

January 19, 2011 MINUTES
LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION CONTRACTORS
EXAMINING BOARD

The Landscape Irrigation Contractors Examining Board held their meeting at the DEP building, Trenton, NJ. George McCarthy called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The following members were in attendance:

MEMBER	AFFILIATION
Linda Cantwell	NJDEP
Patric LiSanti	Growing Concern Inc
George McCarthy	Spring Irrigation
Robert Dobson	Middletown Sprinkler

Charlie Maack, DEP was also in attendance. Gene Rosenblum, DAG attended via a telephone conference.

Linda Cantwell read the Open Public Meetings Act statement for the Landscape Irrigation Contractors Examining Board and announced that adequate notice of this meeting had been provided to the Secretary of State and designated newspapers, as well as posted in DEP.

Both sets of minutes from the November 9, 2010 meeting were approved as presented.

The Board reviewed and accepted the Treasurer's report.

An individual from North Carolina submitted an application in order to obtain a certification through reciprocity. This is the Board's first request for reciprocity. The applicant included a copy of North Carolina's rules and regulations governing their irrigation certification. Based on this information, North Carolina would allow reciprocity for New Jersey contractors and their experience requirements for certification appear to be comparable to ours. Bob Dobson indicated that New York is in the process of establishing a certification program that could result in additional requests for reciprocity. As a result, it was agreed that a policy/process needs to be established in order to insure consistency with future requests. Examinations taken by New Jersey contractors contain questions specific to New Jersey. The Board members agreed that this part of the exam might be important even for those seeking reciprocity. A discussion was held as to whether or not a mini exam should be created containing codes and business information specific to New Jersey. Mr. Dobson agreed to pursue this matter with the Irrigation Association. It was agreed that this mini exam should be offered online. The applicant will be contacted, updated on the process and given the option to take the upcoming full examination.

A discussion was also held concerning the changes that were recently made to the exam scoring process. These changes were discovered upon review of the October 2010 examination results. It was agreed that the Board will reach out to the Irrigation Association indicating their preference to return to a passing score of 70 % with a minimum of 50 % correct in each category.

Motion approved to go into a closed session.

As a result of a conflict with the March 10, 2011 meeting, Board members will be contacted this week in order to reschedule this date.

Bob Dobson provided the Board members with copies of his suggested changes to the regulations. George McCarthy indicated that he had been comparing the law with the regulations to insure that there was consistency and that it was as clear as possible. As a result, some definitions required modification and some of the new requirements required additional definitions. A discussion was held. DAG Rosenblum recommended that definitions are not necessarily the best way to accomplish this. Shall or shall not should be included as part of the requirement. When someone violates the regulations you need to have something showing them what was violated. (who is being held accountable and what are you going to do to them).

George McCarthy asked for public comment. No members from the public were in attendance.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned. at 1:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for March, 2011.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George McCarthy". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

George McCarthy, Chairman
Landscape Irrigation Contractors Board