

NEW MEXICO UTILITY OPERATORS CERTIFICATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

- DISCUSSION OF STAKEHOLDER'S COMMENTS -

NOVEMBER 8, 2019 - ALBUQUERQUE, NM

Meeting Host: Eric Hall

Present at meeting: New Mexico Utility Operators Certification Advisory Board Members, Andrew Roark, Nile Carver, Jill Turner, Joe Harvey, Juan Goell

Cathie Eisen: This is Cathie Eisen, I'm going to call the meeting of the New Mexico Utility Operators Certification Advisory Board meeting to order at 9:12 a.m., and I'm going to do a roll call.

**Dale Graham Here
Joe Harvey Present
Bobby Towle Present
Ivan Abell Present
Joe Bailey Not Present
Cathie Eisen Present
Sydney Hoke Not Present
Maria Gilvarry Present
Rick Mitchell Present by teleconference**

Cathie Eisen: Okay, we have two guests, we have Jill Turner.

Jill Turner: Hello, I'm Jill Turner, I'm the group manager for Sustainable Water Infrastructure Group, and I oversee the Utility Operator Certification program among others.

Cathie Eisen: Thank you Jill! And Andrew.

Andrew Roark: Andrew Roark with the Albuquerque public schools, I'm the manager of the Environmental Department with APS.

Cathie Eisen: Good to see you here, thank you! Okay, review and approval of the meeting agenda, has everybody had a chance to review the agenda?

Eric Hall: Did you have some changes you wanted?

Cathie Eisen: Do we need to change? Do we?

Eric Hall: Well if you wanna change those, I mean, if it's something we need to change, I don't remember exactly what they were. I think Maria had some changes right?

Cathie Eisen: That was on the minutes I think, Maria?

Maria Gilvarry: Ya, there were some corrections on the minutes for the last meeting.

Cathie Eisen: Okay so, I need a motion to approve the agenda.

Joe Harvey: This is Joe Harvey, I make a motion that we approve the proposed agenda as presented.

Eric Hall: Thank you!

Ivan Abell: This is Ivan Abell, I'll second that.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, I have a motion and a second to approve the agenda. Everybody in favor right? Everybody in favor say Aye.

(Aye), said by everyone.

Cathie Eisen: Any opposed? Motion carries. Okay, review and approval of the July 19th, 2019 meeting minutes. Maria had given us a list.

Maria Gilvarry: This is Maria Gilvarry, I did submit electronically a couple of corrections. Do you want me to state them for the record or is the email?

Eric Hall: Yes please.

Cathie Eisen: Yes, if you would Maria please.

Maria Gilvarry: On page 3, under section 4, second to the last paragraph, the sentence reads, additionally Ms. Gilvarry is concerned that Mr. Roark doesn't know what he's, what the requirements are. I suggest we remove the words what he's, for administrative correction. The last line on that same page, we need to correct the word Chair.

Eric Hall: Okay, I see the Chair, I haven't found your first one.

Maria Gilvarry: Oh okay, so right above where it says number 5 nomination.

Eric Hall: Right.

Maria Gilvarry: Go two paragraphs above that.

Eric Hall: Okay.

Maria Gilvarry: And right in the middle of the paragraph where you see the word additionally.

Eric Hall: Oh additionally, okay, ya.

Maria Gilvarry: Okay half way through that sentence, uh, for the line right below additionally it says, what he's, and then it says, what the requirements are.

Eric Hall: Oh okay.

Maria Gilvarry: If you take out the word he's then that sentence flows better.

Eric Hall: Okay.

Maria Gilvarry: And it's more accurate.

Eric Hall: Alright we got that one, was there one more?

Maria Gilvarry: Uh, then you got the Chair, and then, I think there was, let me find it. So, it's gonna be page 8, and it is where Eric is going through all the changes, all the recommended changes for the regulations, uh page. Can you do them by page or are you looking at them electronically?

Eric Hall: I'm, I'm.

Cathie Eisen: They have no pages on them.

Eric Hall: Well they're not page numbered.

Maria Gilvarry: Ya, there's no page number, I'm just counting.

Eric Hall: It does right here though, so page 7 at the top.

Cathie Eisen: Okay so it's page 8 on the next one, okay.

Eric Hall: Okay.

Maria Gilvarry: Okay, so you see where it says page 8 Mr. Hall?

Cathie Eisen: Ya, yes.

Maria Gilvarry: Go to the very top of that page where it starts with Ms. Arnold.

Cathie Eisen: Okay.

Maria Gilvarry: It says, Ms. Arnold asks if the applicants for the Wastewater Lab Tech Certifications University Graduate, that probably should be the word are or were between certifications and university. Between the word certifications and university, there should be another word there. It probably would read, Ms. Arnold asks if the applicants for the Wastewater Lab Tech Certifications were university graduates.

