CROSS CONNECTION ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Sixteenth Public Meeting

Wednesday February 17, 2010
10:00 am - 12:00pm
Portland State Office Building
800 NE Oregon
Portland OR 97232
971-673-1220  Michael Perry

Board Members in Attendance
1. Chair Ray Johnson - City of The Dalles - (Water Suppliers)
2. Joe McNelly - City of Hillsboro - (Oregon Plumbing Inspectors)
3. Elmer Ostling - (Backflow Assembly Testers)
4. Jerry Thomas - United Pipe & Supply - (Assembly Manufacturers & Authorized Representatives)

Board Members Represented By Alternates
1. Mary Howell's Alternate Kate Mattimore - BMI - Specialists

Board Members Not in Attendance
1. Monica Anderson, PE, LEED - Balzhiser & Hubbard Engineers - (Engineers)
2. Ronald Robertson - Union Local 290 - (Oregon Licensed Plumbers)
3. Steven West - Eugene Water & Electric Board - (Certified Instructors)
4. Vacant - (General Public)

Other Attendees & Staff
* Dave Leland - Program Manager of the Drinking Water Program and
  - Acting Administrator of Office of Environmental Public Health
* Brian Stahl - 2010 Drinking Water Advisory Committee Chair - City of Gresham
* Arlo Langford - City of the Dalles
* Ed Yancoskie - City of Hillsboro
* J. Michael Perry - CC/BP Coordinator

1. Call to Order / Welcome
   Chair Ray Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. He welcomed all attendees.

2. Introductions - Board members and Attendees
   The Board and other attendees introduced themselves. The Chair noted that there were five
   Board members present with Kate Mattimore representing Mary Howell as an Alternate. That
   constitutes a quorum.

4. Additions to the Agenda
   There were no additions.

3. Dave Leland and Brian Stahl
   Dave Leland thanked the group for a chance to speak with them and for their work. Regarding
   the legislation (HB3661), Dave said that the testimony from water systems and Tester groups
   was very good. He feels that all groups that have an interest in and a similar point of view to
   that of the CCAB should unite there effort and bring it to the Drinking Water Advisory
   Committee and look for their support on the issue. This does not mean that the lobbyist or
   CCAB or the new Tester group should not continue their efforts or place their agenda or point
   of approach in a secondary position. It means that the legislature will be looking to DWAC for
a position and recommendation. It was also recommended to get persons with backflow assemblies that have failed and were not happy with paying for a plumber and another test and have them contact DWAC and their representatives in the legislature. Even a few citizens’ input is listened to very carefully. Dave also discussed Tony Fields appointment, H1N1 and the issue of retirement within the program. Dave talked about the new Oregon Health Authority being in the midst of being established and still having requirements defined by the state and trying to plan for federal health legislation. Brian Stahl is the Chair of DWAC. He welcomed the opportunity to meet with the Board and concurred with Dave on getting support from DWAC. Brian also mentioned it would be very good for water systems who support this issue to contact DWAC.

5. Approval of Previous Minutes
   a. The minutes of the 13th Public Meeting held May 19, 2009 were approved.
   b. The minutes of the 14th Public Meeting held August 26, 2009 were approved.
   c. The minutes of the 15th Public Meeting held November 18, 2009 were approved.

6. DHS Reports
   (1) Tony Fields
       The Protection, Planning and Certification Unit has a new Interim Manager. Anthony Fields will be doing a 12 month developmental assignment as the Interim Manager of PPC. Tony has been here for over two years and has been working as the Public Water Security Coordinator. In addition, Tony helped the program by doing water system capacity investigations so that the systems that applied for federal stimulus money could meet time deadlines. Tony has been active in the Environmental Public Health’s "Health Division Agency's Operation Center" that handled last fall's H1N1 outbreak for the state. Tony also has experience in security at other water systems and groups in other states.
   (2) OHA - Oregon Health Authority
       Michael has talked at OCCSRS and ABPA about division of Department of Human Services into the Oregon Health Authority and another group that will probably still be called Department of Human Services. It is progressing well and gaining momentum. The Drinking Water program will still be part of the Office of Environmental Public Health which will be part of the new Oregon Health Authority. Both agencies have been directed to work together and make services to Oregonians even better. They do not foresee radical changes in the Drinking Water Program.
   (3) Annual Summary Reports
       a. Large Systems. We have almost 100 reports in out of 240. For the ASRs, a large system is one with 300 or more connections.
       b. Small Systems. We have received over 200 out of 625.
   (4) Annual Fee Invoice
       We have received payments from 86% of our initial invoices and the second invoice (or late notices) will go out this week.
   (5) Testers and Specialists
       |                | November 2009 | February 2010 |
       |----------------|---------------|---------------|
       | Testers        | 901           | 935 - up 34   |
       | Specialists    | 311           | 319 - up 8    |
       | Combination    | 137           | 140 - up 3    |
       | Totals         | 1,352         | 1,391 - up 45 |
   (6) Alternates for CCAB Members
       The following members have Designated Alternates:
       Mary Howell has designated Kate Mattimore as her Alternate.
       Steve West has designated Mike Briesemeister as his Alternate.
       Joe McNelly has designated Ed Yancoskie has his Alternate.
       Other members do not have Alternates at this time.
(7) **Board Members and Terms**

Elmer Ostling (Testers) has agreed to serve another 3 year term. Joe McNelly (Plumbing Inspectors) has decided not to serve another term. Joe suggested Ed Yancoskie to fill his Board position. Michael will send an email addressing this issue and if current Board members concur, Ed will start his term for the May meeting to help with having a quorum. Ron Robertson has not returned several contacts and with his busy schedule in the past, CC/BP will look for someone to fill his position representing Oregon Licensed Plumbers. Michael asked for suggestions to fill Ron’s position. Michel thanked outgoing Board members and all current members for their hard work for the Cross Connection Advisory Board and the industry.

