January 20, 2012
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 10:05 a.m. The following members were in attendance:

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Mike Schuit, DAG, Gene Rosenblum, DAG, and Charlie Maack, DEP, and were also in attendance.

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.

The open and closed session minutes from the November 15, 2011 meeting were approved as presented.

A Treasurer’s report was not available. Members will be sent an electronic copy once it becomes available.

Changes to the exam application were discussed. Comments included modifying instructions, verifying citations, and reiterating certain language. Members will be sent an electronic version of the application in order to review and make necessary changes.

Members were provided with a draft approval letter that will be sent to course providers as courses are approved. A discussion was held and changes were made to the letter.

Bob Dobson informed the members that he had recently met with Katie Barnett (from DEP) concerning the irrigation program. As a result of their discussion, Mr. Dobson prepared draft legislative changes to remove the plumber’s exemption.

Members were provided with information from North Carolina’s website regarding their irrigation certification process. A discussion was held and some of their ideas may be incorporated into NJ’s exam application.

The Board reviewed, discussed, and approved revisions to a new penalty matrix.

The Board motioned to enter into a closed session in order to discuss enforcement matters.

The Board returned to open session.

The Board voted to approve penalties for cases 083 ($2,000), 019 ($2,000), 391 ($1,000), and 460 ($2,000) for installations without a certified contractor.
The Board voted to approve and send correspondence prepared for an exam applicant requiring special accommodations for the April 2012 examination.

The Board reviewed and approved results from an applicant applying for reciprocity and passing the NJ portion of the exam.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

George McCarthy, Chairman
Landscape Irrigation Contractors Board
February 29, 2012
LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION CONTRACTORS
EXAMINING BOARD

The Landscape Irrigation Contractors Examining Board held their meeting at the DEP building (Station Plaza 5) Trenton, NJ. George McCarthy called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. The following members were in attendance:

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Edith Brower, DAG, and Charlie Maack, DEP, were also in attendance. Gene Rosenblum, DAG attended via a telephone conference during the enforcement discussions pertaining to the rules & regulations.

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.

The Board reviewed correspondence from a recipient of an inquiry letter pertaining to advertising irrigation without a certification. It was agreed that this issue would be tabled until the next meeting.

Correspondence was received from a course provider expressing concerns with the Board’s assignment of continuing education credits. A brief discussion was held. It was agreed to table this matter until the next meeting.

Correspondence was received from a certificate holder requesting that the Board refund his renewal payment. He indicated it was renewed in error. A discussion was held. The individual will be notified that his payment cannot be refunded.

Correspondence was received from an individual that failed to renew their certification within the two year grace period. The individual indicated that due to a financial hardship, they were not able to renew their certification within the required time frame. A brief discussion was held. This matter will be tabled until the next meeting so that additional information can be obtained.

The Board reviewed, discussed, and made additional changes to the rules and regulations.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

George McCarthy, Chairman
Landscape Irrigation Contractors Board
March 16, 2012
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 10:10 a.m. The following members were in attendance:

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Edith Brower, DAG, Gene Rosenblum, DAG, Charlie Maack, DEP, and members of the public were also in attendance.

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.

Bob Dobson motioned to enter into a closed session in order to complete the application review. Rick LiSanti seconded the motion. The remainder of the Board approved.

The Board returned from their closed session.

Members of the public arrived.

Correspondence was received from an irrigation contractor who had recently become ineligible to renew due to failure to make his renewal payment. The individual was requesting that the Board reinstate the certificate due to a financial hardship. A discussion was held. It was agreed that nothing in the statute or the rules and regulations would permit this request. The individual will be notified.

Correspondence was received from an individual as a result of the Board’s inquiry as to whether or not they were advertising irrigation work without an irrigation certification. A discussion was held. The individual will be notified that unless they have an irrigation certification, they cannot advertise.

