

**WATER SUPPLY OPERATOR CERTIFICATION
ADVISORY BOARD
October 25, 2011**

Advisory Board Members:

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Illinois EPA representatives:
Mike Crumly, Manager
Compliance Assurance Section

Allison Ristau
Drinking Water Operator Certification

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:05 am. Those in attendance: Burr Koepsel, Cindy Munger, Chris Johnson, Laurie Dougherty, Lisa Hoffhines, Nick Winkelman, Laura Smith and Allison Ristau.

Election of Chairperson

Cindy moved to nominate Burr Koepsel as Chair; Chris seconded. All agreed. Burr agreed to serve another year as Chairperson.

Review of Proposed Amendments to the Legislation

Title 35: Environmental Protection, Subtitle F: Public Water Supplies, Part 680
Water Supply Operator Certification, Subpart J: Contractual Operation
All board members comments and recommendations regarding the proposed amendments to the legislation have been submitted.

Agency Policy Change Regarding Restoration of Expired Certificates

Section 680.805 of Subpart H: Certificate Renewal, Restoration, and Required Training – Operators given two years after certificate expires to obtain training and restore their certificates

Concurrence with policy decision was given by board members.

Annual Report

Grandparented Statistics -

55 grandparented operators still actively operating

Total number of active certified drinking water operators is 3680

Renewal and New Operator Statistics -

2003 was the first year that renewal training was required:

	<i>Renewed</i>	<i>Did not Renew</i>	<i>New Operators</i>
<i>2002</i>	<i>1133</i>	<i>136</i>	<i>177</i>
<i>2003</i>	<i>971</i>	<i>411</i>	<i>253</i>
<i>2004</i>	<i>991</i>	<i>483</i>	<i>183</i>
<i>2005</i>	<i>987</i>	<i>406</i>	<i>178</i>
<i>2006</i>	<i>944</i>	<i>220</i>	<i>248</i>
<i>2007</i>	<i>930</i>	<i>310</i>	<i>274</i>

2008	950	250	255
2009	1080	220	254
2010	1020	245	232
2011	1264	199	274

Renewal statistics were discussed. Chris commented that the biggest complaint he receives from downstate public water supplies is how difficult it is for them to find a certified operator. He inquired if it has ever been discussed to extend the renewal period from three to five years.

Current Approved Drinking Water Training

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/operator-cert/drinking-water/index.html>

1,140 Courses Approved
Training formats were discussed.

Exam Review Committee Report

The Committee met July 18-20, 2011. 100 new questions were reviewed and validated.

Update on Reciprocity

Mark Crady granted Class D from Missouri, January 6, 2011
 Rocky A. Horvath granted Class C from Wisconsin, May 19, 2011
 Ken F. Matuszak granted Class A from Arizona, June 6, 2011
 Tim K. Brown granted Class A from Iowa, June 29, 2011
 Joseph B. Pieron granted Class A from Missouri, September 7, 2011
 Michael J. Brant granted Class A from Iowa, October 21, 2011
 Ryan D. Farrar granted Class D from Indiana, October 21, 2011
 Stephen A. Foster granted Class A from Iowa, October 21, 2011

Drinking Water Training Reimbursement Program (DWTRP)

Extended to December 31, 2012.

Anything else

Cindy motioned to adjourn; Chris seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison Ristau
Drinking Water Operator Certification
Compliance Assurance Section
Division of Public Water Supplies
Bureau of Water