Eric Hall: Okay.

Maria Gilvarry: Or are, like I said, it could be are or were, that's the message. I don't know what she actually said, but I'm sure there was another word there.

Eric Hall: Ya.

Maria Gilvarry: And that's all I found.

Eric Hall: Okay, anybody else have any?

Cathie Eisen: Much appreciated Maria. I didn't see anything and, I appreciate you documenting that also Maria. Okay, so, uh, I need a motion and approval to accept the minutes as amended.

Ivan Abell: I make a motion that we, Ivan Abell will make a motion that we accept the minutes as amended.

Joe Harvey: This is Joe Harvey, I'll 2nd.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, all in favor say Aye.

(Aye), said by everyone.

Cathie Eisen: Any opposed? Motion carries. Okay, item #4 is review in determination Andrew Roark experience from Wastewater 1. I'm gonna hand it over to Eric.

Eric Hall: Okay. Uh, let me, all the information on the applications that I've sent to you guys, says he's looking for a Wastewater 1 certification, um, he's the Environmental Manager and became responsible for overseeing two schools and discharged permits, the question is, do we want to count this as operational experience, if not, he's gonna have another 3 additional months before he can take the Level 1, so, this is where we're at with him. Do you guys wanna discuss it? Mr. Roark would you like to speak?

Andrew Roark: Ya, I just wanted to add one, one thing I spoke to Anne about what was considered, I know sampling isn't considered operations, but I do during the past would use the sludge judge, most sludge judge determination would be operation, so I guess those ten years of just sampling I did do some operations, if you're gonna call that particular task operations and not sampling.

Eric Hall: If it's an operation it's an operation to me, so, sounds like an operation to me so, I mean.

Cathie Eisen: How much time, did you do that on a daily basis or weekly or?

Andrew Roark: Quarterly.

Cathie Eisen: Quarterly?

Andrew Roark: Ya, we did the quarterly sampling.

Cathie Eisen: So, you just did the core sampling at that time?

Joe Harvey: Is the monitored level?

Andrew Roark: Uh, this was septic tanks and I did the quarterly sampling, monitoring wells and then at the dosing box, and we had two different systems, one was in Corrales, construction relevance, and then the other one is in San Antonito, uh, and it's a bio clear system, the trickling filters, so we would do the quarterly sampling at both of those, I was tasked with San Antonito, doing the sampling out there, and then measuring the settleable solids, the septic tank.

Cathie Eisen: So this is Cathie Eisen, I think that's still, it's a very minor amount of experience that we would, if we want to call it experience and it's still more of the sampling than operating, you're not doing any process control. I think my question to you and for the Board would be, you've got three more months at this point, how much does that affect the tasks that you're performing given that you've been doing that for ten years without certification?

Andrew Roark: It wouldn't affect it much, as long as I'm, I'm under the impression now that I'd be able to test in three months?

Cathie Eisen: That's the impression I get?

Eric Hall: Yes of course, because you've been working on this for a while, and you've been doing operations since we started speaking with you, so that's why I'm counting from that point forward I've been giving you those months, and according to my calculations you should have about three more months before you're eligible at this current task to be able to test.

Andrew Roark: Okay.

Eric Hall: The thing is, it's November, the next test session is gonna be in January, that's two months away. Do we want to give him any credit for the stuff he does for the one month and make that a year, or do we wanna make him wait until, it's gonna be April before the next ones available.

Ivan Abell: This is Ivan Abell. I just have a couple of questions. Mr. Roark, in the event that there was a problem or an upset at any one of these two package plants, how did you correct that?

Andrew Roark: We have, our system in San Antonito, we have an operator Link Summers, he's been treating the water out there for a number of years, so he would be the one to respond to that, and in Corrales Lisa Wedlins, it's usually, you know they're minor maintenance, but that system, as for operations, we do our monthly, we also have a person in our office, Marna Winterrod, it's a level 2 wastewater, so she's there to supervise you know, the monthly inspections with the evaporating pond, different things with the leach fields at both systems.

Ivan Abell: So, you actually have someone on staff that would handle that? So, in your current role would you be more of an administrative advisory type role, or would you be more of a hands-on type of role or?

Andrew Roark: Ya, ya.

Ivan Abell: Given the last few months, and I apologize, I realize that you, according to this it looks like you've been promoted to the new position that you're at.

Andrew Roark: Ya.

Ivan Abell: So.

Andrew Roark: It hoped to be both, administrative and also, you know, being able to troubleshoot and to look at results and get an idea of where the system is lacking, so, just as an oversight looking at the operators that we already have, like I said, _____, San Antonito, I'd like to add certifications to demonstrate the knowledge and the knowledge of the field so that I don't have any of the operators trying to pull the wool over my eyes, that's the main thing, I don't plan on entering in any further into the wastewater field, I plan on staying at APS for the rest of my career in this role, it's more of oversight and to be as knowledgeable as I can.

