

Minutes
Louisiana Committee of Certification
March 11, 2013
Crowne Plaza Hotel
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.

ROLL CALL:

A. Determination of Quorum.

Committee Members in attendance were:

David Wittner (Chairman), Dirk Barrios (Vice-Chairman), Tom Walton, Tom Owens, Greg Shelden, Mayor Glenn Brasseaux, and Dennis McGehee.

A quorum was achieved.

Recognition of Visitors and Others:

DHH-OPH staff in attendance: Steve Hoss and Jim Mooring.

Visitors were: Jon Townsend, Pat Cradeur (LRWA), Richard Knighton Jr., Jerry Baker, Blake DeBlieux, and Doil Nelson, Jr.

B. Announcements: There were no announcements.

MINUTES:

The minutes from the December 6, 2012 meeting were distributed and reviewed. A motion to accept was made by Mayor Brasseaux and was seconded by Mr. Barrios. The minutes were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

David Wittner stated that Louisiana Rural Water Association issued a proclamation whereby operators would now be known as Water or Wastewater Systems Operations Specialists. He stated it has come to his attention that this is recognized by EPA, USDA, AWWA, AMWA, ABC, and ACWA. Mr. Wittner stated that this will be addressed in New Business. The chairman also welcomed Mr. Shelden, Mr. Walton and Mr. Magnon to the Committee. Mr. Shelden fills the position vacated by Bryan Kauffer which ends in 2014. The terms of both Mr. Walton and Mr. Magnon end in 2016.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

OLD BUSINESS

The Chairman asked if the certifications were issued to Leland Cable, Lloyd Benoit, and John Goodson as per deliberations at the previous meeting. The Administrator said the certificates were issued.

NEW BUSINESS

The chairman brought to Committee's attention the diplomas of Isaac Tony Vincent Jr. Mr. Mooring provided the Committee with a copy of the letter which had been sent to Mr. Vincent regarding 2 high school diplomas, issued by the same school with different graduation dates, which have been submitted to the Program. Mr. Walton asked that the Program consult with legal regarding setting a deadline for receipt of the certified copy of Mr. Vincent's transcripts. The chairman asked if the Committee was "comfortable" with that and there was no opposition.

Next the Chairman brought up the aforementioned proclamation. Mr. Cradeur explained that National Rural Water Association began one to one and a half years ago to seek to enhance the recognition of those involved in water and wastewater. LRWA has changed the terminology on their awards to reflect the proclamation. Mr. Mooring and Mr. Hoss explained that at present it would require an expenditure of money to change the certificates to reflect the designation. After much discussion it was decided to table this issue until the July meeting.

Mr. Mooring reminded the members that two (2) members' terms will expire in August 2013 and that three (3) nominees with biographic information need to be submitted for Dr. Guidry's consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 AM.

The next Committee of Certification meeting will be held July 8, 2013 at the Lake Charles Civic Center in conjunction with the LRWA Annual Conference.