

**ON-SITE WATER & WASTEWATER TECHNICAL  
REVIEW BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
Planning and Development Center  
Microsoft Teams  
4700 Elmore Road  
Anchorage, Alaska

**October 12, 2022  
11:30 a.m.**

**Technical Review Board Members Present:**

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**Name**

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Jeff Garness  
Kurt Sauers  
Mark Swenson  
Kyle Brown  
Ed Barrington

**Also in attendance**

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**Name**

**Representing**

Deb Wockenfuss	MOA/Development Services Department (DSD)
Curtis Townsend	MOA/DSD
Ross Noffsinger	MOA/DSD
Bill Rieth	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC)/Division of Water
T.W. Brannan	ADEC/Division of Water
Tom Varney	Anchorage Tank & Welding Inc.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL**

CHAIR Swenson called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m. A quorum was established. Mr. Henslee was unavailable.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA / MINUTES**

CHAIR Swenson asked if there were any changes to the agenda. A minor change was made. *Hearing no objections, the agenda was approved with the change.*

CHAIR Swenson asked if there were any changes to the minutes. No changes more recommended. **Mr. Brown motioned to approve the May 11, 2022, minutes. Mr. Barrington second. Unanimously approved.**

CHAIR Swenson requested an update on staffing levels. Staff noted that levels were back to operational, and a new person was hired. Curtis Townsend came onboard at the beginning of October.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Certified Contractors inspections reports**

Mr. Garness asked staff and the board to entertain the idea of requiring inspections reports for the contractors for more accountability. A lengthy discussion ensued. It was agreed to add the idea of a checklist for future code updates.

**b. Rebuild Drain Fields**

Mr. Garness asked if staff could add a standard recommendation of prior to rebuilding drain fields you need to pump the tank a week in advance into their training. There was some discussion and staff noted they would look and see about incorporating it into the training.

**c. Application and legality of Vault Wells in Well Code**

Mr. Brown opened discussion about redefining a pit well so they can be treated different. The board agreed a better definition(s) would help.

**d. Water Softeners**

Mr. Garness commented we need to start asking questions like we did in the past about water softeners. After a length exchange, staff asked Mr. Varney to talk with his customer and see which ones use a water softener, noting there is not much data available. The board agreed no action could be taken at this time without more data.

**4. OTHER BUSINESS/INFORMATIONAL**

- a. Update on 15.55 rewrite – Nothing to report.**
- b. Update on 15.65 – Nothing to report.**
- c. Procedures for closing On-Site permits – Nothing to report.**

**5. COMMENTS**

**a. Board comments**

Concerns were brought up regarding the ADEC code rewrite, the municipalities participation, and documentation. There was some concern over comments and possible misunderstandings from the last rewrite meeting that needs to be clarified.

**b. Staff comments**

Staff is starting to see the effect of interest rates because we're down 25 percent over the third quarter. New housing permits for third quarter over last year are 60 percent and the second quarter over last year is down 58 percent so that's right in line with the interest rates, mortgage rates going up.

Staff introduced Curtis Townsend who had arrived at the meeting.

**c. Public comment - None**

**6. UPCOMING MEETINGS & AGENDA ITEMS**

The next meeting was discussed and November 9, 2022, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 pm.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.