Ivan Abell: The reason that we, we generally look at hands-on operations experience for that type, um, the administrative side of it, I understand, having had employees underneath me that tried to pull the wool over your eyes as you state, um, I understand that. I'll go out on a limb here unless someone else has any other questions?

Eric Hall: Any other questions? This is Eric.

Cathie Eisen: I'll make one comment, that I think that you know, just reading the narratives, he's taken time to really learn these systems and operations, he's been around for a long time, he's had a lot of assistance from other people and he appears to be taking an active role in what operations you can do with these systems cuz they're pretty basic. So, you know, I think in all fairness recognizing that, and having gone out and done the sludge judge, having some hands on, you know, you've had your hands dirty, I think that deserves credit Ivan.

Ivan Abell: Do you all require training credits?

Andrew Roark: Ya, I do.

Ivan Abell: Okay.

Andrew Roark: I recently had a person on my staff that's retired at NMED that's, I'm sure you know him, Brian Shawl?

Eric Hall: Yes.

Andrew Roark: So, he's been instrumental, I mean, I'm so thankful that he retired and decided to come back to work but, he's been amazing, I've learned so much the past few months having him on staff so, I wish he could stay around the rest of my time, but he's only gonna be here.

Eric Hall: They've got a good staff. With Link and Brian, they've got a really good staff.

Andrew Roark: Yes.

Cathie Eisen: Nice that he was able to come back to work.

Andrew Roark: I've actually learned more the last few months with Brian than I have just doing sampling, uh, so, he's a good resource.

Cathie Eisen: Well you're on the limb Ivan.

Ivan Abell: Uh, this is Ivan Abell. I make a recommendation at this point that we allow Mr. Roark to test in the January test, um, it is one month short of the one year experience, but, also be aware that without more hands on experience it's gonna be more difficult to get your level 2 if you decide to go down that that road, so, that's my opinion uh, and, I'll let everybody else chime in from there.

Joe Harvey: Ya, at this point, I mean, if you are working in, like working under another operator you need, you're out there doing field tests and actual operations _____ need to stop, and you could go to apply that we won't have this controversy that you know, whether you're an operator or just _____.

Ivan Abell: Ya.

Eric Hall: This is Eric. Ivan made a motion.

Ivan Abell: I've made a motion.

Joe Harvey: This is Joe Harvey, I'll second the motion.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, I have a motion and a second to allow Mr. Roark to test in January for this wastewater 1 uh, and by using the additional experience to get the credit for that shortage of time there, month short but, then he has enough technical support, expertise and experience to go ahead and test in January. All in favor say Aye.

(Aye), said by everyone.

Cathie Eisen: Any opposed? Motion carries. Thank you Board, thank you everyone!

Eric Hall: Get your application in and we'll get you going.

Andrew Roark: Do you know where that test is at?

Eric Hall: It's gonna be in Cruces and it's gonna be at the end of January. Actually there's an exam schedule right there so you can take that with you so you can see dates and where you'll need to go and what you'll need to do.

Andrew Roark: Okay.

Eric Hall: If you have any other questions or need some assistance give us a call we'll be glad to get you through it.

Andrew Roark: Okay, thank you! Thank you for your time.

Cathie Eisen: Thank you!

Ivan Abell: Thank you for taking the time to come talk to us.

Cathie Eisen: Keep learning.

Eric Hall: Keep that Brian out of trouble too.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, Item #5, review and discussion of the 2020 Certification Exam schedule. Eric?

