

Utah Wastewater Operator Certification Council Meeting  
Monday, March 31, 2025, 1-3 PM  
Great Salt Lake East 3134, 195 N 1950 W, Salt Lake City, Utah

Google Meet joining info  
Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/kiu-wqwf-fgn>  
Or dial: (US) +1 413-829-7666 PIN: 418 824 713#  
More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/kiu-wqwf-fgn?pin=5348907256487>

**AGENDA – MINUTES**

1. Roll Call conducted by Chad Burrell, Chair

Invited Board Members: Chad Burrell, Ben Willardson, Jonathan Gubler, Matt Goodrich, Philip Harold, Spencer Parkinson, and Kyle Dean; DWQ Staff: Alex Heppner, Judy Etherington, Tessa Scheuer, Emily Cantón, Ken Hoffman

*Chad Burrell, Ben Willardson, Jonathan Gubler, Philip Harold, and Kyle Dean attended the meeting. Spencer Parkinson entered the meeting online during the closed session. Tessa Scheuer, Judy Etherington, and Alex Heppner attended as Division of Water Quality staff members.*

2. Discussion and Approval of Minutes of August 19, 2024

*Phil Harold made a motion to approve, and Chad Burrell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

3. Introduction of new council members

*All council members introduced themselves to each other. There are 4 new council members this year. Tessa Scheuer let the council know that Rob Jaterka resigned from his council seat early.*

4. Election or Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2025

*Jonathan Gubler was volunteered to be the new council chair by Chad Burrell. Tessa Scheuer explained that the chair's duties involve leading council meetings, announcing the annual report to the Water Quality Board, and providing a signature for operator certificates. Jonathan Gubler nominated Kyle Dean to be the vice chair. All elections passed unanimously. Chad Burrell explained to Jonathan Gubler how to present the annual report to the board.*

5. Update on computer-based (CBT) exams through PSI

*Tessa Scheuer announced that we have had a 6% increase in passing rates since 2023. Chad Burrell thinks that the computer-based exams helped increase that passing rate, and he pointed out that we only have computer-based exam scores since April 2024, so passing rates might have been even higher. Tessa Scheuer announced that PSI is*

*attempting to set up a new testing center in Ogden. Tessa Scheuer and Judy Etherington brought up issues that have happened, such as test center violations, calculator issues, and proctoring issues. Chad Burrell mentioned that his operators have had their tattoos checked during proctored exams. Tessa Scheuer discussed the pros and cons of live remote proctoring exams. Chad Burrell brought up an examinee at his facility that had trouble with taking a live remote proctoring exam. Tessa Scheuer said that she is interested in reaching out to PSI about doing a demo of the live remote proctoring exam to get more information. Chad Burrell asked about ADA-compliant verbal exams, and Tessa Scheuer confirmed that they are still allowed, though we haven't had any yet in 2025.*

#### 6. Exam Results 2023 (Mandatory)

GRADE EXAM	TOTAL EXAMINEES	MEAN SCORE	HIGH SCORE	LOW SCORE	# PASS (≥70%)	# FAIL (<70%)	PASS %
C-I	35		86	25	20	15	57%
C-II	106		89	35	49	57	46%
C-III	42		91	40	11	31	26%
C-IV	119		92	39	34	85	29%
SLS-I	15		80	48	10	5	67%
T-I	99		89	26	29	70	29%
T-II	105		89	34	25	80	24%
T-III	35		84	49	6	29	17%
T-IV	103		81	41	22	81	21%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>659</b>		<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>31%</b>

#### Cumulative Spring 2024 – Paper-Based (Mandatory)

GRADE EXAM	TOTAL EXAMINEES	MEAN SCORE	HIGH SCORE	LOW SCORE	# PASS (≥70%)	# FAIL (<70%)	PASS %
C-I	9		85	58	4	5	44%
C-II	18		84	47	7	11	39%
C-III	3		88	60	1	2	33%
C-IV	16		75	52	4	12	25%
SLS-I	11		81	60	6	5	55%
T-I	11		80	41	3	8	27%
T-II	10		80	53	3	7	30%
T-III	6		69	40	0	6	0%
T-IV	12		74	38	3	9	25%

GRADE EXAM	TOTAL EXAMINEES	MEAN SCORE	HIGH SCORE	LOW SCORE	# PASS (≥70%)	# FAIL (<70%)	PASS %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>96</b>		<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>32%</b>

**Cumulative Fall 2024 – Paper-Based (Mandatory)**

GRADE EXAM	TOTAL EXAMINEES	MEAN SCORE	HIGH SCORE	LOW SCORE	# PASS (≥70%)	# FAIL (<70%)	PASS %
<b>C-I</b>	3		93	73	3	0	100%
<b>C-II</b>	17		84	56	11	6	65%
<b>C-III</b>	5		75	53	1	4	20%
<b>C-IV</b>	12		79	47	3	9	25%
<b>SLS-I</b>	6		84	53	2	4	33%
<b>T-I</b>	5		74	55	2	3	40%
<b>T-II</b>	8		75	58	2	6	25%
<b>T-III</b>	4		66	50	0	4	0%
<b>T-IV</b>	5		73	56	1	4	20%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>65</b>		<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>38%</b>

