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**ALABAMA ONSITE WASTEWATER BOARD**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

February 8, 2022

The one hundred twenty-third meeting of the ALABAMA ONSITE WASTEWATER BOARD (hereinafter referred to as “the Board”) was called to order at 9:19 a.m., February 8, 2022, at the Board’s administrative offices located at 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1050 by the Honorable Chris Gulley, Chair.

**PRESENT**

Board Members present – Chris Gulley (Chair), Sharon Kimbrough (Vice-Chair), David Mastin (Treasurer), Craig Gall, Alan Astin, Leigh Salter, and Dr. Mark Barnett. Other guests: Melissa Hines (Executive Director), Neva Conway (AOWB Attorney), Tracy Welch (AOWB), Joel Barnes (AOWB), Baron Litaker (AOWB), and Debbie Johnson (AOWA). A quorum was established, and the meeting was called to order.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2022**

***BOARD CHAIR***

Chris Gulley opened the floor for nominations for Chairman of the Board. Alan Astin made the motion to nominate Chris Gulley for his second full term as Chairman of the Board; Craig Gall seconded the motion. Chris Gulley closed the floor for nominations. ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Kimbrough – YES; David Mastin – YES; Dr. Mark Bennett – YES; Alan Astin – YES; Craig Gall – YES; Leigh Salter – YES. Motion passes. Chris Gulley will serve as Chairman of the Board for 2022.

23 **BOARD VICE-CHAIR**

24 Chris Gulley opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chairman. David Mastin made the motion to  
25 nominate Alan Astin for Vice-Chair; Dr. Mark Barnett seconded the motion. Chris Gulley closed the  
26 floor for nominations. ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Kimbrough – YES; David Mastin – YES; Dr.  
27 Mark Bennett – YES; Alan Astin – YES; Craig Gall – YES; Leigh Salter – YES. Motion passes. Alan  
28 Astin will serve as Vice-Chairman of the Board for 2022.

29 **BOARD TREASURER**

30 Chris Gulley opened the floor for nominations for Treasurer. Alan Astin made the motion to nominate  
31 David Mastin for a second term as Treasurer of the Board; Craig Gall seconded the motion. Chris  
32 Gulley closed the floor for nominations. ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Kimbrough – YES; David  
33 Mastin – YES; Dr. Mark Bennett – YES; Alan Astin – YES; Craig Gall – YES; Leigh Salter – YES.  
34 Motion passes. David Mastin will serve as Treasurer of the Board for 2022.

35 Alan Astin made the motion to close the floor for nominations; Dr. Mark Barnett seconded the motion.  
36 By a show of hands, the motion passed unanimously.

37

38 **MINUTES** – Alan Astin made the motion to accept the minutes of October 26, 2021, as presented.

39 Dr. Mark Barnett seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Kimbrough – YES; David Mastin  
40 – YES; Dr. Mark Bennett – YES; Alan Astin – YES; Craig Gall – YES; Leigh Salter – YES. Motion  
41 passes.

42

43 **TREASURER'S REPORT** – David Mastin, Treasurer, presented the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Treasurers report for  
44 October 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021. Alan Astin made the motion to accept the Treasurer's  
45 report as presented. Dr. Mark Barnett seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Kimbrough

46 – YES; David Mastin – YES; Dr. Mark Bennett – YES; Alan Astin – YES; Craig Gall – YES; Leigh  
47 Salter – YES. Motion passes.

48  
49 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

50 *Annual Report to the Governor for 2021* - Melissa Hines, Executive Director, advised the Board that a  
51 copy of the Annual Report was included in the Board Meeting packet; also included are the *approved*  
52 *courses for continuing education as well as approved online courses for continuing education.*

53 *Child and Animal Safety Products* – Executive Director Hines will be educating the industry on  
54 children/animal safety at all the CEU classes this year – trying to encourage licensees to use these  
55 products to save lives.

56 *AOWA Trade Show* – *AOWB has opening session after AOWA* – Executive Director Hines asked  
57 Board Member Alan Astin his thoughts on the Board conducting another “Mock Trial” as she has  
58 received interest on another one being held. Mr. Astin stated that the trial from last year’s Trade Show  
59 went well and with this year’s event being held indoors, more people would be able to clearly hear all  
60 the conversation and information that the Mock Trial provides. Mr. Astin also stated that it would be  
61 beneficial for the licensees to also hear information about claims being filed against their bonds  
62 regarding fines.

63  
64 *Exam and Continuing Education stats for 2021* as well as *Licensing Stats for 2021* were presented.

65  
66 **Legal Compliance Audit and the Sunset Audit** – The Board has just completed the Legal Compliance  
67 Audit and the Sunset Audit, awaiting the Exit Conference. All Board Members were invited to attend.

68

**PORTABLE RESTROOM SEAT** – Michael Dansby has sold his business, not renewed his license,  
70 and submitted his resignation to the Board; this now leaves the Portable Restroom Seat vacant. Melissa  
71 Hines, Executive Director, asked the Executive Director, Debbie Johnson, of AOWA to submit the  
72 recommendation list to the Governor’s Office for an appointment to the seat.

