

MASE Board Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2009

Augusta, ME

3:00 PM

Attending:

Ken Stratton, President

Richard Green, Secretary

Bill O'Connor, Treasurer

Dale Knapp, Director

David Marceau, Ex Officio

Doug Coombs, State Site Evaluator

Earle Rafuse, Member

Also present for part of the meetings were other representatives of DHHS:

Nancy Beardsley, David Braley, Andy Tolman, Roger Crouse

Septic System Program

The wastewater and drinking water staff have combined, providing more staff for the subsurface program. A letter was passed out which was sent to Site Evaluators and Towns notifying them of the changes. The group will strive for consistency in their decision making and interpretation of the Rules. They will also try to achieve better coordination with other agencies such as LURC. They also anticipate new rule-making to correct some errors in the current rules.

The hierarchy of the division is:

Roger Crouse – Program Manager

Jim Jacobsen reports to Andy Tolman.

Brent Lawson & Doug Coombs report to David Braley.

The following things issues were raised:

- Nancy will look at unofficial policy statements that were issued by department staff for particular situations such as design of septic systems on Monhegan Island to see if they should be incorporated into the rules or remain in effect.
- MASE will move forward with the reinstatement of the Technical Review Committee. The change in administration may present the opportunity to rebuild trust.
- Nancy will talk with Jeff McNally of Maine Water Utilities so see about scheduling another training session.
- Nancy will look into licensing board issues as an alternative to licensing by the state.

Previous Meeting Minutes

Approved

Treasurer's Report

Approved. A copy is attached.

Site Evaluator Exam

Doug would like to start looking for the next site immediately. The written exam will be April 28, 2010; make up exam on June 30; and field exam is tentatively scheduled for Sept 1, a Wednesday. The MASE training will be the next day on Sept 2.

MASE/MAPPS Training

Field Day was a success. There were few complaints and many good comments.

Reid State Park Training

Some comments were received questioning test pit interpretations.

Other Financial Issues

It was suggested that MASE try to obtain Munsell Books at a discount for members

There was no charge for the soil lab tests done for the training.

There were two checks written to the Soil Judging team, one is for last year and one for this year.

Technical Review Committee

Most likely will have monthly meetings. Some names suggested were Al Frick, Darryl Brown, Earl Rafuse, Dale Knapp, William O'Connor, Doug Riley, David Marceau. The membership will be asked to see if others are interested.

Annual Meeting

- The meeting will be Tuesday, February 16 at the Millenium in Palmyra.
- George Loomis has an associate who could speak from the Rhode Island training center.
- Coastal Mill River Consulting will do a presentation on ATW systems in exchange for a table
- Doug suggested that YOWA might sponsor a speaker that they would help pay for if the meeting was open to their members
- Richard suggested something relevant to the Rules, such as a discussion of setback issues
- Issues on Right of entry and wetland certification might be good topics.

Fillable PDF HHE forms

These were made by Bill Noble.

Page 1 of the HHE-200 is going to be changed to reflect the current code.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm. Next meeting will be December 9, 2009.