Eric Nelson, NJ Irrigation Association (IANJ) addressed the Board. Mr. Nelson expressed concerns with inconsistent communications between the IANJ and the Board. In addition, Mr. Nelson is requesting that the Board provide the IANJ with communications being sent to irrigation contractors. Mr. Nelson informed the Board that there is some tension between the IANJ and distributors offering continuing education credits, due to the differences in the credit hours being assigned. The IANJ courses receive more credit than those offered by distributors. Mr. Nelson was seeking additional information on the Water Sense partnership suspension.

A discussion was held with Mr. Nelson regarding his concerns and comments.

Bob Dobson motioned to enter into a closed session in order to discuss enforcement matters. Rick LiSanti seconded the motion. The remainder of the Board approved.
The open and closed session minutes from the January 20, 2012 and February 29, 2012 meetings were approved as presented.

A Treasurer’s report was not available. Members will be sent an electronic copy once it becomes available.

The Board reviewed copies of the revised rules and regulations recently emailed to the Board members. A discussion was held. Bob Dobson motioned to establish a sub-committee with George McCarthy in an effort to have a finalized copy for the Board to review. Rick LiSanti seconded the motion. The remainder of the Board approved.

Bob Dobson informed the members that the EPA is considering eliminating the Water Sense partnership. A discussion was held.

Bob Dobson motioned to approve 15 applications and conditionally approve two pending additional information. Rick LiSanti seconded the motion. The remainder of the Board approved.

The Board was informed that the department had made an inquiry concerning the Board vacancies. It was requested that all the resumes previously submitted be resubmitted. In addition, the Board would need to provide a recommendation in order to fill the vacancies.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2012.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

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Edith Brower, DAG, Gene Rosenblum, DAG, Charlie Maack, DEP, and members of the public were also in attendance.

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.

The open and closed session minutes from the March 16, 2012 meeting were approved as presented.

A Treasurer’s report was reviewed, discussed and accepted.

The examination results from the April 2012 examination were reviewed, discussed and accepted as follows: 8 passed, 18 failed.

Draft changes to the rules and regulations were reviewed, discussed, modified, and accepted. The DAG’s agreed to research the plumber exemption further as a result of questions arising during the discussions.

Bob Dobson motioned to enter into a closed session in order to discuss enforcement matters. Rick LiSanti seconded the motion. The remainder of the Board approved.

The Board returned from their closed session.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. Members will be contacted in order to schedule the next meeting date.

Respectfully Submitted,

George McCarthy, Chairman
Landscape Irrigation Contractors Board
June 12, 2012
LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION CONTRACTORS
EXAMINING BOARD

The Landscape Irrigation Contractors Examining Board held their meeting at the DEP building, Trenton, NJ. via a telephone conference in order to approve the enforcement actions discussed at their May 16, 2012 meeting. George McCarthy called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. The following members were in attendance:

MEMBER                  AFFILIATION
Linda Cantwell          NJDEP
Robert Dobson           Middletown Sprinkler
Patric LiSanti          Growing Concern Inc
George McCarthy         Spring Irrigation
Gene Rosenblum, DAG, and Charlie Maack, DEP.

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.

Rick Lisanti motioned to approve $1,000 fines with a settlement offer of $500 for advertising without a certification for cases: 513, 525, 466, 523, 499, and 555; $1,000 fine without a settlement offer for advertising without a certification for case 209; and $1,000 fine without a settlement offer for doing irrigation work without a certification for case 097. Bob Dobson seconded the motion. The remainder of the Board approved.

George McCarthy asked for public comment and was informed that no member of the public were in attendance.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

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Gene Rosenblum, DAG, Michael Schuit, DAG, Tim Martin, member of the public.

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.

Tim Martin informed the Board that the Irrigation Association would like to offer their assistance in an effort to move the rules and regulations changes forward. In addition, members of the irrigation community will be in Atlantic City on December 5 in order to attend the Association’s annual meeting. As a result, a request was being made that the Board hold their meeting at the time giving members of the irrigation community an opportunity to attend. Mr. Martin informed the Board that the Board member nominations are in the queue.

Tim Martin left the meeting.

The Board reviewed and approved the minutes from the May 16 and June 12 meetings as presented.

The Board reviewed, discussed, and made additional changes to the rules and regulations.

DAGs Rosenblum and Schuit left the meeting.