Eric Hall: Everyone should have one of those in their packet, uh, those still on the phone, I sent one to you, you should have that, uh, I know this is a very touchy thing and this a very not necessarily a good thing for operators and systems, but in the long run it is, we've got aging software that's on its last leg, it's gonna die, if it dies we're done, there's no testing, uh, this is needed so we can get this new software in place before our old software dies and it's not just a matter of, I wish it was just a matter of buying the stuff and plugging it in the machine and go to town, but it's not like that, there's a lot of work involved with finance and IT and with whoever we get as the replacement, it's gonna take a lot of work. Uh, the second thing that I'm really really just, one of the reasons I went this direction, we've gotta do something about this study guide exams, I can't do this anymore, we're a certification program and we should be providing the correct information, we should be testing them on the correct information. I had nine people pass the last exam, that's sickening, that's horrible, it's not right to do to the operators and the systems, especially new operators coming in the field, they're looking at our study guide, and they're going wait, but, they taught me this in the class but the study guide says, what do I put, I mean it's very confusing and hard on the operators, I really think this is a big part of our failing exam problem and we've gotta get this done, these are so old and so outdated. The last ones we really worked on were the wastewater lab tech's, they're even out of date, we're really hurting. I have worked with Jill, I've gotten a lot of great support from my supervisor all the way up to the top. This is a very good thing, they're all highly engaged, they all wanna help, and they're all pushing towards making this work, and I really feel that this is the time to do this. You know, we get numerous, numerous, numerous complaints about the test and the study guides, it's sickening, it's literally sickening. Me, coming from being an operator, I would be highly upset about this, I can't do it anymore, I cannot put out bad study guides and I cannot put out bad exams anymore. We have to fix this! This is a great time for us to do it, I know people aren't happy with the schedule, I've been smashed on from every direction, left and right on this, but I feel this is the direction we need to go to be able to fix our program, it needs help. We're short on staff right now, so we've got, Nile and I pretty much, pretty much Nile on applications, I assist him as much as I can, Anita's working on child support stuff, she's working on getting quotes for the new software, we are all just running ragged right now. We can't do all the stuff that we need to do, try to put on nine test sessions a year, this is for this year only, uh, I was gonna put a little caveat on here saying that, at the end of the year, if we're looking good, that maybe we could add some sessions, but if you look at our November session, I don't even think I wanna try to add more test sessions in cuz that November session is gonna kill us, that's back to back. Anne and I did that one time and we said we'd never do it again, but I'm trying to accommodate everybody as much as possible and make it so it should be Rural Water and the New Mexico Wastewater Association as happy as I can. Uh, I tried to make it so, last year we had exams spread out, he went to school here, the next week he tested here, it was a mess. Um, that's not right, that's hard on the systems to be able to send them one week for school, the next week for test, it's just not right. So, I did make it to where, I kept the exam in the same location as the short school, and also right after that, like we always used to do. I tried to accommodate both of their big sessions, the January one for their Water Wastewater, and the April one for the New Mexico Rural Water. Um, so this is what I'm proposing out for schedule so we can get this stuff done, uh, the thing about our current exam software as

well is, the bubble sheets that, the particular bubble sheets for that machine that you have to use, you can no longer get and we're starting to run low on some bubble sheets so we've gotta act, we've gotta get this stuff done now. So that's why we're pushing, like I said, I've got support from my superiors on this, Jill's been looking into the quotes that we've sent out, and we've got some really good vendors that we're looking at, uh, so I think this is just needed so we can get our program caught up and running in a good way, get some more staff, we've gotta better this program, it's hurting, it's in bad shape, I mean, it's time that we do this.

Ivan Abell: This is Ivan Abell. I have a question. What are we looking at for exam, uh, examinees per test session right now? Over the past year, are we, I noticed here it says maximum of 200 examinees at each exam session, so, what are you looking at? How many applications are you getting per session?

Eric Hall: Well, the big ones we hit 200 definitely, Ruidoso is a big one too. Uh, I have Ruidoso on here, this one says Ruidoso, it's not supposed to be, okay, uh, that got changed.

Jill Turner: Sorry, this is Jill. It doesn't have the two Novembers.

Eric Hall: Oh my gosh.

Ivan Abell: It's different than the email you sent out to us.

Eric Hall: Okay. I worked on so many versions, everytime I'd get a version done somebody would call and say, we don't want this. No, no no. Let me see if I can.

Jill Turner: I'll find it Eric.

Eric Hall: Okay, thank you! But any way, what we did was narrow it down to six sessions, I had it just one for the Albuquerque in November, New Mexico Water Wastewater, but it is Bill's year to have his session in November as well, so, he threw a fit about it, about having you know, both of them at the same time, it's gonna take mine away, so, I went ahead and gave him that test session.

Cathie Eisen: So, there's two in November?

Eric Hall: There's two in November, back to back. One week will be in Albuquerque, the next week it will be in Cruces.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, well that meets, that was my biggest concern is that you know, with New Mexico Rural Water cuz they did have that other session and that's a big one for them and for us.

Eric Hall: Ya, and I understand that, we did accommodate him for that, I try to make this accommodating for everybody but, to allow us enough time to be able to do something.

Cathie Eisen: So, there's exactly 6 not 5?

Eric Hall: Ya, there's actually 6, the next one will be the Rural Water that's the 21st of November.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, and that was Ivan's question and was also mine is you know, how many people did we actually test this year you know, how close are we to being able to be, so it's twelve hundred people if you have six.

Eric Hall: So, right, and so, I think Nile and I did the figures on that and we're coming close to that with what we're doing, we're still gonna hold it at the two hundred. We're only hitting the two hundred at the bigger sessions, the Las Cruces, Albuquerque. This one that we're going to this month, I think we're, what'd you say we had, 142? For Cruces?

Nile Carver: Yes.

