA 70E 2021) – Online	2 MS
At Your Pace Online	Introduction to Water Technology – Online	2 W/WW
At Your Pace Online	Maintaining Wastewater Equipment – Online	2 WW
At Your Pace Online	Membrane Processes – Online	1 W
At Your Pace Online	Meters, Valves, and Hydrants – Online	1 W
At Your Pace Online	Piping Systems Part 1 – Online	2 W/WW
At Your Pace Online	Piping Systems Part 2 – Online	2 W/WW
At Your Pace Online	Pump Installation and Overhaul – Online	1 W/WW
At Your Pace Online	Pumps Part 1 – Online	2 W/WW
At Your Pace Online	Pumps Part 2 – Online	2 W/WW
At Your Pace Online	Valve Maintenance and Selection – Online	1 W/WW
At Your Pace Online	Wastewater Treatment Processes – Online	2 W/WW
California State University, Sacramento - Office of Water Programs	Operation of Wastewater Treatment Plants, Volume 3A—Treatment Plants, Effluent Discharge and Reuse, and Odor Control – Correspondence	12 ADV WW, 6 WW
California State University, Sacramento - Office of Water Programs	Operation of Wastewater Treatment Plants Volume 3B - Instrumentation and Control and Introduction to Utility Management – Correspondence	12 ADV WW, 6 WW
Atlanta Technical College	Water Distribution and Backflow – Lecture	27 BAS WD ADV, 12 W
Atlanta Technical College	Introduction to Wastewater Treatment – Lecture	40 BAS WW, 12 WW
Atlanta Technical College	Water Treatment Processes and Distribution – Lecture	40 BAS W, 12 W
Specific Energy	Specific Energy to Improve Pump Performance – Lecture	3 W/WW
Horsely Witten Group, Inc.	EPA Region 4 Power Resilience Workshop – Webinar	5 W/WW/MS

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**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Class III Groundwater Certification Update:**

The Board discussed updates on the development of the new Class III Groundwater Operator subclass and precertification exam. Margaret Doss reminded the Board that the exam has been live since June and several individuals have successfully sat for the exam. Margaret Doss also notified the Board that EPD's rules hearing related to approval of the subclass is scheduled for February 26<sup>th</sup>. Brad Coman notified the Board that the application should be live and the Board website should be updated to reflect the new subclass within the next week.

**Endorsement Eligibility Discussion:**

The Board reviewed and discussed creating a matrix of requirements for certification by state to be posted to the Board's website to allow applicants to better understand the equivalency in this state for a certification that they hold in another state in an effort to ensure that applicants are submitting correct Endorsement/Reciprocity applications. The Board noted that a national equivalency matrix does not currently exist and noted concern that any matrix published make clear that the Board uses the matrix as a guideline and does guarantee issuance of a certification as the board reviews applications on a case-by-case basis. Debbie Wright moved, Kartik Bhatt seconded, and the Board unanimously voted to continue discussion at the April 24, 2024 Board meeting.

**Board Election:**

Debbie Wright moved, Kartik Bhatt seconded, and the Board unanimously voted to re-elect Margaret Doss as Chair and elect Gil Shearouse as Vice Chair.

There being no further business, Margaret Doss, Chair, declared the meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

The next meeting of the Georgia Board of Examiners for Certification of Water & Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators & Laboratory Analysts will be held on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at 10:00 am.

Minutes recorded by: Kristin Mitchell, Board Support Specialist

Minutes reviewed and edited by: Brad Coman, Executive Director

Minutes approved on: April 24, 2024.

  
Margaret Doss, Chair

  
Brad Coman, Executive Director

**Attachment**

STATE OF GEORGIA  
COUNTY OF BIBB

**AFFIDAVIT SUPPORTING CLOSING OF PUBLIC MEETING**

The Georgia Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq., requires that all meetings of an entity covered by the statute must be open to the public unless there is some specific statutory exception which permits the closing of the meeting. If such a meeting is to be closed, the law requires that the presiding person execute a sworn affidavit stating that the subject matter of the meeting or the closed portion thereof was devoted to matters within the statutory exceptions and identifying those specific exceptions relied upon. **O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b). A copy of this affidavit must be filed with the minutes of the meeting in question.**

Comes now Margaret Doss, the presiding officer identified below and, before an official duly authorized to administer oaths, makes this affidavit in satisfaction of the statutory requirements outlined above.

1. I am the presiding officer of the Georgia State Board of Examiners for Certification of Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators and Laboratory Analysts.
2. I am over the age of 18 and in all over aspects competent to make this sworn statement. I acknowledge that I am giving this statement under oath and penalty of perjury and that I have read the contents of this affidavit prior to signing it.
3. On February 21, 2024, this entity, which is subject to the Open Meetings Act, met. A majority of the quorum of the members present voted to close the meeting or a portion thereof for the following indicated reason(s). I hereby certify that during the closed portion of the meeting, only those subjects indicated below were discussed. I also certify that I have reviewed the exceptions provided under the Open Meetings Act that may permit the closing of a meeting and that, to the best of my knowledge, the reasons I have described in detail below meet the requirements for closing this public meeting.
4. The legal authority for the closure of this meeting was O.C.G.A. 43-1-2 (k); 43-1-19(h)
5. The subjects discussed and the underlying facts supporting the closing of this meeting are: Receipt of and deliberations regarding applications and application information and deliberations regarding investigations and enforcement matters; receipt of the results of investigations.

Further the Affiant Sayeth not.

*Margaret E. Doss*

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDING OFFICER

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME

This 21 day of February, 2024

*Renea L. Gray*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