Members reviewed correspondence recently received.

The Board voted to approve the rules and regulations as amended earlier in the meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

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Michael Schuit, DAG and Charles Maack, DEP were also in attendance.

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.

The new members were welcomed to the Board.

The Board reviewed and accepted the Treasurer’s report as presented.

Minutes from the August 1, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.

Members were informed that the agreement to purchase examinations from the Irrigation Association will expire at the end of the year. A new agreement is being reviewed and changes will be required. Members will be emailed a copy of the agreement.

The new members will be emailed copies of the exam application that require review and modifications.

Guy Virone motioned to approve nine initial applications and six reapplications for the October 17, 2012 examination. Fred Rapp seconded the motion and the remainder of the members approved.

At 10:50 a.m., Fred Rapp motioned to enter into a closed session in order to discuss enforcement matters. Guy Virone seconded the motion and the remainder of the members approved.

The Board returned to open session at 12:50 p.m.

The Board approved closing the following cases: 082/154, 603 and 606.

The Board reviewed and discussed the draft statements required for re-adoption.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

George McCarthy, Chairman
Landscape Irrigation Contractors Board
November 20, 2012
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:

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Michael Schuit, DAG and Trish Conti, DEP were also in attendance.

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.

Minutes from the September 19, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.

The Board members were informed that the budget was not available. It will be emailed or presented at the December 5, 2012 meeting.

The Board was informed that a course submitted by Cape May County Vo-Tech appears not to have been reviewed.

The Board entered into a closed session to discuss enforcement matters at 10:10.

The Board returned to open session at 10:30 a.m.

The Board reviewed and discussed the draft statements required for re-adoption.

The Board motioned and approved to accept the rules and regulations with the summary statements to be completed and to move forward for review by the Governor’s office.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

[Signature]

George McCarthy, Chairman
Landscape Irrigation Contractors Board
The Landscape Irrigation Contractors Examining Board held their meeting at the Taj Mahal, Diamond Ballroom in Atlantic City NJ. George McCarthy called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m. The following members were in attendance:

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Michael Schuit, DAG, Gene Rosenblum, DAG (via telephone conference) and members of the public were also in attendance.

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.

Open and closed session minutes from the November 20, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.

The Board reviewed and approved a course submitted by Cape May County Vo-Tech. Cape May will be notified of the Board decision.

As a result of inquiries with regard to some confusion while filling out the Irrigation Experience section of the application for examination, the Board reviewed the application. Based on the discussion, it was agreed that provided the form would identify the name of the business and the name they incorporated or registered under in the State, the employer/business areas could be combined together. It addition it was suggested that members review the instructions on that same page since of the text may no longer be applicable.

The 2013 meeting schedule was provided to the Boards. It was requested that members identify conflicts as soon as possible.

Members were provided with a copy of the insert being included with the renewal invoices for those contractors expiring on January 31, 2013. The insert provided contractors with updated information on the status of continuing education credit process. A copy of the insert will be emailed to Tim Martin for publication on the Irrigation Association’s website. In addition the Board was informed that an insert would be needed for those contractors whose certification expired in 2011. This insert will inform those contractors that their certification will not be eligible for renewal after January 31, 2013.

Guy Virone arrived at 3:45 p.m.

The Board received comments from members of the public in attendance as follows:

When submitting a complaint, contractors should be able to provide a license plate number and DEP should contact NJ Motor Vehicles in order to get a corresponding name and an address. Why should the contractor submitting the complaint to all the work?
Many comments were made with regard to better enforcement of non-licensed contractors.

Some contractors felt that the irrigation certification does not have the same respect/recognition as other professional licenses.

Data miner reports should be in alpha order by last name.

DEP staff should be onsite to monitoring training courses given for continuing education credits and Checking in attendees. The commenter indicated the pesticides training in given in this manner.

The Board members requested and were provided with copies of a draft form to be used when reviewing enforcement cases and templates currently use when violations are issues.

The Board reviewed and approved exam results as presented: 3 passed, 17 failed.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

George McCarthy, Chairman
Landscape Irrigation Contractors Board