Cathie Eisen: How many sessions, so, roughly how many people did we test, will we have tested in this year? That's the question.

Eric Hall: Uh, do you remember those numbers that we figured up Nile?

Nile: This is Nile Carver. No, I do not recall right off.

Cathie Eisen: How many tests did we have?

Eric Hall: Nine sessions.

Cathie Eisen: So 9, so you had potential for 18 hundred, but they didn't all fill?

Eric Hall: Let me bring up this uh.

Ivan Abell: And again, I don't have a problem with having 6 test sessions, we've had multiple conversations about this in the past. As long as we can get some in in the southern part of the state and some in the northern part of the state, I don't see a problem with that, um, I would still recommend that it's a maximum of 200 attendees for your test session, I understand what's going on with the software and antiquated and so forth. I don't see a problem with what this is going, um, if you've explained to everyone that we do have a problem with short staffing, um, you know, it shouldn't be a problem, you know, everybody has to be accommodating. As long as, and I use this caveat, as long as NMED isn't coming along with a stick bashing people in the head because they don't have the right operator in the right spot, they have an operator there, but they don't have the right operator in the right spot, as long as NMED is not beating on them, because the municipalities in the districts are just gonna turn around and go look, I tried to send the guy but you limited 200 people, you know, you only gave me 6 sessions, you know, compare to the 9 that we used to have, so, as long as we're all understanding on both sides of the fence, I don't see a problem with it.

Cathie Eisen: This is Cathie Eisen. You know, I agree with Ivan other than, I think if we had to pick up the slack, maybe go into 225 or 230 people per session, you know, we've done 300, 200 is very comfortable, but you know, if that's gonna be the difference, you know, if these sessions aren't filling, you know.

Eric Hall: Nile and I ran the numbers on 5 exam sessions in 200 compare to the other, and it was close, I mean, it wasn't that bad of a drop, now we've got 6 test sessions so, with a limited number of sessions it will not hit 200 at everyone of these, we're gonna hit 200 of these, so it's not gonna be a whole lot of difference, if it gets us some time in between. Right now Nile is, he does all the applications, we go to the school, test, we come back, he starts on the next month. There's no time for him to do equivalencies or anything else cuz it's just app's and exam prep. Like I said, we've got Anita busy, she's busy trying to get us quotes, we're really trying to move forward on stuff, we do have the on-line payment for the renewals now, that's a move forward, we're working on on-line application now, that's our next phase, and that's gonna be rolling out very soon as well, so, the Environment department is really engaged and really trying to move this program forward. That's why I'm really excited about it now, I actually really feel that we can make this a really good program again, get caught up, get updated, have a great program again, we need that.

Jill Turner: And I would just have to say, this is Jill. So, Ivan I appreciate your comments and I think you know, on a case by case basis if it is a problem, the system doesn't have the correct operator, doesn't have an operator because of the testing, I mean, there's other reasons why they wouldn't have an operator.

Ivan Abell: Absolutely.

Jill Turner: So I think we would just look at that and if it is something that is due to the testing sessions we would certainly take that into consideration, absolutely, I mean like when you said about there's understanding on both sides, and that's where we want to come from and you know, when Eric says that we have support from our leadership, it literally is all the way up the chain.

Eric Hall: It is.

Jill Turner: We have an amazing water protection division director.

Eric Hall: Yes.

Jill Turner: Right now who is the best one I have seen, I bet at this department for fifteen years, and she's the best one I've seen yet, and she's very engaged, she works directly with Eric and Nile a lot, so, she's fantastic and I think that we just want, we want to try and do what we can with the limited resources we have, and we also want water systems to be successful, don't want them to be not successful because that doesn't serve anybody, so, I would definitely just wanna state that we do want to support that and make sure that we recognize that we're not offering as many training sessions, um, we've got some things in works with some outside entities to perhaps add some additional trainings, um, maybe even by the end of 2020, so, we're looking at all kinds of different options, not just having our staff being the only ones that can offer exams and trainings and so that's.

Eric Hall: Right. One of the classes that we have been talking about is like either a two day or three day workshop for operators that are struggling with their exams, I think that would be very beneficial cuz I get a lot of calls on this that, I think that if we just had a class strictly for operators that are struggling or that really want that extra information for exams, instead of these one hour classes, you can't go into a short school and learn surface water in an hour, you can't learn math in an hour. I think we need to have some of these workshops so that way we can spend some time actually working in surface water, actually going into the wastewater.

Cathie Eisen: Video.

Eric Hall: Video.

Cathie Eisen: Where they could really see the ones that aren't getting to the plants and getting their hands in it, that would be.

