APPROVED

Kentucky Board of Certification of Wastewater and Drinking Water System Operators

Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2026

I. Call to Order

Robin Strader called to order the regular meeting of the Kentucky Board of Certification of Wastewater & Drinking Water System Operators at 10:18 a.m. EDT, on August 20, 2026, in Frankfort, Kentucky and by Zoom.

II. Roll Call

Robin Strader conducted a roll call for the attendees. The following persons were present:
Robin Strader, Chairperson
Jason Marion, Vice Chairperson
Tony Hatton, Cabinet Representative
John Cruse
Paul Greathouse
Samantha Chisley
Mitzi Delius

Veronica Roland, Certification & Licensing Branch (CLB)
Jessica Wilhoite, CLB

Guests
BJ Bland, Certification & Licensing Branch (CLB)
Heather Stevenson, Ky Rural Water Assoc (KRWA)
Arianna Lageman, (KRWA)

III. Introduction of Guests and Guest Comments

BJ Bland, KRWA, Heather Stevenson, KRWA, and Arianna Lageman, KRWA, were introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

Heather discussed attending the ASDWA EPA conference and presenting on the apprenticeship program.

IV. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Paul Greathouse entered a motion to approve the minutes as presented for the June 16, 2026, regular board meeting, the July 21, 2026, list of approved trainings and the July 30, 2026, special board meeting. Mitzie Delius seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

V. New Business

1. Class IV Exam and Reciprocity Requests (Addendum 1)
2. Carl Groce entered a motion to release today's exam requests and list of approved trainings (Addendum 2). Paul Greathouse seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

VI. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

VII. Communication and Announcements

A financial summary of the wastewater certification account and drinking water certification account was distributed to the board members in their packets for their information.

Jessica gave a brief update for CLB. We are working on the 2027 exam schedule. Veronica Roland is the new manager for the Certification & Licensing Branch.

VIII. Operator Disciplinary Case (Review Material)

The board took this time to review information provided regarding the operator disciplinary case in the afternoon portion of the meeting.

IX. Recess for Lunch

Jason Marion made a motion to recess for lunch at 11:31 a.m. Carl Groce seconded that motion, and the motion carried.

Tony Hatton, Cabinet Representative, Heather Stevenson, KRWA, and Arianna Lageman, KRWA, excused themselves at this point and did not return for the second half of the meeting.

X. Return from Lunch

Mitzi Delius made a motion to return from lunch at 1:02 p.m. Paul Greathouse seconded that motion, and the motion carried.

XI. Introduction of New Guests

Guests
Rich Seiler, Certification & Licensing Branch, (CLB)
Richard Crask, Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS)
Chad Dawson, (CHFS)
Lucas Bentley, (CHFS)
Amber Doss, (CHFS)
John Rudolph, (CHFS)
Ashton Johnson, Division of Water, (DOW)
Shannon Bryant, (DOW)

Rich Seiler, CLB, Richard Crask, CHFS, Chad Dawson, CHFS, Lucas Bentley, CHFS, Amber Doss, CHFS, John Rudolph, CHFS, Ashton Johnson, DOW, and Shannon Bryant, DOW were introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

XII. Operator Disciplinary Casee (Interviews)

BJ Bland, CLB, began presenting information to the Board from his briefing sheet regarding the referral received from Richard Crask with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services pertaining to Fleming Neon Water Company and their lead certified operator Nathaniel Wilder with Fleming Neon.

The Board members then began speaking with Richard Crask, CHFS, and Chad Dawson, CHFS, about Fleming Neon's failure to submit fluoride reports. The Board members asked Mr. Crask and Mr. Dawson a series of fact-finding questions related to the information presented by Mr. Bland in his briefing sheet.

Next, the Board heard from Ashton Johnson, DOW, regarding inspections conducted at Fleming Neon Water Company and the facility's compliance with applicable reporting and monitoring requirements.

Mr. Nathaniel Wilder and the Mayor Ricky Burke were invited to appear before the Board to provide information and respond to questions regarding the matters under review. Neither Mr. Wilder nor Mayor Burke appeared at the August 20, 2026, meeting. Accordingly, the Board proceeded with their review based on the information, documentation, and testimony available.

XIII. Executive Session

Jason Marion made a motion to enter executive session to discuss the disciplinary case for Nathaniel Wilder. Mitzi Delius seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The board entered executive session at 2:00 p.m.

