

Utah Wastewater Operator Certification Council Meeting
Monday, October 20, 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/ggf-zwqv-dzv>
Or dial: (US) +1 484-302-2652 PIN: 118 232 423#
More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/ggf-zwqv-dzv?pin=8009866960607>

MINUTES

1. Roll Call conducted by Jonathan Gubler, 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, Jonathan Gubler, Matt Goodrich, Spencer Parkinson, Tessa Scheuer, Judy Etherington, and Alex Heppner attended the meeting.

2. Discussion and Approval of Minutes of June 23, 2025

Spencer Parkinson motioned to approve the minutes. Chad Burrell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. WPI 2025 Exam Updates

Tessa Scheuer provided information on the new 2025 wastewater exams from WPI. The 2025 standardized exams, wastewater treatment and collection, now use scaled scores instead of raw scores. This has resulted in a drastic increase in passing rates. The small lagoon exam and the voluntary exams still use raw scores. Judy Etherington created a Need-to-Know Criteria for the new small lagoon exam, which will be implemented on October 27, 2025. Tessa will include information on where to find resources for the new exams in the upcoming email blast to wastewater operators. Chad Burrell noted that he was heartened that councilmember Phil Harold approved of the new small lagoon exam.

Tessa Scheuer also mentioned issues with connectivity during live remote proctoring exams. An operator was not able to take his live remote proctoring exam in September due to internet connectivity issues. This issue should be shared with other operators so they can make sure that they have a stable connection before attempting to take a live remote proctoring exam. Tessa Scheuer also announced PSI's testing center in Orem suddenly shut down. However, a new testing center has been approved and has begun operating in Ogden. There is also a temporary exam location in Salt Lake City. Tessa Scheuer asked the council to let her know if they know of any other locations that might be interested in becoming a proctor for PSI.

4. Fall 2025 Paper-Based Exams Review:

Tessa Scheuer recapped the most recent paper-based exam that took place on August 28th at the Davis Conference Center in Layton. 62 examinees tested at that time, and Tessa Scheuer, Judy Etherington, Kyle Dean, and Jonathan Gubler proctored the exam. The council was excited to see that 77% of examinees passed, and all examinees who took a level III exam passed the exam.

5. **Cumulative Exam Results 2024 – Computer and Paper (Mandatory)**

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

Exam Results from 1/1/2025-7/29/2025 – Computer-Based (Mandatory)

GRADE EXAM	TOTAL EXAMINEES	HIGH SCORE	LOW SCORE	# PASS (≥70%)	# FAIL (<70%)	PASS %
C-I	19	88	61	12	7	63%
C-II	48	91	52	20	28	42%
C-III	18	83	45	8	10	44%
C-IV	60	85	43	19	41	32%
SLS-I	4	79	59	1	3	25%
T-I	23	78	27	4	19	17%
T-II	31	79	50	9	22	29%
T-III	19	70	39	1	18	5%
T-IV	58	79	48	20	38	34%
TOTAL	280	N/A	N/A	94	186	34%

Spring 2025 – Paper-Based (Mandatory)

GRADE EXAM	TOTAL EXAMINEES	HIGH SCORE	LOW SCORE	# PASS (≥70%)	# FAIL (<70%)	PASS %
C-I	3	76	74	3	0	100%
C-II	17	83	51	9	8	53%
C-III	4	62	60	0	4	0%
C-IV	17	87	42	4	13	24%
SLS-I	9	85	48	6	3	67%
T-I	13	88	39	3	10	23%
T-II	10	75	39	3	7	30%
T-III	3	68	48	0	3	0%
T-IV	6	79	46	1	5	17%
TOTAL	82	N/A	N/A	29	53	35%

Fall 2025 – Paper-Based (Mandatory) *NEW EXAMS*

GRADE EXAM	TOTAL EXAMINEES	HIGH SCORE	LOW SCORE	# PASS (≥70%)	# FAIL (<70%)	PASS %
C-I	4	92.18	70	4	0	100%
C-II	17	83.32	48.97	11	6	65%
C-III	2	78.29	76.21	2	0	100%
C-IV	13	87.53	60.38	11	2	85%
SLS-I	3	68	62	0	3	0%
T-I	6	85.56	51.16	5	1	83%
T-II	4	76.9	65.37	2	2	50%
T-III	1	91.91	91.91	1	0	100%
T-IV	11	85.47	70	11	0	100%
TOTAL	61	N/A	N/A	47	14	77%

6. Wastewater Operator Database Updates:

Tessa Scheuer announced that a new wastewater operator database will be implemented in 2026. This process will give wastewater operators more autonomy to enter their own CEUs, apply for exams, and renew certificates on their own. The council discussed the pros and cons of printed certificates once this database goes into effect, and they decided that printed and mailed certificates will no longer be needed. Chad Burrell and Spencer Parkinson offered to help with operator outreach through

WEAU and RWAU when the new database gets closer to its completion date.

7. Facility Compliance worksheet review:

Tessa Scheuer led the council in a discussion of facilities that are out of compliance. Ballard WSID, Minersville Town, Richmond City, and Woodland Hills have come back into compliance since the last meeting. Fountain Green, Garland, Logan Regional WWTP, Mt. Pleasant City, Pitman Farms, Plain City, and Tabiona are currently out of compliance.

8. CEU Updates:

- a) Request received to give credit for exhibit time during conferences – Specifically, WEFTEC 2025 where attendees may scan in and out of exhibit presentations:

The council discussed how exhibitors might provide proof that operators attended the exhibit hall. WEFTEC currently allows operators to check in and out of the exhibit hall, but it does not prove that the operator actually spent time there. The council decided that certificates or signed rosters from exhibitors giving presentations would be accepted for credit, but the general exhibitor time would still not be counted towards operator CEUs.

- b) Credit for cross connection classes:

The council discussed the benefits of allowing credit for cross connection control trainings for wastewater CEUs now there are cross connection technologies being used in wastewater facilities. Due to his expertise in the area, Matt Goodrich supported giving credit for cross connection control classes. The council decided to begin allowing half wastewater credit for cross connection control classes.

9. Wastewater Operator Certification Council Expiring Terms

Tessa Scheuer reminded the council that there will be two at large council positions up for recommendation. These council seats are currently held by Phil Harold (absent) and Ben Willardson (absent). Tessa will reach out to Ben and Phil to let them know, and she will also send out a council recommendation form mid-November.

10. Move to Closed Session for consideration of Exam Question Comment Reviews and Direct Responsible Charge Request

Chad Burrell made a motion to move to a closed session. Spencer Parkinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Chad Burrell made a motion to approve the actions taken as a result of the closed session. Matt Goodrich seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

12. Other Business?

No other business was brought up.

13. Adjourn

Chad Burrell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Spencer Parkinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.