Eric Hall: There's another thing that we're talking about as far as training too, is doing some possible on sight trainings, so we're looking at, they're really looking to boost this program up and I bet this is a good thing, I really think this is the time we need to move and get everything done that we wanna get done. This is a good program, cuz it's, it's really sickening to see these people flunking these tests and they're missing them by one or two, is that our fault, and I mean, and then what do you do at that point, you can't give that guy that extra credit cuz then this guy wants. What do you do? And so some of these guys are missing it by one or two points, are they really missing by one or two points, we're making people with certifications like this, and the new guys are gonna go in and take the test, they're gonna go back to their system and go, wait, on the test it said this so let me do this, it's not gonna be right. We're actually creating a hazard by doing it the way we're doing it, it makes me sick.

Ivan Abell: This is Ivan Abell. You know, we went through this before when we did some need to know criteria stuff, um, I'm just gonna go out on a limb here cuz I am old school, been there a long time, have a long in the tooth, um, the processes that we're teaching them though are basic, okay,

now the operations of the equipment may not be as basic, but what's going on is pretty much the same as it's been for the last fifteen years, now I've seen some tertiary treatments and things of this nature that come through, in my opinion we kind of need to find out, and I realize that you all still do the mastery, uh, at the end of the exam if you fail you have mastery of this and you give that information to the operators, are they, do you see, and I'm sure you don't have the staff to review that, but are you seeing say Mike Abell, I failed my level 4, I failed it three times, where am I failing my level 3 at, is it the same thing every time, or is it something different every time, you know, that's what I'm trying to get at, now, I understand specialized trainings and I'm all for the outreach and to get these guys going, but as you said videos and things of this nature, um, you know, the opportunities are there for people, um, but I'm also the firm believer that, when I was in college not everybody had a computer. Uh, you know, when I was in college we didn't have, not everybody had a computer, we had to go to a computer lab, you had to go do research, you had to do the homework, um, and I see the outreach there, um, I understand updating the study guides, you're right, we need to go back through, I think it's been ten years since we've done those, um, I don't see a problem with that, the program that you all use for testing, we've known we had issues in the past so, I'm all on board with that. The six exam dates, I'm good with that, maximum of two hundred attendees with what you two have right now, absolutely, um, you know that's part of the issue. I know that other, I work outside the water and wastewater industry now, some of the testing that I have to do is done by testing station, which is I'm assuming what you all are looking at, um, so, I'm all on board with it a hundred percent, um, I understand, but I also understand that if you're having a high fail rate I think you're having a high problem with people not studying their materials.

Eric Hall: They are, it's a big part of it, a huge part of it.

Ivan Abell: I know, we have employees, have had employees, we had a discussion today about competent person exams, you know, trenching and excavating. You know, boys and girls this is what we do for a living, these guys have been in the field 10, 15 years, this will be the second or third time they've been to this training and they failed. Why did they fail it, they were playing with their phone, they were doing something else, they were texting their wife or their girlfriend, not paying attention to what's going on. I think that's a lot of what you're seeing in your fail problems.

Eric Hall: Right.

Ivan Abell: Is these guys go to class, they go to school and they, they're there to fly the chair, they're not there to learn anything, they're there to fly a chair, and, just my opinion, and I apologize for getting on my soapbox.

Eric Hall: No. This is Eric, uh, you're right, we do get a lot of those but I also get these calls from these operators that are just highly upset, they're struggling and really having a hard time getting through these exams, they've taken them four or five times, they've got the Sacramento's, they've got this and they've got that and they're still struggling with their exams, I just really think it's so confusing what we're trying to throw at these operators, it's confusing, I mean, how are we gonna teach them one thing and then test, well just go ahead and test on, this is reality over here.

Cathie Eisen: This is Cathie. There are, having been an instructor, there are contradictions, you know, there's some that, you know, the study guide is just flat out outdated as are some of the questions on the exam but, I also think that we are not promoting the Sacramento manuals, there's a lot of people that just read the study guide and go to short school and they think they're gonna have enough information to be able to pass the exam, and the certifications are you know, powerful and valuable, and they require effort.

Ivan Abell: This is Ivan again, I agree with you a hundred percent. You know, if you don't.

Cathie Eisen: It's a double fours, and my sampler 2, the sampler 2 you know.

Ivan Abell: Right, but that's my deal, is, is if you're not gonna reach for the tool in the tool box you know, I can't help you, I can't make you, I don't think it's a certification operator um, programs job to make somebody reach in the tool box, you know, granted, you know, I've watched a YouTube video or two, hey, I learned how to delete the DPF system off my truck.

(LAUGHTER BY EVERYONE)

Ivan Abell: I mean, I'm not knocking that but what I'm saying is there's a lot of bad information out there too.

Eric Hall: Right.

Ivan Abell: You know, um, so just, I'll get off my soapbox.

