

1 **ALABAMA ONSITE WASTEWATER BOARD**

2 **MINUTES OF MEETING**

3 July 20, 2021

4 The one hundred-twentieth meeting of the ALABAMA ONSITE WASTEWATER BOARD (hereinafter
5 referred to as “the Board”) was called to order at 9:27 a.m., July 20, 2021, at the Board’s administrative
6 offices located at 60 Commerce Street, Suite 1050 by the Honorable David Mastin, Treasurer.

7 **PRESENT**

8 Board Members present –David Mastin, Treasurer, Michael Dansby, Alan Astin, Leigh Willis, and Dr.
9 Mark Barnett. Absent: Chris Gulley, Sharon Kimbrough, and Craig Gall. Other guests: Melissa Hines
10 (Executive Director), Neva Conway (AOWB Attorney), Tracy Welch (AOWB), Joel Barnes (AOWB),
11 Charles Hall (AOWA), and Debbie Johnson (AOWA). A quorum was established, and the meeting was
12 called to order.

13 **MINUTES (April 22, 2021; June 8, 2021)** – Michael Dansby made the motion to accept each of the
14 minutes presented; Alan Astin seconded the motion. By a show of hands, the motion passed
15 unanimously.

16 **TREASURER’S REPORT 04/01/2021 – 06/30/2021** was presented by Tracy Welch, Executive
17 Secretary. Dr. Mark Barnett made the motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report; Michael Dansby
18 seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Chris Gulley – ABSENT; Sharon Kimbrough – ABSENT; Dr.
19 Mark Bennett – YES; Alan Astin – YES; Michael Dansby – YES; Craig Gall – ABSENT; Leigh Willis
20 – YES. Motion passes unanimously.

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23 **SPECIAL GUESTS**

24 Charles Hall, Executive Director – AOWA, addressed the Board regarding License Classes and
25 Participation. Debbie Johnson, AOWA, was present as she will take over as Executive Director when
26 Mr. Hall retires in the Fall. Mr. Hall requested consideration from AOWB to schedule at least 5 testing
27 dates for Basic Installer and Pumper licenses, as well as scheduling 3 test dates for Advanced Level I
28 and Advanced Level II licenses for 2022. Melissa Hines, AOWB Executive Director, said she did not
29 see a problem with increasing the test dates for 2022. Mr. Hall also asked Ms. Hines if there would be
30 any issue with AOWA establishing a minimum participation level that must be met at least three weeks
31 in advance of course date or the course would be cancelled; Basic Installer and Pumper – 15
32 participants, Advanced Level I – 8 participants, and Advanced Level II – 4 participants. Ms. Hines
33 advised that she did not have an issue with AOWA setting a minimum participation level. AOWA First
34 Time Training and Continuing Education report will be presented at the October 26, 2021 Board
35 meeting for the Board’s review.

36 **NEW BUSINESS** – Melissa Hines, Executive Director advised the Board she has received several
37 phone calls from the Pumpers because they are having problems finding locations to dump and she told
38 the Pumpers she would bring this concern to the Board. Discussion was had. The Executive Director
39 advised that she would address the AOWA Board regarding the dumping issue and ask for assistance at
40 their next board meeting on July 24, 2021.

41 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT** – Melissa Hines advised she will be forwarding the Advanced
42 Level I exam to Dr. Mark Barnett to review along with the Basic Installer exam he has already received.
43 She feels it may need reviewing to have different versions of the same exams available. Dr. Barnett
44 advised he will review both exams and report back to the Board and he also suggested a possible test
45 question bank to rotate on each testing date. Discussion was held amongst the Board regarding adding

46 the ADPH Repair Protocol to the training. Leigh Willis advised that new ADPH rules are pending,
47 including the Repair Protocol and Permit Waiver, and the Board may want to wait for the update to
48 avoid having to make additional changes in the near future. Mrs. Willis advised the update could take
49 place sometime between November 2021 and February 2022 and would go into effect in 2022.

50 ***UPCOMING BOARD MEMBER EXPIRATION OF TERMS:*** David Mastin – 09/30/2021 and Craig
51 Gall – 09/30/2021 (Mr. Gall is completing a partial term that was vacated due to Mr. Astin being moved
52 to the Pumper Seat).

