

Advisory Council on Wells and Borings Meeting

WELL MANAGEMENT SECTION

Date October 4, 2023

Location Hybrid Teams Meeting, Freeman Building, Room B144

Attendees **In Person:** Tannie Eshenaur, David Henrich, Bruce Johnson, David Kill, Melissa King, Richard Lamb, Jordan Mayer, Danny Nubbe, Michael Steffl, Joseph Stevens, Gabriel Sweet, Steven Traut

Virtually: David Duffey, Kelly Grivauval-Hite, Michael Liljegren, Don McKeever

Absent: Roger Renner

Others Present: Corrie Floyd, Kelly Medellin, Teresa Purrington, Jennifer Weier

Call to Order

David Henrich, Chair, called the meeting to order, and asked Kelly Medellin to go through the roll call.

Approval of meeting agenda

Danny Nubbe made a motion to approve the meeting agenda for today's meeting. Mike Steffl seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Don McKeever made a motion for an addition to the agenda to discuss water service lines. Joe Stevens seconded the motion. Kelly Medellin went through roll call for approval of adding item to agenda. The motion was approved.

Approval of last meeting minutes

Joe Stevens made a motion to approve the Advisory Council meeting minutes from June 21, 2023. David Kill seconded the motion. Kelly Medellin went through roll call for approval of meeting minutes. The motion was approved.

Introductions of attendees

David Henrich asked attendees to introduce themselves. Attendees introduced themselves.

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) updates

Advisory Council Survey Results

Kelly Medellin reported on the Advisory Council meeting survey results from the June 21, 2023 meeting. David Henrich asked if the meeting materials provided for this meeting were sufficient. The council discussed hybrid meetings.

Rulemaking updates

Corrie Floyd reported on rulemaking updates for the Portland Cement proposed rules. An Administrative Law Judge with the Office of Administrative Hearings conducted their review of the proposed rules and determined no negative findings. The proposed rules can continue with the rulemaking process to adopt the rules.

The council discussed how some rules go through the process quicker than others. The council asked for a presentation on the rulemaking process for the next meeting.

Corrie Floyd also reported on the Submerged Closed Loop Heat Exchanger rulemaking updates. Request for Comments were published July 17, 2023. MDH will continue to accept comments, probably for the next year. Comments should be sent to wellrules.mdh@state.mn.us. An Advisory Committee will be created within the next six months.

Water Policy Center updates

Tannie Eshenaur reported on the Water Policy Center and the Well Savvy Real Estate Professional course. Eighty-four percent of the 243 real estate professionals MDH surveyed in 2019 said they would be interested in a continuing education course about private wells and testing at property transfer. The course is complete now, but MDH is waiting for the Department of Commerce to approve for CEUs which should take about 30 days. The training is available on the MDH Learning Center at <https://www.health.state.mn.us/about/tools/learningcenter.html>.

Council Charter/Charge

Council Charter

David Henrich referred to the draft Council Charter emailed to the council in advance of the meeting and asked the council for any suggestions and/or changes. The council discussed the activities of the Advisory Council and made suggestions to the bullets. The council agreed that MDH and the Chair and Vice-Chair can meet and revise the bullets and send the finalized version to the Council before the next meeting.

The council also suggested adding a Revision Schedule to the Charter.

Council Charge

David Henrich asked for any suggestions on the Charge for 2023-2024. The council discussed topics for the Charge for the year.

Screen, Screen Assemblies and Aquifer Protection Discussion

David Henrich started the discussion regarding screen, screen assemblies and aquifer protection and submerged closed loop heat exchangers, and whether multiple screens should or could be used for any well. Danny Nubbe motioned to create a workgroup to look at screen assembly rules. David Kill seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Licensing Qualifications and Prerequisite Experience Discussion

David Henrich started the discussion regarding how MDH reviews licensing qualifications. The council discussed the current rules and if they should be changed, and if the qualification review process should change to include a council review. The council also discussed defined requirements for a particular license when applicants are being reviewed. The council determined they would like to see an example applicant review packet at the next meeting before moving forward with process changes.

Water Service Lines Discussion

Don McKeever started the discussion by giving an overview of the topic and described personal observations. The council discussed the current plan review process. Don McKeever asked management if MDH is willing to move forward to change legislation. Teresa Purrington responded that the council would need to contact MDH Legislative Liaison and stated that if there was a legislative initiative, MDH could provide technical review.

Open Forum

No one from the public was present at the meeting.

Action Items

- Create a workgroup to look at screen assembly rules: Advisory Council.

Next meeting

Date: December 11, 2023

Time: 1:30 – 3:30 pm

Location: Hybrid Meeting

Adjourn

David Kill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joe Stevens seconded this motion. The motion was approved without objection.

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