



Granite State Onsite Wastewater Association – July 25, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Attending: (All on Zoom) Chris Albert, Micah Denner, Tom Canfield, Larry Maznek, Kevin Kent, Jim Hanna, Carl Hagstrom
Absent: Bruce Fillmore, Aaron Wechsler **Members:** Chris Kent **Staff:** Matt Gatzke

Meeting started at 4:35 p.m.

Minutes of June 27, 2023 Board Meeting: Larry made a motion with Kevin offering a second. No discussion heard. Motion was approved.

Review of June 30, 2023 Financial Report: Reviewed Balance Sheet with a balance of \$97,731.64. Discussion about the AR report included the ok from the board to write-off balances from 2022 as they include those not intending to renew at this time. Micah asked if we can segregate non-paids and track them in terms of fees for future programs. Micah made a motion (second by Kevin) for us to write-off 2022 ARs and add a \$75 fee to names of this year's expired members should they try to register for the 2024 conference. Motion carried. The vast majority of evaluator students with AR balances have since been paid. Micah made motion with corrections to be made, with second by Kevin. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Education/Conference Recap: Training was held on March 16 and 20. Micah thought I went well given our first time at the new location. Indoor setup was great. They added in a nearby 12-year old system to the training. Adjusted the field day agenda to accommodate visit to additional site. Spoke of existing stone and pipe system at house also on the same property. Discussion about what success rate will be for those taking the exam. Comments were made about the number of students from only two companies. Good idea to consider adding a new random field site to demonstrate unknown conditions.

Legislative and Rules: Chris A. mentioned that Phil Trowbridge will attend the June meeting. Phil will know status of HB247 and SB 229 which should be signed into law by the Governor by then. Phil reviewing a draft on the well radii. Larry reported that the Water Council hopes to meet with attorney from AG's office. Trying to get clarity on "stakeholders." Going to do sections of the rules at a time.

Old Business: Chris A. attended the May meeting of NOWRA affiliates. It was an interesting meeting. Not all states have the same issues, but good to hear what others are dealing with. He will continue to participate. Online training is the way of the future. Maybe GSOVA consider joining next year. June 6-7 in Milford, MA event will feature Sara Heger and John Buchanan. Conversation continued from prior meeting about possibility of engaging Tom Burack to help organize a planning session. Review bylaws, mission statement and help craft an ethics policy. Possible considerable cost to be discussed. Maybe come up with a subcommittee to address these issues. Matt waiting on information from Mt. Washington Auto Road about possible hike in to see wastewater treatment system at Lake of the Clouds. Need to consider a board outing in August as a BBQ. July perhaps. Turn it into a brainstorming session. Chris K. felt that we need to encourage the board to return to in-person meetings. Matt suggested at least a quarterly in-person board meeting. Jim added that we used to have an affiliate member on our board. Had Jerry Mailloux and then Gary Spaulding in that role previously. Gary still on the Water Council.

New Business: No specific items.

Vice Chairman Reports (Designers): Carl commented that people dealing with the Wetlands Bureau are experiencing delays in response from staff. The issue of well releases and the need to do them given recent legislative changes has people asking questions. It will be the job of the well driller, not designers. Also hearing the soon approval may be granted for all systems within 12" of the seasonal high water table vs 24". Matt asked how things were with plan reviewers but most report things are moving quickly. Kevin asked if they have added an installers course yet.

Vice Chairman Report (Installers): Jim reported that the primary concerns are the ever-increasing costs of materials. Jim commented on question about what systems are costing for lakefront systems. Upwards of \$25K. Some question as to what members are charging for various services. If we want to do this, it is better to have a third party conduct the survey. What purpose would it really serve? Some members have system financing options, but usually a larger vendor. Concern about how those on fixed incomes will be able to afford a new system.

Vice Chairman Report (Pumpers): Larry did not have anything to report. He mentioned a plumbing company that was hired to do a system inspection but they were not evaluators, so Larry's firm ended up conducting the inspection.

Vice Chairman Report (Evaluators): Nothing further to add to report on evaluator program given earlier.

Further comments on board meetings, may be at the Puritan or Airport Diner.

Tom is scheduled to offer a program on June 21 to the Northern New England Chapter of ASHI. Some discussion in general about interest from NH Lakes and other lakeowner's association to host informational programs. General discussion about past grants for outreach. Other would be interested in helping out with such programs.

Meeting Adjournment: Motion was made by Larry and Tom seconded to adjourn meeting at 5:31 p.m.