WATER WELL STANDARDS & CONTRACTORS' LICENSING BOARD MEETING

August 12, 2026

Scott Grosch (chairman of the board) called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. with roll call. The meeting was held at the at 245 Fallbrook Blvd, Lincoln, NE Room 031 LL. Copies of the agenda were emailed to board members and other interested parties prior to the meeting. The meeting was advertised on the Water Well Standards and Contractor's Licensing Board webpage on the Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment website. The Open Meetings Act was posted at the front entrance of the room.

Item 1. Roll Call

PRESENT:	Scott Grosch	Tara Wulfekoetter
	Cody Christensen	Jim Remmenga
	Laura Johnson	Katie Cameron
	Dan Mackin	
ABSENT:	Mike Thompson, Jeff Ironshell, Lynn Webster	
OTHERS:	Dave Miesbach, Bill Allen, Dan Egeland, Tim Sizer, Jaiden Dufek, Dan Kroll, Jason Orton, Lee Orton	

Item 2. Adoption of Agenda

Jim Remmenga moved to adopt the agenda. Dan Mackin seconded the motion. Voting Yes: Cody Christensen, Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin, Laura Johnson, Tara Wulfekoetter, Katie Cameron, Jim Remmenga.

Voting No: none.

Abstain: none. Motion carried.

Item 3. Consideration of Minutes of Board Meeting – April 15, 2026

Katie Cameron moved to adopt the minutes. Jim Remmenga seconded the motion. Voting Yes: Laura Johnson, Tara Wulfekoetter, Katie Cameron, Jim Remmenga, Cody Christensen.

Voting No: none.

Abstain: none. Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin.

Item 4. Continuing Education Requests

1- AIPG 2025 National Conference, St. Louis, MO, by American Institute of Professional Geologists was held October 4-7, 2025; Douglas M Burge
Requests: 4 hrs. Recommended: 3

2- Groundwater Monitoring Demonstration, West Point, NE by Nutrient Advisors(Jacob Bracht) was held TBD; Allen J Kampschnieder
Requests: 4 hrs. Recommended: 4

3- Groundwater Monitoring Demonstration, West Point, NE by Nutrient Advisors(Jacob Bracht) was held 05/26/2026; Allen J Kampschnieder
Requests: 4 hrs. Recommended: 4

4- Exploration Drillers Clinic, Overland Park, KS, by National Drilling Association was held May 5th-7th, 2026; Mathew J. Marxsen
Requests: 14 hr. Recommended: 12.5

5- NRD Safety Electrical Training, York, Norfolk, Sidney, NE, by Nebraska Association of Resources Districts was held May 7th, 14th, &21st, 2026; Jennifer L Swanson
Requests: 2 hr. Recommended: 2

6- Data Defensibility, Lincoln, NE, by TriHydro Corporation was held June 17th, 2026; Sarah Klescewski
Requests: 1.25 hr. Recommended: 1

7- Safety Training, Lower Loup NRD, by the Lower Loup NRD was held June 4th, 2026; Tylr Naprstek
Requests: 2 hr. Recommended: 2

8- 2026 IAGP Education Event, DeKalb IL, by Illinois Association of Groundwater Professionals was held April 4th, 2026; Klint D. Gingerich
Requests: 6 hr. Recommended: 6

9- OSHA 10-hr Construction Safety and Health, Kalona, IA, by Occupational Safety and Health Administrators was held January 9th, 2025; Klint D. Gingerich
Requests: 10 hrs. Recommended: 8

10-Phase University, Rapid City, SD by Phase Technologies will be held October 12th-14th, 26th-28th, and November 9th-11th; Susie Marcks
Requests: 16 hrs. Recommended: deferred/more info needed

11-Excavator Damage Prevention & Pipeline Safety Program, Collinsville, IL, by Paradigm Liaison Services was held January 29th, 2026; Douglas M Burge
Requests: 2 hrs. Recommended: 2

12-GSHMM Site Tour of Teklab Facility, Collinsville, IL by the Gateway Society of Hazardous Materials Managers was held June 18th, 2026; Douglas M Burge
Requests: 1.5 hrs. Recommended: 1

13-Borehole Geophysics – Old and New, Laughlin, NV, by the Mountain States Groundwater Expo was held Feb 13th, 2025; Richard LeBlanc
Requests: 1 hr. Recommended: 1

14-Material Selection for Water Wells, Laughlin, NV, by the Mountain States Groundwater Expo was held Feb 13th, 2025; Richard LeBlanc
Requests: 1 hr. Recommended: 1

15-26 International School of Well Drilling Courses, Online, by ISWD offered 24-7, 2026; Lainey Mastropietro
Requests: 1 hr/course for 21 courses Recommended: 1 for each course except "Well Abandonment" course which was denied

16-12 All Star Education Courses, Online, by All Star Training offered 24-7, 2026; Carolyn Song
Requests: 1 hr/course for 12 courses Recommended: 1 for each course except "Well Disinfection" course which was denied

17-Last Chance Workshop, Lincoln NE, by Nebraska Well Drillers Association will be held December 4, 2026; Lee W. Orton
Requests: 6 hr. Recommended: 6

18-Geology & Well Tech Seminar & Fair, Wichita KS, by KDHE will be held October 20-21, 2026; Ryan O'Malley
Requests: 8 hr. Recommended: 5

Dave Miesbach submitted the recommendations for board approval of CEU hours as stated. Voting Yes: Laura Johnson, Tara Wulfekoetter, Katie Cameron, Jim Remmenga, Cody Christensen, Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin.