**Exams 2024 – Computer-Based (Mandatory)**

GRADE EXAM	TOTAL EXAMINEES	MEAN SCORE	HIGH SCORE	LOW SCORE	# PASS (≥70%)	# FAIL (<70%)	PASS %
<b>C-I</b>	21		90	57	12	9	57%
<b>C-II</b>	25		82	51	10	15	40%
<b>C-III</b>	6		74	59	2	4	33%
<b>C-IV</b>	78		89	37	29	49	37%
<b>SLS-I</b>	7		74	66	4	3	57%
<b>T-I</b>	17		75	33	5	12	29%
<b>T-II</b>	33		88	48	13	20	39%
<b>T-III</b>	11		81	31	5	6	45%
<b>T-IV</b>	37		78	41	11	26	30%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>235</b>		<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>39%</b>

**Cumulative Exams 2024 (Mandatory)**

<b>GRADE EXAM</b>	<b>TOTAL EXAMINEES</b>	<b>MEAN SCORE</b>	<b>HIGH SCORE</b>	<b>LOW SCORE</b>	<b># PASS (≥70%)</b>	<b># FAIL (&lt;70%)</b>	<b>PASS %</b>
<b>C-I</b>	33		93	57	19	14	58%
<b>C-II</b>	60		84	47	28	32	47%
<b>C-III</b>	14		88	53	4	10	29%
<b>C-IV</b>	106		89	37	36	70	34%
<b>SLS-I</b>	24		84	53	12	12	50%
<b>T-I</b>	33		80	33	10	23	30%
<b>T-II</b>	51		88	48	18	33	35%
<b>T-III</b>	21		81	31	5	16	24%
<b>T-IV</b>	54		78	38	15	39	28%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>396</b>		<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>37%</b>

## 7. New Exams from WPI

*Tessa Scheuer announced that there will be new exams from WPI in 2025. The council is interested in review the exam questions before putting them into place with our program. Phil Harold has done the review in the past, and he talked to the council through how he logged on and reviewed the exams last time he participated in the review. Chad Burrell brought up that operators are still upset about the 10 extra pre-test questions included in all exams. Tessa Scheuer also announced that WPI will now be using scaled scoring, and Tessa Scheuer and Judy Etherington explained how it works. Tessa Scheuer also let the council know that Treatment and Collection I exams have the option to be taken in Spanish. Philip Harold started a discussion on whether we can also review the Small Lagoon System exam as well. Tessa Scheuer said she would check to see if WPI could include it in the new exam review and if the new questions would be added to our small lagoon exam.*

## 8. Facility Compliance worksheet review

*Tessa Scheuer reviewed facility compliance issues. Since the last meeting, Beaver City, Courthouse Wash Wastewater Treatment Plant, Grantsville City, Little Mountain Service Area, Mt. Pleasant City, North Fork Sewer District, Salina City, Scofield Town, Ticaboo Utility Improvement District, and Wellington City made changes that brought their facilities back into compliance. Ballard Water and Sewer Improvement District, Big Cottonwood Canyon Improvement District, Cedar City, Delta City, Eureka City, Fountain Green, Garland, Hideout Town, Hinckley Town, Long Valley Sewer Improvement District, Manila Town, Minersville Town, Mt. Olympus Improvement*

***District, Santaquin City, South Valley Water Reclamation Facility, Tabiona, Weber County, Wendover City, and Woodland Hills remain out of compliance with state rules. During this discussion, Phil Harold added important information about what is going on behind the scenes at several facilities such as Eureka City, Beaver City, and Richmond City.***

9. Review of 2024 Annual Report Draft

***Tessa Scheuer reviewed the 2024 Annual Report that will be presented at the Water Quality Board Meeting in May 2025. As the new president, Jonathan Gubler will present the report. Tessa Scheuer mentioned that the current wastewater operator certification database was not built to handle the influx of computer-based exam dates, so it is not currently generating the information that is usually in the annual report. As such, some lines have been removed from the report due to an inability to calculate the statistics. Chad Burrell suggested that the WEAU's American Water College classes be added to the report. Judy Etherington suggested adding the new members of the training coalition calendar to the report.***

10. Spring 2025 Paper-Based Exams Review

***Tessa Scheuer gave a breakdown of the spring 2025 exam that took place on February 28, 2025. There were 83 examinees. The proctors were Tessa Scheuer, Robert Beers, Spencer Parkinson, and Jonathan Gubler. The exam went off without a hitch.***

11. Move to Closed Session for consideration of Exam Question Comment Reviews

***Tessa Scheuer moved the council to a closed exam session. Chad Burrell made a motion to move to the closed session. Kyle Dean seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

12. Motion to Conclude Closed Session and Return to Open Meeting

***Jonathan Gubler motioned to conclude the closed session. Chad Burrell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

13. Motion on Action taken as a result of the Closed Session

***Chad Burrell motioned to approve actions taken as a result of the closed session. Ben Willardson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

14. Other Business?

***No other business was added. Spencer Parkinson briefly introduced himself since he joined the meeting late.***

15. Adjourn

***Chad Burrell motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jonathan Gubler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***