

Minutes LICEB November 17, 2015

Minutes Taker-Joanne Taroco

Start Time: 12:06 PM

End Time: 3:46 PM

## LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION CONTRACTORS EXAMINING BOARD

**Meeting Location:** DEP Building  
401 E State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08625  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor Large Conference 4E002 Room

### Attendees:

#### Board Members

George M. McCarthy  
Ken Scherer  
Gaetano Virone

#### Affiliation

Spring Irrigation Co. Inc.  
Hillsborough Irrigation  
Environmental Designers Irrigation

#### Legal Council

Elsbeth Hans  
Michael Schuit

DAG  
DAG

#### DEP Staff

Stacy Andersen  
Trish Conti  
Joanne Taroco

Bureau of Licensing and Pesticide Operations (BL & PO)-NJDEP  
BL & PO -NJDEP  
BL & PO -NJDEP

#### Absent:

Robert Dobson  
William Frederick Rapp

Middletown Sprinkler  
Atlantic Irrigation

### Official Start Time: 12:06 PM

Joanne Taroco read aloud 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 the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)

Minutes from previous meeting were not reviewed at this time because they had no been completed. **(Completed 12/23/2015)**

Treasurer's report was reviewed at this meeting.

There were no new communications received between the September 29th and the November 17, 2015 board meetings.

The Board began with discussion about Continuing Education Credit (CEC) verification letters. Letters were originally prepared to go out in October but were not mailed for two reasons; (1) verbiage in the letter might lead to confusion amongst the licensed contractors regarding the difference between the Irrigation Association of New Jersey (IANJ) and the Irrigation Association (IA), and (2) the appearance of the Irrigation Association's (IA) webpage mimicked DEP's webpage. There was concern that the IA hosted webpage may be misleading to the user because it appeared as if they were on an official State of New Jersey webpage.

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Joanne Taroco created and presented a mock up version of a suggested appearance for the CEC verification logon page and CEC verification pages that addressed the concerns about the appearance of the two pages. The Board reviewed the mock up and agreed that the proposal would rectify the appearance issues. It was suggested that the language on the CEC verification page be changed to layman terms with only references to the regulations. Joanne Taroco will provide a copy of revised language to Chairman George McCarthy for review and approval. Both DAGs Elspeth Hans and Michael Schuit will review the language once approved by the chairman.

DAG Michael Schuit brought to the attention of the Board some concerns regarding the negotiated contract between the Board and the IA, to maintain the CEC database and website. The Board clarified that the contract was negotiated the IA because they were identified as being a sole provider for providing these services. [The Board believes the contract should be discussed during closed session.]

DAG Elspeth Hans informed the board that the final approval for AONOCAPA letter was still pending the approval of her supervisor and that it should be approved shortly.

Joanne Taroco informed the Board that the IA had not yet provided the exam results from the October examination date and that there was no communication from the IA regarding when the exam results would be available. George McCarthy telephoned Robert Dobson who stated that he would reach out to the IA regarding the exam results and would contact the Board during the meeting to provide information regarding the exam results.

DAG Michael Schuit brought to the attention of the board some concerns regarding the negotiated contract between the Board and the IA to maintain the CEC database and website. The Board believes the contract should be discussed during closed session.

**Gaetano Virone motioned to go into close session, Ken Scherer seconded motion. Unanimous approval to proceed to close session.**

**Ken Scherer Motioned to return to open session, Gaetano Virone seconded motion. Unanimous approval to return to open session**

During closed session, the Board decided to proceed with issuing 2 SOL 2 AO, and 2 NFA letters. The Board also decided to have 2 complaints sent to the investigator. The Board decided to offer a 5 day extension to remove and advertisement and after 5<sup>th</sup> day to issue AO if advertisement is still present. The Board decided to close one complaint.

**Gaetano Virone motioned to accept the decisions made during closed session and Ken Scherer seconded the motion. Unanimous approval to accept decisions made during closed session.**

During closed session the IA was sent the exam results from the October 21, 2015 exam. The exam results showed that there were 5 individuals that passed the exam and 12 individuals that failed the exam. One out of the 12 individuals that failed the exam had challenged one answer to one of the questions. The IA will need to review the challenged question and pending the outcome of the IA's review it will be determine a to whether the individual passed the exam. The Board decided that they will accept the 5 passing scores, and the 11 failures. The Board decide once the IA notifies them of the outcome of the review, the Board will host a Teleconference to review and accept amended score.

**Ken Scherer motioned to accept the exam scores as they currently stand and to host a teleconference to accept amended scores pending the IA's determination of investigation Gaetnao Virone motioned seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.**

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**Gaetano Virone motioned to adjourn meeting, Ken Scherer seconded motion. Unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 3:46 PM.**