Voting No: none.

Abstain: none. Motion Carried.

Item 5. Program Report

Dave Miesbach presented the program report that was included in the Board Packet. It outlined the declaratory orders/pre-notifications, violations, licensure information and testing information.

- Review of the Program Report
- Water Well Standards and Well Registration are now both in the Groundwater Division of the Department of Water, Energy, and Environment
- Title 134 went into effect June 28, 2026, and the Practice Act has been updated on July 18, 2026
- Title 134 is unable to be downloaded/printed on the Secretary of State Website.
- Updated spiral-bound books of Title 134 and the Practice Act are in the process of being made.
- Registration fees went up July 18, 2026, the fees under statute 46-606 went up to 200$ and the fee under statute 46-1224 went up by $10 so a well pumping 50 gallons per minute or under costs $240 and a well pumping over 50 gallons per minute costs $280 to register.
    - 492 wells were registered in June and 407 in July
- A contractor has requested that an issue with curbstops not shutting off be brought to the boards attention and discussed. He is asking if other contractors are having the same issues with curbstops. After more investigation the issue can be revisited in a subsequent meeting.
- If a well is described as PWS without spacing protection, you do not need to stay 1000 feet of it as you would with a PWS with spacing protection.
- Ongoing goal to make PWS data available to licensed contractors.
    - There are currently 657 active contractor licenses however due to combination licenses (where an individual has both a well drilling contractors license and a pump installation contractor license) it only equals 422 individuals.
    - May also include the ability to submit Owner-Driven corrections to location errors for approval
- Proposed changes to Policy 12 to remove Title 178 verbiage and replace it with verbiage that would comply with Title 134 was brought to the board's attention.

Dan Mackin made a motion to approve Policy 12 changes to remove Title 178 verbiage and replace it with verbiage that would comply with Title 134 Jim Remmenga seconded the motion. Voting Yes: Tara Wulfekoetter, Katie Cameron, Jim Remmenga, Cody Christensen, Scott Grosch, Dan Mackin, Laura Johnson.
Voting No: none.
Abstain: none. Motion Carried.

Item 6. Legislative Report

Lee Orton gave an overview of legislation.

Item 7. Agency Reports

A. UNL – Conservation & Survey – Katie Cameron

- The "open rank geoscientist" CSD position update: initial round of candidates are being interviewed this week. This position will be based in Lincoln.
- Dr. Jesse Korus left the CSD as of July 1, 2026, and went into private business conducting TEM surveys and consulting (Korus Geo, LLC). Valentina Ita, hydrogeologist in the North Platte office, also gave notice and left Nebraska. CSD is working to build back capabilities, they have not been told "no" to re-hiring lost positions.
- Aaron Young of CSD is working on the Water Levels report and is now positioned on several eastern Nebraska cooperative agreements where Jesse was formerly a co-principal investigator.
- Giltner CSD test hole in Upper Big Blue NRD is done and State Map Drilling is going on currently for the Greenwood, Nebraska Quad with approximately 12 test holes planned (5 done, 7 left). This Map will include three detailed cross-sections covering western Cass County.
- CSD is involved in a Nebraska Environmental Trust (NET) funded project through the Lower Elkhorn NRD with several drilling and surveying methods. Borehole Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) is one planned method this fall or upcoming spring (CSD drills the borehole but the tool and interpretation services are contracted out separately). NMR could be of potential interest of CSD as another routine downhole geophysical tool option (additional to the current resistivity, gamma, and SP logging tool.) It depends on how the tool performs for the 5 planned locations.

B. HHS – Division of Public Health – Tara Wulfekoetter

- The lab hasn't raised their fees since 2013 and are hoping to make progress towards increasing their fees within 6 months.
- PFAs are being requested but the lab cannot currently provide those services with the current facilities/equipment/funding.
- Is open to providing tours of the lab as part of potential continuing education opportunities.

C. DWEE-Drinking Water Program – Laura Johnson

- Staffing issues are still a concern.
    - Another revised criticality memo is needed to be sent to DAS. The two sent prior to this have been denied.
    - Field Area II is vacant
        - Lost field area I and Field Area II is the mentioned Revised Criticality Memo.
    - Monitoring Compliance Supervisor position was filled by Trevor Johnson

- No changes with PFAS and Lead rules
- Governor's Water Quality and Quantity taskforce has listed out 14 goals
    - Drinking Water and Geological Services have a role in 4 of those goals

D. Department of Water, Energy and Environment (DWEE)– Mike Thompson

- No Agency Report was given for Department of Water, Energy and Environment

E. Natural Resources Districts – Lynn Webster

- No Agency Report was given for Natural Resources Districts

Item 8. Public Comment

None.

Item 9. Closed Session

None.

Item 10. Adjournment

Cody Christensen moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m. and Katie Cameron seconded the motion.

Laura Johnson, Acting Alternate Board Secretary — **Date** 8/18/26