

Utah Wastewater Operator Certification Council Meeting
 Monday, February 12, 2024, 1-3 PM
 Red Rocks Conference Room 3132, 195 N 1950 W, Salt Lake City, Utah

Google Meet joining info
 Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/hiz-vcop-kjv>
 Or dial: (US) +1 530-395-0610 PIN: 530 386 723#
 More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/hiz-vcop-kjv?pin=7671501082764>

MINUTES (Draft)

1. Roll Call conducted by Chad Burrell, Chair

Attending: Board Members: Chad Burrell, Brian Lamar, Giles Demke, Phil Harold, Rob Jaterka, Blaine Shipley, Ben Willardson (joined virtually later); DWQ Staff: Alex Heppner, Judy Etherington, Tessa Scheuer. Tessa introduced herself as a new program coordinator being trained and her previous experience in the water quality field.

2. Discussion and Approval of Minutes of October 30, 2023
Motion to approved the minutes was made by Blaine Shipley; seconded by Phil Harold; approved unanimously.

3. Election or Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2024
Phil Harold nominated Chad Burrell as Chair; seconded by Brian Lamar; approved. Chad Burrell nominated Brian Lamar as Vice-chair; seconded by Phil Harold; approved.

4. Update on implementation of computer-based (CBT) exams through PSI.
Tessa Scheuer reported on the status of the exams following a meeting the previous week with WPI staff. Plans are to be able to proceed sometime in April following the 30-day blackout after the March 1st exams at RWAU. Chad suggested providing an overview of the process during the WEAU Conference. There are questions of how accommodations will be handled, such as dyslexia, once the new format is in place. There are also other questions that need to be answered. We will have procedures for testing prior to any fee changes— while the fees are being paid by DWQ, and different procedures after the fees change, if approved by the legislature. Once DWQ has received an application, the information is passed to PSI. Once PSI has the information, they contact the examinee directly with information on registering for the specific location, date, and time for testing. There are questions about where the testing locations will be.

5. Exam Results November 2023

GRADE EXAM	TOTAL EXAMINEES	MEAN SCORE	HIGH SCORE	LOW SCORE	# PASS (≥70%)	# FAIL (<70%)	PASS %
C-I	12	67.1	86	25	7	5	58
C-II	31	67	81	47	16	15	52

GRADE EXAM	TOTAL EXAMINEES	MEAN SCORE	HIGH SCORE	LOW SCORE	# PASS (≥70%)	# FAIL (<70%)	PASS %
C-III	16	71	91	43	9	7	56
C-IV	37	64.9	89	43	13	24	35
SLS-I	2	67	72	62	1	1	50
T-I	31	60.3	85	26	8	23	26
T-II	34	62.3	79	34	7	27	21
T-III	14	63.1	79	51	2	12	14
T-IV	31	59.7	80	41	5	26	16
TOTAL	208	NA	NA	NA	68	140	33

(Voluntary) – November 2023

GRADE EXAM	TOTAL EXAMINEES	MEAN SCORE	HIGH SCORE	LOW SCORE	# PASS (≥70%)	# FAIL (<70%)	PASS %
B-II	1	62.0	62	62	0	1	0
L-I	2	76.0	80	72	2	0	100
M-II	3	71.7	82	65	1	2	33
M-III	4	62.5	69	57	0	4	0
TOTAL	10	NA	NA	NA	3	7	30

Cumulative Fall 2023 (Mandatory)

GRADE EXAM	TOTAL EXAMINEES		HIGH SCORE	LOW SCORE	# PASS (≥70%)	# FAIL (<70%)	PASS %
C-I	17		86	25	11	6	65
C-II	46		81	47	23	23	50
C-III	23		91	43	9	14	39
C-IV	59		89	43	21	38	36
SLS-I	5		80	62	3	2	60
T-I	49		88	26	14	35	29
T-II	58		79	34	15	43	26
T-III	20		79	51	3	17	15
T-IV	50		80	41	8	42	16
TOTAL	327		NA	NA	107	220	33