Maria Gilvarry: This is Maria Gilvarry. I concur as well, if people are not going to spend some time looking at Sacramento Manuals, asking questions, just waking up early, staying up late spending time, if they think they're just gonna be handed the information to pass the test, that's not who I want running my system. They need to be able to think, analyze and deduce and figure out how to get the answer so, uh, Eric I know there are some improvements that need to be made in the sacrament, in the study guide, but anybody who's failing the test is not failing it because of a study guide.

Eric Hall: Well, here's my thing is, then maybe we shouldn't be putting out a study guide then, it's the wrong information.

Maria Gilvarry: I was gonna say, what is the Operator Certification's job.

Eric Hall: I mean, you guys are saying well they've gotta get the right tool out of the tool box, but if we're not providing them with the right tools, if they need a crescent and grab pliers., I mean.

Maria Gilvarry: Well, I mean, are you the one to provide them the tools?

Eric Hall: As far as the study guide or the exams?

Maria Gilvarry: What about their city, what about, all of the school programs that I'm getting emails for, everyday for professional entities that will teach what people need to know to be a good operator, to start to be a good operator, cuz it's still what you're gonna put into it that's gonna make you a good operator not what somebody reads you out of a book.

Eric Hall: Ya, well I agree. Um, but my thing is, some of this, you're right is the operator's fault and it's their responsibility, but I still feel an obligation as the certification program if we're gonna provide information it's gotta be correct.

Ivan Abell: I wholeheartedly agree with you.

Eric Hall: The same with the exams, it's like.

Ivan Abell: But what I can tell you is, what's in our certification study guide. (PHONE RINGING) That's one demerit for you as well sir.

(LAUGHTER)

Ivan Abell: Um, for what we're doing for study guides, I mean, again, the basic information is there, I'm assuming that the test is still based off of the study guide, okay, so.

Maria Gilvarry: Let me speak to that cuz I think, I'm sorry, this is Maria Gilvarry and I don't mean to interrupt, when you're finished let me know and I'll add my.

Ivan Abell: No maam, go ahead.

Maria Gilvarry: I just took the level 1 exam and you know, I busted my butt, I spent time at the facility, my nose in the sacramento manual, and there were several areas that were not mentioned in the study guide, not to say that the details needed to be in the study guide, um, but there were some areas where I didn't even consider going down that road to do research cuz I didn't think it was gonna be in the level 1 exam, part of it was I didn't look at the need to know criteria, I focused on sacramento manual then the study guide and meeting with my staff and you know, a life of a plant. Um, so there still may be things that we could put in the study guide to focus people, but I'm just not sure that that's gonna be UOCP's responsibility to make sure that, if you have a study guide you can pass the test.

Eric Hall: No, I'm sorry, I just feel that if we're gonna put something out there it needs to be right.

Ivan Abell: Oh, absolutely.

Maria Gilvarry: Concur, concur.

Ivan Abell: I don't think anybody's arguing that point, um, but I don't believe that the fail rate, the pass fail rate is based solely on misinformation or disinformation coming out of the study guide.

Eric Hall: Right.

Ivan Abell: Um, that's my opinion, for whatever that's worth, because having been in this since 1993, which is a long time for some of us, taking my first exam in 93, you know, we had this same pass fail problem in the 80's, we had the same pass fail problem in the 90's, we've had it in the 2000's and all the way into the next decade, I mean, you know, that's my problem, and as an operator in the field I have excelled in my position because if I see a problem and I don't know the answer, I will go find the answer um, and that's what my bosses expect from me.

Eric Hall: Right.

Ivan Abell: You know, hey, if you've got a problem you need to go find, again, maybe I don't have a hammer in my tool box, I can beat that nail in with a crescant wrench okay, but, I'm gonna go buy a hammer cuz I know I need a hammer, you know, that's what I'm getting at.

Cathie Eisen: This is Cathie. Just in the interest of time because we have a huge bulk of stakeholder's left to review, and we're getting a little bit off.

Eric Hall: I think Maria wanted to comment.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, I'll let her have the last word. I do agree with Eric, and we're moving in the right direction, we do need a robust study guide and we need tests to coordinate with that, you know, that's definitely an issue.

Eric Hall: Ya, I just think we put out the.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, no, I agree with Eric. What I'd like to see is you know, we just had a great discussion, had a conference on this subject about many others, and I'd like to see it come back on the agenda where we can have a more detailed discussion on tools that we need in our tool box to make sure we're doing the right thing.

Eric Hall: At least for what our side is, for what we can do, the operator's still, that's on them, they're gonna have to take the initiative to do this but, I don't feel as a program that we should be putting out this information like this, it's just.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, it needs to be cleaned up.

Ivan Abell: Absolutely, absolutely.

Eric Hall: It needs to be cleaned up, I think this is the perfect time for us to do it, while we've got Jill and the people we've got in there that are supporting us.

