

STAKE HOLDER ADVISORY BOARD

SAB MEETING AGENDA

11/04/24

10:00 AM

ZOOM MEETING

[HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/J/88395572360?PWD=HJIHRVGFTNZ1MYWXJMUfUxXoZYAOoE.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88395572360?pwd=HJIHRVGFTNZ1MYWXJMUfUxXoZYAOoE.1)

MEETING ID: 883 9557 2360

PASSCODE: 856741

CALL TO ORDER -

ATTENDANCE - Jonathon Cory Rayburn, Marc A. Mastronardi, Michael Berry, Mitchum (“Mitch”) Attaway, Jennifer Susan Young Howell, Benton Bancroft Ruzowicz, Glenn McLeod Sofge, Kari Ann Kleist, Mark Masters, Frank Lee Curtis Gipson, Jack Burns Wetherington

COMMISSION REPORT - Ben Ruzowicz gave current statistics on initial and recertification status. Working on education and certification material, BMP’s and a Sample Plan (JJ Vanderwatt, PE) to implement new permit content I.E., NOI’s, NOT’s, etc. as secondary permittees no longer required; waiting on comments. Checklist and online content: once course material is done will update education exam questions per section, per level. NPDES seems to be the most pertinent. Once new content incorporated, passing rates may temporarily drop. No trainer certification or recertification courses submitted/provided/completed for GSWCC approval. 3rd party trainers continue to use GSWCC general curriculum/information. Trainer recertification courses may be needed beyond the Annual GSWCC Erosion Control Day (next E&C Day 03/27/25). Ben asked for Board feedback for trainers to recertify as 2 trainers have requested a course outside of E&C Day. Ben wants more options for them to renew. Cory asked if E&C Day session could be recorded and trainers renew by watching online to renew versus in person. Ben said yes. Frank said it’s a good option as well. Trainer Sofge issue continued under New Business

OLD BUSINESS - N/A

NEW BUSINESS - Trainer, Glenn Sofge, inquired via email if he can train again being the Board has not done anything official. Glenn spoke as to his expertise as a trainer since 2007, on other Boards, etc. Indicated summer months present scheduling issues/challenges due to time constraints. Explained he merged Levels in some courses as material seems to be the same. Advanced Level information provided on second day in order to take care of clients’ needs. No nefarious thought process, simply trying to accommodate student/client needs. Glenn asked for clarification on perceived advantages, English as a second language student protocol, Field Manuals provided, etc. Ben explained protocol and clarified issues; combining courses and changing dates to potentially give the illusion courses were not combined. Cory asked for complaint of issue timeline. Ben indicated approximately 8 months ago another Trainer brought it to his attention, one of Glenn’s students confirmed merged course levels and one other Trainer suggested Ben look at Glenn’s website. Ben compared website course dates noting some conflicted with our information. Ben spoke to Glenn and he admitted wrong-doing. Cory said he’s only heard good things about Glenn but indicated everyone has to abide by the rules; no forging/falsifying documents, date changing, etc. May put Glenn’s other actions into question. Ben indicated Glenn not schedule new courses **until the end of the year** but Glenn wanted the official word on whether or not he can resume training now. Glenn indicated he’s gotten interest in training from potential students/clients. Frank thanked Glenn for providing his defense but reinforced Trainer responsibilities and what he needs to do moving forward. Glenn indicated he wrote a letter saying he no longer merges courses and, to his knowledge, he’s in

compliance. Glenn suggested he could limit training levels. Frank indicated that he wanted to make sure issues were being addressed and taken serious. Cory asked for Board recommendations. Michael Berry asked how long has it been since Glenn stopped holding new courses. Ben indicated **Glenn we allowed to teach his scheduled classes but not book new ones while the matter was under consideration**. Berry mentioned past disciplinary probationary periods used for Trainer transgressions and suggested “time served” be included if that route is taken. Ben indicated there is a quorum and a decision could be made today. Mitch did historic research of actions taken in the past and Cory asked for Ben and Mitch’s opinion on the matter. Cory referenced integrity and all parties adhering to the guidelines. Historically the Board has given a first warning to stop transgression(s), then the next step was enforcement action. Board members indicated Glenn seems to have heeded warning and taken it seriously, as evidenced by his presence at today’s meeting. Mitch proposed he be allowed to move forward scheduling courses. Ben asked if the Board needed an executive session to, perhaps, make a decision on the matter. Cory nixed an executive session if all are fine doing without. Burns wants more frank discussion in executive session, Frank agreed. Mark indicated motion needed and echoed public meeting is pertinent for transparency. Ben got late meeting attendees up to speed and indicated Glenn’s Trainer status not be revoked in favor of probationary period. Burns broke down his understanding of facts and his recommendation to move forward as a Trainer in compliance. Frank spoke favorably to Glenn’s character while taking into account precedence being set with any decision made in this regard. Berry concurred with Mitch in his assertion that Glenn’s attendance today be taken favorably. Referenced past trainer had a 6-month probation and suggested a 3-month probation period for Glenn. Masters recommended Glenn commence trainer on 01/01/25. Burns asked if this has ever happened; no, nor penalty progression for “missteps”. Berry concurred. Burns indicated a future conversation between the Board needs to be had to address possible future “transgressions.” Berry concurred. Cory indicated that may not be necessary but these are official documents and this is not a simple misstep. Cory indicated this is Glenn’s first offense and suggested that he partake in a voluntary probation through the end of the year. Glenn is concerned he’ll lose business if he has to wait to teach until 2025. Cory made a motion to adopt voluntary probationary period through the end of November 2024 and have GSWCC memorialize the matter on record. Frank seconded. Burns asked for clarification of GSWCC’s action to make a record; Cory clarified. Frank called for a vote. Cory clarified 12/01/24 Glenn resume teaching. Cory asked if Glenn was agreeable. Glenn asked if he can teach in December and if he can submit course requests per protocol two weeks ahead. Glenn’s concerned he’ll lose Cobb County’s business but he wants to do the right thing and is willing. Cory called for motion. Mastronardi indicated all in favor ~ all Aye’s. Motion carried. Glenn asked if students have decreased. Ben said about the same/consistent.

PUBLIC COMMENT - N/A

NEXT SAB MEETING - December TBD

ADJOURN