53 **CONSENT AGREEMENTS** – Mr. Lesley Jackson has paid his fine of \$200.00; Mr. Tommie Brown
54 has registered for Basic Installer training class August 16-19, 2021; Mr. Kevin Ho (unlicensed) has 2
55 counts against him at \$500.00 each and has not responded.

56 **Recommendations** from Administrative Law Judge, Randy Salle, were passed out to the Board for the
57 two Administrative Hearings regarding Robert Joiner which were held on June 8, 2020.

58 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

59 At 10:02 a.m., Alan Astin made the motion to go into Executive Session; Michael Dansby seconded the
60 motion. At 10:08 a.m. Michael Dansby made the motion to come out of Executive Session; Dr. Mark
61 Barnett seconded the motion.

62 **Recommendations (continued)** – Michael Dansby made the motion to accept Judge Randy Salle’s
63 recommendations regarding the two cases of Mr. Robert Joiner, which are: **Case 2020-0048 - \$2,000.00**
64 **fine (\$1000.00 for Count I; \$1000.00 for Count II) and Case 2021-0013 - \$3,000.00 fine (\$1,000.00**
65 **for Count I, \$1,000.00 for Count II, and \$1,000.00 for Count III. This is a combined fine total of**
66 **\$5,000.00;** Dr. Mark Barnett seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Chris Gulley – ABSENT; Sharon
67 Kimbrough – ABSENT; Dr. Mark Bennett – YES; Alan Astin – YES; Michael Dansby – YES; Craig
68 Gall – ABSENT; Leigh Willis – ABSTAIN. Motion carries.

69 **ENFORCEMENT REPORT**

70	Complaints pending Probable Cause	8
71	Complaints received for the Quarter	20
72	Holding for hearings	0
73	Compliance Visits for the Quarter	34

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75 Executive Director, Melissa Hines, also wanted to add that LFCO Joel Barnes is currently attending
76 National Certified Investigator Inspector Training (NCIT) via Zoom as well as advise the Board that
77 State Personnel has opened the announcement for the position of License Field Compliance Officer; Ms.
78 Hines does not anticipate a new staff member to be added before October 1, 2021.

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80 PROBABLE CAUSE – Executive Director, Melissa Hines, wanted to address a topic of discussion from
81 a previous meeting regarding rotating Board Members for Probable Cause meetings. Ms. Hines
82 suggested the Board Regulator as well as a Board Member volunteer attend Probable Cause meetings;
83 the Regulator will be able to help keep the Probable Cause Committee in line with the violations. She
84 then asked for a Board Member to attend the next Probable Cause meeting when scheduled and Alan
85 Astin volunteered.

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87 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

88 *Update from AOWB Education Committee – NONE*

89 *Update from ADEM Committee – NONE*

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92 **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

93 **Leigh Willis** – Mrs. Willis advised that regarding the new “waiver”, 70% of licensees seem to disagree
94 with the waiver, while 30% approve. The homeowner is to request the waiver from the health
95 department, not the Installer. There have been issues of the homeowners not returning them to their
96 local health department. The waiver is only for repairs NOT **installations**. In essence, it is waiving the
97 permit. The Installer is only responsible for the work described on the waiver. There are issues with
98 repair definition and replacement definitions, so she also advised the repair definitions and replacement
99 definitions will be redone in the rules and then redone in the protocol.

100 **ADJOURNMENT**

101 Michael Dansby made the motion to adjourn the meeting; Dr. Mark Barnett seconded the motion. By a
102 show of hands, the motion passes unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m. by Treasurer,
103 David Mastin.

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106 The next quarterly meeting will be held on October 26, 2021.

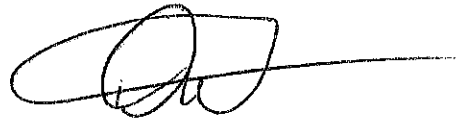
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109 Minutes submitted by: Tracy Welch

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111 Approved by: David Mastin



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113 Recording Secretary

