



CROSS CONNECTION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

August 3, 2017
11:00 AM
Conference Call

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Will Nickell, Brett Christiansen, Terry Smith, and Mark Baird

DIVISION STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Marie Owens, Gary Rager, Sandy Pett, and Dawnie Jacobo

NEXT MEETING: October 31, 2017

I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Gary Rager, Environmental Scientist with the Division of Drinking Water (the Division) and the Commission Secretary, called the meeting to order at 11:10 am.

II. FEE REVIEW

- a. Marie Owens, Division Director, reported our legislative mandate requires the Backflow Certification Program to be funded by the fees collected for the program. We have historically been subsidizing over half of this program with other funding. As a result a modified fee schedule will be presented to the legislature. The Division is decoupling the examination fees with ABPA to eliminate more fee increases in the future due to the 3rd party increasing their fees. Marie requested the Commission to review the changes proposed and provide direction on the renewal cycle for Program Administrators.

III. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR REQUIREMENT

- a. Marie Owens proposed requiring a Program Administrator for Community Water Systems. Utah has approximately 480 Community Water Systems and approximately 190 Program Administrators. The Commission discussed the importance of having an educated Program Administrator and it being more effective than the Backflow 101.

- i. Brett Christiansen moved to approve requiring a certified Program Administrator for Community Water Systems. Will Nickell seconded. The motion was carried unanimously by the Commission.

IV. RENEWAL CYCLE

- a. Marie Owens requested the Commission's recommendation on requiring an annual vs. a 3-year renewal cycle. The Commission discussed the significant fee increase of the 3-year renewal cycle. The annual renewal cycle has lower payments, is more manageable for budgeting, and is simpler for tracking expiration dates.
- b. The Commission contemplated the requirements for eligibility to renew. They compared the challenges and benefits of requiring CEUs instead of a recertification exam. The Commission recognized that CEUs should be Cross Connection specific training and the criteria would need to be determined. This would create a demand and 3rd party competition could potentially drive down the costs of training. They acknowledged there will be new information to learn and considered requiring a course completion test.
 - i. Will Nickell moved to approve an annual renewal cycle for Program Administrators and developing the details of the program in the next meeting after some research. Brett Christiansen seconded. The motion was carried unanimously by the Commission.

V. NEXT MEETING

- a. The next meeting is scheduled for October 31, 2017
- b. Gary Rager proposed considering giving credit points on the IPS rating for having a Program Administrator for water systems that are not required.
- c. The Commission will develop the program details and the annual renewal cycle requirements for Program Administrators.

VI. ADJOURN