Paul Greathouse made a motion to exit executive session. Mitzi Delius seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

The board came out of executive session at 2:33 p.m.

A motion was made by Jason Marion, for the Board to make the following recommendation to the Cabinet.

Whereas the Board has evaluated the evidence presented and discussed today;
Be it resolved the Board recommends Enforcement to permanently revoke Drinking Water and Distribution licenses for Nathaniel Wilder; and,

Be it further resolved that the Board recommends Enforcement to permanently prohibit any future recertifications of Wastewater or Collections licenses by Nathaniel Wilder since his current licensures in Wastewater Treatment and Collections are already terminated; and

Be it further resolved that the Board recommends Enforcement to require the supervisor and mayor (of the Fleming-Neon utility/community) participate in the

voluntary manager accreditation program within two years of the effective date of the agreed order; and

Be it further resolved that the Board recommends Enforcement to require all certified operators at the utility at the time of the agreed order to receive training in recordkeeping, MORs, and DMRs, and all drinking water operators at the time of the order to receive 'Fluoridation Learning Online (FLO)' training of eight (8) CEUs provided by the Department for Public Health Fluoride Program, whereby all training recommended is in addition to current CEU license requirements, and is to be completed within six months of the agreed order; and, whereby failure to complete the training will result in license suspensions until completion or license termination.

Carl Groce seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Be it approved by this Board this day (August 20).

XIV. Adjournment

Jason Marion entered a motion to adjourn the meeting. Paul Greathouse seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m. EDT.

Minutes submitted by: Veronica Roland

Minutes approved by: MD/PG

AI ID	AI Name	License Requested	Reciprocity	State	Determination	Comments	1st	2nd	Motion Passed
179832	Christopher W Jewell	DW Treatment IVA	N		Approved		RS	CG	Y
191369	Brandon W Vincent	DW Treatment IVA	N		Approved		RS	CG	Y
191366	Kyle M Keating	DW Treatment IVA	N		Approved		RS	CG	Y
191100	John K Ford	DW Distribution IV	N		Approved		RS	CG	Y
166650	Chad A Brantley	WW Treatment IV	N		Approved		JM	MD	Y
187316	Emily J Weixel	WW Treatment IV OIT	N		Approved	S. Chisley abstained.	JM	MD	Y
137826	Braydon K Bevins	WW Collection IV	N		Approved		JM	MD	Y
49758	Robert E Nelson	WW Collection IV	N		Approved		JM	MD	Y

July

List of Approved Trainings

Addendum 2

AI#	Training Provider	Name of Training	Date	Hours Requested	Hours Approved
		Wastewater Trainings			
108563	Henry P Thompson Co	Mt. Vernon Wastewater Treatment Training	7/29/2026	1.0	1.0
108563	Henry P Thompson Co	Screening Capture Rates & Site-Specific Analysis	7/29/2026	2.5	2.25
		WW/DW Combined Trainings			
108571	KY Rural Water Assoc	KRWA Apprentice and Mentor Training	7/14/2026	6.0	6.0
108571	KY Rural Water Assoc	47th Annual Conference and Exhibition	8/23/2026	13.0	13.0
133858	UK Water Resources Research Institute	Kentucky Water Utility Management Workshop	7/24/2026	6.0	6.0
770	Hopkinsville Water Environment Authority	Chlorine (Hazardous) Emergency Response Training	7/22/2026	7.5	7.25
108571	KY Rural Water Assoc	Confined Space Safety & Mobile Generator Operation	8/7/2026	3.0	3.0
82582	KY Water & Wastewater Operators Assoc	KWWOA Eastern Chapter - Paintsville General	8/11/2026	12.0	12.0
		Drinking Water Trainings			
2129	Louisville Water Company	2026 Louisville Water Operator Conference	9/14/2026	12.5	12.5
108602	KY Division of Water	Distribution System Optimization Module 2	9/29/2026	9.75	9.75
191211	Mueller Water Products	Optimizing Fire Hydrant Performance	7/29/2026	2.0	2.0
108547	AWWA	2026 Water Infrastructure Conference & Exposition	8/30/2026	21.0	21.0
108571	KY Rural Water Assoc	Hands-On Leak Detection & Repair for Water Operators	7/31/2026	3.0	3.0

AI #	Training Provider	Certified Training Provider Approval Approval Expires