

Advisory Council on Wells and Borings Meeting

WELL MANAGEMENT SECTION

Date: June 21, 2023

Location: Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

Attendees: David Duffey, Tannie Eshenaur, Kelly Gribauval-Hite, David Henrich, David Kill, Richard Lamb, Jordan Mayer, Don McKeever, Danny Nubbe, Roger Renner, Gabriel Sweet, Michael Steffl, Joseph Stevens.

Others Present: Kara Dennis, Corrie Floyd, Kelly Medellin, Teresa Purrington.

Absent: Bruce Johnson, Steven Traut.

Call to Order

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

Approval of last meeting minutes

Roger Renner made a motion to approve the Advisory Council amended meeting minutes from December 14, 2022. David Kill seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Roger Renner made a motion to approve the Advisory Council meeting minutes from March 22, 2022. David Kill seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Oaths of office

Kara Dennis reported that the Oaths of Office documentation has been signed by all members of the Advisory Council.

Approval of meeting agenda

Roger Renner made a motion to approve the meeting agenda for today, June 21, 2023. David Kill seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) updates

Rulemaking updates

Corrie Floyd reported on rulemaking updates. He stated that the Notice of Intent to Adopt and Public Comment period for the Portland Limestone rule passed in early June. He's currently working with Office of Administrative Hearings and documentation is being reviewed by an Administrative Law Judge.

Legislative updates

Submerged Closed Loop Heat Exchanger (SCLHE) permit

Corrie Floyd reported that the legislature authorized the new SCLHE permit type on May 24, 2023. He stated Well Management (WM) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) staff worked together as a group and agency to develop a new permit form and process. He stated that variances that were already granted will continue to remain in effect until expired and will consider variances for isolation distances and screen configuration, system owner monitoring and other reporting requirements.

Water Policy Center updates

Tannie Eshenaur reported on the Water Policy Center and legislative matters.

- PFAS Guidance: MDH is developing some updated PFAS guidance values. EPA also has draft MCLs for PFOA, PFOS, and a group of four others. Minnesota water agencies developed the PFAS blueprint to prevent and manage PFAS. In FY24/25, MDH will add epidemiologists to their health risk assessment team, increase capacity in the Public Health Laboratory, and expand support for private labs across the state.
- Public Water Supply: This includes a goal to complete lead service line replacement within the next 10 years, including both private and public sides of the lines, and reducing lead in the water of schools and childcares. There are new testing requirements for schools, and the results now need to be given to MDH and made available to the public. There are also funds for remediation.
- Private Well Forum: The forum was a success, with 240 participants registered. Evaluations were positive, and they may want to include regional meetings in the future.
- Minnesota Drinking Water Action Plan: MDH is in current plans working with the University of Minnesota (U of M), as they are currently conducting a Governance Assessment examining how drinking water is incorporated into broader water resource management. The U of M will complete that report and MDH will incorporate that into their plan. There will be a series of meetings throughout the state to solicit input and feedback with an expected completion date of June 2024.

Council Charter/Charge

Council Charter

David Henrich referred to the draft Council Charter/Charge emailed to the council in advance of the meeting and asked the council for any suggestions and/or changes. The council discussed suggested topics to add to the Charge.

Council Charge

David Henrich asked for any suggestions on the Charge for the year. The council discussed topics for the Charge for the year. David Henrich stated the Chair, Vice-Chair, and MDH will put together a list and the next meeting the council will prioritize the list, aggregate and rank. He included a list he started with his ideas, as well as ideas from other council members that contacted him.

- Review new products and technologies.
- Review and improve codes and standards.

- Propose statutory updates and improvements.
- Perform oral examinations of master well contractors.
- Review department procedures and practices and make suggestions for improving efficiency, fairness, and industry relations.
- Review licenses, types, qualifications, and tests.
- Act in advisory capacity for correction orders that are appealed.
- Review and offer input on legislation proposed by MDH.
- Review criteria for continuing education.
- Assist with rule interpretation.
- Review and improve rules and permitting process to achieve goals but allow a quicker response and resolution.
- Advocate for the appropriate and timely use of materials.
- Timely review of memos and communications.

Open Forum

- David Schulenberg from the Water Well Association asked how many from the Private Well Forum were private well owners.

Action Items

- Review open meeting laws: Well Management Staff.

Next meeting

Date: October 4, 2023

Time: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Location: In person meeting. Freeman Building, 625 Robert St. N, St. Paul. Room B144.

Adjourn

David Kill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Roger Renner seconded this motion. The motion was approved.

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