

**Stakeholder Advisory Board Teleconference Meeting Minutes  
February 19, 2008  
Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission  
Athens, GA**

**I. Roll Call**

Mr. Hamilton called the meeting to order and took roll call. Present were Stakeholder Advisory Board members Mark Byrd, Doug Easter, James Hamilton, JoAnn Macrina, Greg Teague, Ben Thompson, Burns Wetherington and Connie Wiggins. Also present from the Georgia Soil and Water Conservation Commission were Brent Dykes, Dave Eigenberg and Lauren Zdunczyk, from EPD Frank Carubba.

**II. Review/approve/amend minutes from October 30, 2007 meeting**

There being no changes to the minutes, Mr. Byrd made a motion to approve the minutes with a second from Ms. Wiggins. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**III. Certification Program Update**

Ms. Zdunczyk informed that Board that to date the Commission has issued 51, 047 certifications. The Commission rolled out the re-certification program, by hosting a Level IA re-certification pilot course. The revised course material will become effective March 1, 2008, at which time the new exam questions will be used.

Mr. Byrd asked if there could be a press release sent out highlighting the achievements of the Education and Certification Program and the positive effects it has had on the State. The SAB members agreed it was a good idea.

Ms. Zdunczyk stated she would write a press release and have the SAB review it and make suggestions. Ms. Zdunczyk stated she could have a draft sent out by the end of the week.

Ms. Zdunczyk also stated that the Commission has offered three trainer re-certification courses and all approved trainers were invited to attend. At the trainer re-certification course, trainers were informed about the HB 463 changes, received the revised course material and the re-certification course material.

Ms. Wiggins stated that it is very important that the approved trainers are held to a high standard and asked what measures the Commission would be taking to ensure trainers attend the required trainer re-certification course.

Ms. Zdunczyk stated that in addition to not receiving the revised course material and re-certification material, after March 1, 2008, certification exams will not be sent to trainers until they have attended a trainer re-certification course.

**IV. Vote to Approve Trainers**

The SAB was presented with Level I Trainers to be approved. With there being no discussions, Mr. Wetherington made a motion to approve the Level I Trainers with a second from Ms. Macrina. Mr. Wetherington abstained from casting vote for trainer Mr. Haire since they work for the same company. The trainers were approved unanimously.

The SAB was presented with Level II Trainers to be approved. Ms. Macrina asked for more information on Walter Rice, which was provided by Ms. Zdunczyk. With there being no further discussions, Mr. Wetherington made a motion to approve the Level II Trainers with a second from Ms. Macrina. The trainers were approved unanimously.

#### **V. Re-certification Update**

Ms. Zdunczyk stated that the Commission's 4 hour re-certification courses have been released and courses are now being offered by re-certified approved trainers. The re-certification material will be used for at least six months. At the end of the six month period the Commission will make any necessary revisions to the material.

Ms. Zdunczyk stated that at the trainer re-certification courses several approved trainers asked "if I teach the Commission's 4 hour re-certification course, can I count those 4 hours towards my certification".

After some discussion the SAB took a vote. Mr. Wetherington made a motion with a second from Ms. Macrina that it while it is subject to change, it is now acceptable for approved trainers teaching a re-certification course to use those hours towards their own certification, provided that they have attended a trainer re-certification course, are teaching a scheduled re-certification course and their certification is set to expire within one calendar year. Mr. Easter abstained from voting. The SAB approved the motion unanimously.

#### **VI. Outstanding issues/concerns**

Mr. Hamilton asked if the SAB had any issues or concerns they would like to discuss. With there being no issues or concerns the SAB moved to the next agenda item.

#### **VII. Date for next SAB meeting**

Mr. Hamilton asked Ms. Zdunczyk if the SAB needed to meet next month. Ms. Zdunczyk responded that it would be best if the SAB met sometime after the legislative session or when the new NPDES permits were released. Tentative SAB meeting dates would be sent via email.

With there being no further discussions that meeting was adjourned