(8) **Plumbing Board Meeting**

The meeting in December was less than one-half hour and was mainly devoted to the Building Codes Division report and another report on Studor vs. Oregon. There will be another meeting tomorrow, February 18, 2010.

(9) **Potential Oregon Administrative Rules Changes**

Keeping in mind a Board Member's suggestion to "step lightly" about the OARs...

a. Michael Perry asked the Board's opinion on whether a Certified Tester Instructor who teaches a full course in the two year certification period (like 7-1-2009 thru 6-30-2011) should be required to also take the one day renewal course during that same two years in order to stay certified as a Backflow Assembly Tester. The same could be said of Specialists although their .6 CEUs are often covered by industry meetings. Although Board members agreed that they could all use the time and the money involved, there was not a majority opinion that we should change this.

b. There were no other changes or suggestions by the Board.

(10) **DWP Retirements**

Michael reported that in December 2009 Ronald Hall retired and in the first half of 2010 Kurt Putnam, Roberto Reyes-Colon and Tom Charbonneau will be retiring. Ron, Kurt and Tom represent almost 90 years in Health and the water industries. Roberto was responsible for hundreds of millions of dollars in loans to Oregon water systems and we were the first state that distributed all the 2009 federal stimulus money and met all the proper time lines for everything including paperwork. These people are irreplaceable and DWP has about 5 more people retiring over the next year or so.

(11) **H1N1 and the AOC**

Michael reported on the H1N1 situation. Oregon Public Health Agency Operations Center (AOC) is a structure set up to address health related emergencies. There is only one person half time when there are no emergencies. In the last year we had two emergencies that put this team into action. The flooding in Vernonia and the H1N1 potential pandemic. People from all parts of the Public Health Division (including everyone in the Drinking Water Program) are pre-trained by FEMA and then fill in the existing structure. The Drinking Water Program was called on to help this effort for the H1N1 effort this fall. DWP typically had two to three people per day helping to staff this group. This definitely affected everyone in the DWP. They were called on to help in DWP tasks people were not familiar with. The fall situation was very small compared with potential estimates for the winter and spring.

(12) **Tester and Specialist Renewal in 2011**

Michael asked for input on ways of stream lining renewals. The pressure on the groups that provide training and the crush of applications and requests from water systems about individual Tester certification verification are all mixed together. The most obvious solution involves splitting the groups in half and having half renew one year and half next year. As with all changes, this would cause transition problems. None of the problems are insurmountable if all groups work together and can enact rules changes with all sides’ cooperation. He is still open for other suggestions.
7. Old Business
Kate Mattimore and others continued a report on HB3661, the Tester repair issue, in the current special legislative session. Representative Roblan has continued to be a strong voice of reason and wants the Tester repair issue resolved with Testers able to make same day repair and retesting. The cooperation and compromise from Testers has been one sided. This issue will probably be postponed to the next regular session. Kate thanked the CC/BP for providing data on tests. Kate, Jerry and Arlo Langford said they would contact water systems to get their position on repairs to DWAC. This were a continuation of Dave Leland's earlier comments.

8. New Business
   a. University of Southern California Foundation for Cross-Connection Control and Hydraulic Research Manual 10th edition. The 510 page manual is here. No one seems to have had time to read it from cover to cover. There are many issues involved in possibly accepting all or parts of this and incorporating this into the Drinking Water Program's part of the Oregon Administrative Rules. Some issues are:
      [1.] Does CC/BP accept every bit as is?
      [2.] If CC/BP doesn't accept everything, what do they accept?
      [3.] Timelines for acceptance.
      [4.] Having the people who offer Tester and Specialist course have time to update their courses and to what extent do they cover all new or changed material.
      [5.] How do course providers and CC/BP coordinate renewal courses in a 2 year renewal cycle with possible new test procedures that are adapted and taught to new Testers.
      [6.] In the long run, will course providers be able to cover all necessary information in the original 5 day course and in the 1 day renewal course?
      [7.] How soon, and will CC/BP accept and have schools teach the testing of two new types of assemblies?
      [8.] How will our Instructors come up with uniform standard test methods and details? All together? On their own?
      This list is probably just the tip of the iceberg.
   b. In conjunction with this Michael mentioned that he has been approached by people who would like Oregon to use Testing methods and assembly approvals by different groups than the Foundation. Michael has said that he would not consider adding anything until the issue of the 10th edition is completed. There were comments that there are other groups with good programs and that at some point we could look into this. It was also mentioned that although the Foundation's program is very good and thorough, it was not the first one out there. Michael is concerned with independent testing and that Oregon will probably never have the technical staff to evaluate every program and wants to avoid one CC/BP Coordinator using only program A and then the next coordinator throwing out A and only allowing Program B. The cost of wasted time and money in making needless changes to programs is simply wrong.
   c. No action was taken here. Hopefully people will have time to review the 10th edition and suggest a point of attack of this situation for the May meeting.

9. Correspondence - There was no correspondence

10. Public Comment - Public comment occurred when discussing individual issues.

11. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 12:10.

Future Meeting Dates:
   These are always available at:
   ➢ May 19, 2010 (Wednesday) Portland State Office Building Rm 612 10:00 am
   ➢ August 18, 2010 (Wednesday) Portland State Office Building Rm 612 10:00 am
   ➢ November 17, 2010 (Wednesday) Portland State Office Building Rm 612 10:00 am
   ➢ February 16, 2011 (Wednesday) Portland State Office Building Rm 612 10:00 am