6. Cumulative 2023 Mandatory Exam Results from Draft Annual Report

Exam-Grade	Total Examinees	High Score	Low Score	#Pass (≥70%)	Pass %
C-I	35	86	25	20	57
C-II	106	89	35	49	46
C-III	42	91	40	11	26
C-IV	119	92	39	34	29
SLS-I	15	80	48	10	67
T-I	99	89	26	29	29
T-II	105	89	34	25	24
T-III	35	84	49	6	17
T-IV	103	81	41	22	21
Totals	659			206	31

WEAU’s collections college training is beginning this week. RWAU has started regular monthly virtual wastewater training sessions.

7. Facility Compliance worksheet review

Tessa reviewed communications and feedback she received from Castle Valley SSD; Courthouse Wash (Arches SSD); Canyon Land ID; Garland City; information about the process of separating the Logan City collection system from the new Logan Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant in our database; update from Phil about Manila; Mexican Hat SSD; Mountain Sewer (Weber County); Price City; Mt. Pleasant; Scofield SSD; Ticaboo SSD; and Woodland Hills. Several systems are on the watch list for needing to remove the restrictions. Also need verification of contracts still being in force for North Village SSD, Strawberry Lakeview SSD, Twin Creeks SSD, and Powder Mountain W&SID.

8. Review of 2023 Annual Report Draft – ***the plan would be to present the final version at the Water Quality Board meeting in April which may be held in St. George during the WEAU Conference. Chad would present it as the council chair. Suggestions requested from the members of any items that should be included...and a picture to use on the cover. Judy noted that 150 new people registered to take exams last year, with 1819 active in the database, and 1342 hold some type of certification. Some facility classifications have changed—usually to higher ones due to additional population or treatment processes. Maybe mention the monthly RWAU training in next year’s report. Several facilities started using the American Water College training to help prepare operators for exams. Oral exams administered. Remove COVID comments.***

9. Spring Paper-based exams are scheduled for Friday, March 1st at the Dixie Center, St. George. Morning session – Check in 8:15 am; Instructions at 8:30 am. Application deadline was February 2nd. (102 examinees) Proctors: Judy Etherington, Tessa Scheuer, Robert Beers, Chad Burrell

10. CEU Considerations:
 - a) The Western States Project "(Virtual) Note Taking & Report Writing", 12/18/2023, 5 hours **No WW Credit**
 - b) The Western States Project "(Virtual) Elements of a Violation, Evidence of a Violation and Making Your Case", 12/11/2023, 5 hours **allow half credit – related to pretreatment**
 - c) RWAU "Asset Management- Planning for the Future", 4/24/2024, see agenda, up to 0.8 CEUs requested **the credit would be given only for sessions attended**

11. Move to Closed Session for consideration of reciprocity requests and Exam Question Comment Reviews.
A motion to move into closed session for consideration of reciprocity requests and Exam Question Comment Forms was made by Giles Demke; seconded by Blaine Shipley; approved unanimously.

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MINUTES – Continued (Draft)

15. Motion on Action taken as a result of the Closed Session:
Motion to approved the actions taken in the closed session was made by Blaine Shipley; seconded by Rob Jaterka; approved unanimously.
16. Other Business - ***Ben Willardson requests participation by members to complete the survey sent out for the ASE Report Card for wastewater infrastructure needs. Others suggested talking to Leland Myers for information that he collected for last year's report to the legislature.***
17. Adjourn
Motion to close the meeting was made by Blaine Shipley; seconded by Brian Lamar; approved unanimously.

Affidavit of Confidentiality

The Wastewater Operator Certification Council went into closed session during its meeting on February 12, 2024 following a motion by Giles Demke to go into closed session to review exam question comments and reciprocity requests _____ . The motion was seconded by Blaine Shipley _____ .

Chad Burrell
Wastewater Operator Certification Council Chair

2-12-24
Date

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Wastewater Operator Certification Council Chair

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Date

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