73  
74 **NEW BUSINESS**

75 Melissa Hines, Executive Director, advised that clarification was needed for the *First Time Basic*  
76 *Installer training and First Time Pumper training outlines requiring field demonstrations.* After  
77 much discussion, Chris Gulley, Chair, stated that we will not change the outlines at this point; the Board  
78 approved the outlines for this calendar year, so the field demonstration portion of the training guidelines  
79 will be revisited for 2023 First Time training. Executive Director Hines will submit a list of Pumpers to  
80 the Homebuilders Association and to the University of West Alabama along with another copy of the  
81 current training outlines. *Advanced Level I exam*– Executive Director Hines also asked if a committee  
82 could be established to contact industry professionals to work on an outline and compose an exam for  
83 the Advanced Level I license. Chair, Chris Gulley, appointed Executive Director Melissa Hines, and Dr.  
84 Mark Barnett to select industry professionals to work on an outline and exam for the Advanced Level I  
85 license. Chair Gulley also appointed Executive Director Hines, Craig Gall and Neva Conway as a  
86 committee to work on the Family Succession Plan for the review of the Board.

87  
88 **HEARING OFFICER RECOMMENDATION/UPDATE ON PREVIOUS RECOMMENDATIONS**

89 At 10:20 a.m., David Mastin made the motion to go into the Executive Session for 15-20 minutes to  
90 discuss the Hearing Officer’s recommendation regarding Elmer Sorrells; Alan Astin seconded the  
91 motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Kimbrough – YES; David Mastin – YES; Dr. Mark Bennett –

92 YES; Alan Astin – YES; Craig Gall – YES; Leigh Salter – YES. Motion passes. At 10:31 a.m., Alan  
93 Astin made the motion to come out of Executive Session; Sharon Kimbrough seconded the motion.  
94 ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Kimbrough – YES; David Mastin – YES; Dr. Mark Bennett – YES; Alan  
95 Astin – YES; Craig Gall – YES; Leigh Salter – YES. Motion passes. Chairman Gulley called for a  
96 motion of the Board. Craig Gall made the motion to accept the Hearing Officer's recommendation of  
97 \$1,000.00 fine as presented along with adding that Mr. Sorrells will need to surrender his license today  
98 by mailing it in to the AOWB and the local health department is to be notified of the license revocation;  
99 David Mastin seconded the motion. ROLL CALL VOTE: Sharon Kimbrough – YES; David Mastin –  
100 YES; Dr. Mark Bennett – YES; Alan Astin – YES; Craig Gall – YES; Leigh Salter – ABSTAIN.  
101 Motion passes.

102

103 **Previous Recommendations**

104 Jonathan Pickle - has not responded and has not attempted to renew his license for 2022; a bond claim  
105 has been filed for fine.

106 Jim Tice – advised via telephone that he would not pay fine; a bond claim has been filed for fine.

107 Tommy Sellers – paid his fine of \$1,250.00.

108 Robert Joiner – \$5,000.00 fine has been paid through claim filed with his bonding company.

109 Kevin Ho & Johnny West – both individuals are unlicensed and have not paid fines.

110

111 **PROBABLE CAUSE** - Executive Director Hines asked for a volunteer from the Board for upcoming  
112 Probable Cause Committee meeting; Craig Gall volunteered.

113

114

115

116 ***ENFORCEMENT REPORT FOR THE QUARTER***

117	Complaints pending Probable Cause	15
118	Complaints received for the Quarter	25
119	Holding for Hearings	0
120	Compliance Visits for the Quarter	44

121

122 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None.

123

124 **BOARD MEMBER REORTS**

125 **Leigh Salter** – advised that the ADPH new rules are ready but are on hold due to ADPH being under  
126 investigation by the Department of Justice. Ken, Matt, and Ike are working on Standard Operating  
127 Procedures for Environmentalists which will be mandatory, or personnel action will take place.  
128 Leigh also advised the Board that there will be a four-part series called “Wasteland” on Paramount Plus  
129 February 24, 2022. The documentary will feature the Lowndes County Project.

130

131 **ADJOURNMENT**

132 Craig Gall made the motion to adjourn the meeting; David Mastin seconded the motion. By a show of  
133 hands, the motion passes unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p.m. by Chair, Chris Gulley.

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135 The next quarterly meeting will be held on April 21, 2022.

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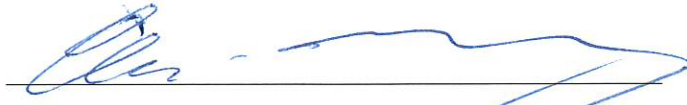
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139 Minutes submitted by: Tracy Welch

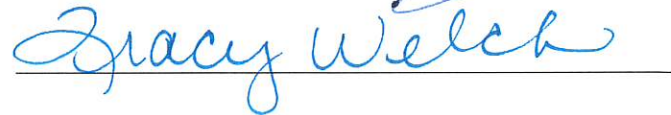
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141 Approved by: Chris Gulley

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris", written over a horizontal line.

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143 Recording Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Tracy Welch", written over a horizontal line.