



MEETING MINUTES

May 21, 2020
9:00 a.m.
Virtual Meeting

Commission Members Present: Terry Smith, Chris Bowles, Jesse Sharp, Brett Christiansen, Mark Jenkins, Travis Christensen, and Jesse Wilder.

Division Staff Present: Gary Rager

Guests Present: Kris Hunter, Greg Hand, and Jim Callison

I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Gary Rager called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.
- b. The Commission, Division staff, and guests introduced themselves.
- c. Gary Rager welcomed the new Commission members Jesse Wilder, Mark Jenkins, and Jesse Sharp.
- d. The Commission reviewed the meeting minutes from October 31, 2019.
 - i. Terry Smith motion to approve the meeting minutes. Chris Bowles second. The motion was carried unanimously by the Commission.

II. COVID-19 IMPACTS ON CCC PROGRAM

- a. Gary Rager announced a guidance for COVID-19 was distributed to emphasize that protecting public water supply is an essential service; to continue to address backflow issues, administer cross-connection-control programs, and to test backflow devices while following Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines.
- b. Gary Rager detailed how the Program Administrator continuing education courses quickly converted to online and how the trainings were a success.
- c. Gary Rager reported the Program Administrator certification courses were postponed or cancelled due to COVID-19. Online courses and examinations options were discussed.
- d. Gary Rager and the Commission anticipate possibly extending the deadline for requiring a certified Program Administrator for Community systems with a population of below 500 due to the impacts of COVID-19 on the certification courses.
- e. Gary Rager reported Backflow Tester certification courses have been postponed or cancelled due to COVID-19. Concerns regarding the challenges of classroom trainings in the future with social distancing, presenting with masks, and limits on class sizes were considered.
- f. Gary Rager informed the Commission that American Backflow Prevention Association (ABPA) may offer extended expiration dates for their certifications and proposed a policy matching the extension. Gary will notify the Commission if ABPA provides an extension.

- g. Gary Rager introduced Jim Callison an Associate Environmental Professor at the Utah Valley University. Jim summarized the benefits of on-site and online trainings. Jim described asynchronous training, hybrid training, and instructor's interaction with students.

III. UPDATE ON RESULTS AFTER RULE CHANGES

- a. Gary Rager summarized the success of the Program Administrators obtaining Continuing Education Units (CEU's) for renewal.

IV. CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL ANNUAL REPORT FOR WATER SYSTEMS

- a. Gary Rager introduced the cross-connection-control report for water systems to submit annually. An advisory team was assembled to formulate a report to achieve optimal compliance and provide a guideline for the five elements of an effective cross-connection-control program.
- b. The Commission and guests discussed the benefits and provided recommendations. Gary Rager will compose a rule to require an annual report with the form for the Commission to review in the next meeting.

V. REQUEST TO PROVIDE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM IN UTAH

- a. Gary Rager informed the Commission he was approached by American Society of Sanitary Engineers (ASSE) regarding requirements for becoming a certification provider in Utah. Gary Rager reported back to ASSE that the curriculum will need to be based on the USC-FCCHR 10 edition for course and examination. Gary Rager will report to the Commission if a formal submittal is received.

VI. TRAINING COURSE PROVIDER UPDATE

- a. Gary Rager provided details on the number of courses for the 2020 calendar year for each training provider and the number of courses that were cancelled due to COVID-19.

VII. CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL CERTIFICATION REPORT

- a. Gary Rager provided statistics on the Cross-Connection-Control Certification Program's total exams and certifications. Gary contributed that the Backflow 101 training online has been effective in rural communities.

VIII. FUTURE MEETINGS

- a. Gary Rager will facilitate a brief virtual meeting every month that will be optional unless specified as urgent. The annual May and October meetings will continue as scheduled.

IX. ADJOURN

- a. Jesse Wilder motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:44 a.m. Chris Bowles second. The motion was carried unanimously by the Commission.