

Minutes
Well Contractors Certification Commission Meeting
May 7, 2014
Raleigh, NC

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Well Contractors Certification Commission was called to order on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 at **11:10 am** at 5605 Six Forks Rd. ("Bldg 3"), Raleigh, NC, 1st Floor, Cardinal Conference Rm. with Chairman Casey Champion presiding. The following persons were in attendance for the meeting:

Commission Members

John Boyette Jr
David Brown
Cassandra Champion
Chris Dickey
Jonathan Dills
Daniel Ortiz
Thomas Whitehead (via phone)

WCC Staff

Andrew Morgan
Joanne Rutkofske

DHHS Staff

Wilson Mize
Nancy Deal
Larry Michael

Legal Staff

John Barkley
Regina Cucurullo, NC AG's Office

Guests

Laura Honeycutt, Guilford County

I. Preliminary Matters

(1) Chairman Casey Champion welcomed everyone in attendance and called the meeting to order. She then read the NC State Government Ethics Act which mandates that the Chairman inquire as to whether any member knows of a conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to matters before the Commission. She asked if any member knows of a conflict of interest or appearance of a conflict. No conflicts noted.

(2) The chairman also read a statement on the purpose of the Well Contractors Certification Commission: (Article 7A-Well Contractors Certification, G.S. 87-98.3). **Purpose:** It is the purpose of this Commission to protect the public health and safety by ensuring the integrity and competence of well contractors, to protect and beneficially develop the groundwater resources of the State, to require the examination of well contractors and the certification of their competency to supervise or conduct well contractor activity, and to establish procedures for the examination and certification of well contractors.

(3) The Commission reviewed the February 11, 2014, meeting minutes. Commissioner Dills made a motion that the minutes be approved. Commissioner Boyette made a second to the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

(4) Larry Michael introduced as the new Environmental Section Chief. Mr. Michael gave the Commission an overview of his background.

(5) Revisions or additions to the agenda- Proposed 2015 meeting dates provided by staff, to be added to the agenda after the Ethics Update. Guilford County moved to first of Action Items, as representative is present.

II. Action Items

(1) Guilford County Funding Request: Laura Honeycutt from Guilford County Environmental Health Department presented the request to the Commission. Guilford County is requesting 100 scholarships at \$25 each and also \$2,490 in direct funding to put on a Well Contractor Training Day in Greensboro, NC. Guilford County has been providing this training since 2003, growing in popularity every year. The Feb. 2014 Well Contractor Day had attendance of around 125 well contractors for a full 6 hours of pre-approved continuing education training. The fund Guilford County pulls from to put on these free classes has been exhausted, so they now must look to start charging (\$50/person) unless other funds can be found. Chairman Champion recommended to put all the course information on CD's instead of binders as a cost saving measure. The Commission will discuss and let Guilford County know of their decision.

(2) Impact of G.S. 93B-15.1: This is regarding licensure for individuals with military training and experience, and their spouse. The Commission has counted well contractor experience gained while in the military to meet experience requirements to become certified as a well contractor. Chairman Champion worked with Nancy Deal on this to respond to a legislative inquiry. Commission Counsel will look into how other licensing boards are handling this, if any rulemaking should be pursued, and report back to the Commission at the next meeting.

(3) Legislative Changes to Continuing Education: Anticipated to resurface May 14. Discussions on the continuing education requirement last session between representatives from various parties including the NC Well Contractors Certification Commission, NC Ground Water Association, well contractor Billy Yow and Representative Hardister looked at reducing the requirement to 0-4 hours. The parties agreed on 4 hours but the submittal deadline was missed. Senator Trudy Wade then took up the legislation in the next session, pushing for zero hours.

III. Information Items

(1) Attorney General Enforcement Update-
Commission counsel John Barkley does not have anything to report at this time.

(2) NC/TN reciprocity agreement draft-
Staff sent agreement back to Anna Rollins and Luke Ewing of the TN Dept. of Environment & Conservation, Water Well Program, for final signatures. Still awaiting a response.

(3) Commission revisited topic of the Guilford County Funding Request-
Budget Committee to meet on. Discussion by Commission. If supplementing cost of the workshop, Commission does not want contractors charged.

Commissioner Dickey made a motion to approve \$2,490 in continuing education funding for Guilford County. Commissioner Ortiz made a second to the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Dickey made a motion to decline funding \$2,500 in scholarships to the Guilford County's Well Contractor Day. Commissioner Dills made a second to the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

(4) Meeting with Dale Dawson (Plumbing Board) regarding G.S. 87-98.4(b)(13), certification exemption for plumbers-
Chairman Champion and Commissioner Boyette to met with Dawson on Monday. Chairman Champion asked Commission for any feedback on topics to discuss at that meeting.

(5) Staff Report-
The staff report was presented by Drew Morgan. The report included proposed meeting dates for 2015. Commissioner Ortiz will need to look into the Review Committee dates to see if they work for him. Overall, Commsiion is ok with the proposed meeting dates.

(6) Budget Committee Report-
The Budget Committee report was presented by Commissioner Dickey. The Committee approved up to \$2,500 in scholarships for the JUBILEE.

(7) Review Committee Report-
Commissioner Ortiz presented the Review Committee report for Committee meetings held Feb.-April 2014. Numerous applications and courses were reviewed and approved. Some courses were denied approval because they did not meet the 30-day preapproval requirement.

The Committee developed position statements regarding disinfection by an exempt plumber. The Commission reviewed but decided to table the topic until after the meeting with the Plumbing Board.

(8) Ethics Update-

Joanne Rutkofske provided the Ethics update. A tracking list of when each Commissioner must obtain additional Ethics training was provided.

V. Upcoming Meetings

Commission Meeting – August 6, 2014 @11am, 5605 Six Forks Rd., Raleigh, NC

Review Committee – June 4, 2014 @10am, 4000 Chi Rd., Raleigh, NC

Budget Committee – July 26, 2014 @10am, Myrtle Beach, SC (@JUBILEE)

VI. Closing Remarks

No closing remarks.

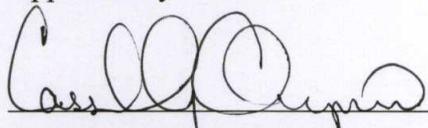
VI. Adjournment

With no further business or comments from Commission or Staff, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Rutkofske
WCC Staff

Approved by WCCC:



Cassandra "Casey" Champion, REHS, NCWC
Chairman, Well Contractors Certification Commission
www.wellcontractors.nc.gov

12-2-2014
Date