Ivan Abell: Absolutely.

Cathie Eisen: So let's, the agenda for the next meeting that we can have further discussion on this subject, you know, just in general.

Eric Hall: Yes, yes, we can do that.

Cathie Eisen: Cuz I think that we really you know, I'll mention, I'll discuss that conference for a few minutes at the end of the meeting, but I think at this moment that it would behoove us the best to approve this as proposed. I know that everybody's put a lot of effort into it and done the research necessary and give them the opportunity to make the improvements they need to. Maria did you have another comment before we make a motion?

Maria Gilvarry: No, I'm pretty much in concurrence with what was said recently, so, I'm good.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, alright, we can move on then right? We don't have to approve, it's not on here.

Ivan Abell: It's for discussion.

Eric Hall: Ya, it's just for discussion.

Cathie Eisen: It's just for discussion, I think we're all in agreement that you're doing the right thing.

Eric Hall: Okay, thank you guys for your support.

Ivan Abell: Absolutely.

Eric Hall: I've been bashed left and right over this whole thing and and I understand people's frustration but, it could be more frustrating if.

Joe Harvey: This is Joe. Eric if you need, I know you guys need, if you ever have problems scheduling classes in southeast New Mexico, Roswell, Carlsbad, me and Mike will be happy to talk with members.

Eric Hall: That's great, thank you.

Ivan Abell: Absolutely.

Eric Hall: That's close enough to Cruces this month.

(LAUGHTER)

Eric Hall: You knew that was coming.

Cathie Eisen: Okay. We're gonna move onto, thank you for all the discussion.

Eric Hall: Yup, thank you guys.

Cathie Eisen: We're gonna move on to Item number 6. Review discussion and determination on Stake Holder meeting comments and I'm gonna give this over to Nile and Eric.

Eric Hall: I'll, ya, I'll kind of lead it off and Nile can join in, I didn't have time to read all through these, I read most of them.

Cathie Eisen: Oh come on, you made us read them.

Eric Hall: I'm working twelve hour shifts right now. (LAUGHTER).

Cathie Eisen: I was reading them last night in my camper. (LAUGHTER).

Eric Hall: I was home last night trying to read these and I'm going, but anyway, I did get a lot of them read. I think what we'll do is will just, the first one that we've got up here we'll just kind of go over it, discuss the comments, if that's something we wanna consider or not, and why.

Cathie Eisen: So, yours is, you gave us, do we have a copy of highlighted like yours?

Eric Hall: You should.

Cathie Eisen: It's underneath all the comments or? I found it, okay. So, how are we gonna, I'll let you guys do the.

Eric Hall: So, I think we'll just look at each one of the comments here and we'll just kind of look at them, and if they're valid and we want to consider, then that's fine.

(PHONE RINGING)

Eric Hall: Is that you Rick?

Rick Mitchell: Me?

Eric Hall: Ya.

Rick Mitchell: Ya, it was me.

Eric Hall: That's two. Strike two. Okay, Martin Torrez said he liked the idea for the operator's, as far as letting the state know of the change work places, uh, since you're talking about fees, do we have any idea what the fee, the penalty fee would be for not doing that? Uh, we talked about that I believe, and what we had talked about is, if they don't do this we're gonna charge them ten bucks. Um, there's some more comments in here, ya, pay a fee of ten dollars, um, the reason we're doing this is because we have a lot of people that don't tell us where they've gone, and then they call us and complain, well I didn't get my stuff, I didn't get my certificates, I didn't get you know, my mastery, they're not updating their stuff, nobody.

Cathie Eisen: We don't know what's going on with the system either because they're not letting us know.

Eric Hall: We don't know what's going on with the system. I looked at our system on our cert man, and there are so many blanks in here, it's like you know, we've gotta try and find a way, this helps the compliance officer's as well. I can see Ivan's chomping here, go ahead Ivan.

Ivan Abell: This is Ivan Abell, one more time. How is this you all's responsibility? One more time.

Eric Hall: Well its not our responsibility, but it's an assistance to us.

Ivan Abell: I understand that, and I'm a hundred percent on board with knowing where it's at, but if you move from your current location to a new house, and I'll use Cathie cuz she's moved here recently, if you move from Silver City to Albuquerque.

Cathie Eisen: Santa Fe, (LAUGHTER)

Ivan Abell: Hold on, move from Silver City to Albuquerque and don't put a forwarding request in for your mail, who's fault is that?

Eric Hall: Right.

Ivan Abell: I mean, I'm not gonna lead you on a horse trough but I'm probably drown you the first change I get.

Eric Hall: Right. Well, that's the thing, is if these operator's aren't doing this, and it's causing us issues, we have to have a way, a mechanism put to let these operator's know, ya, you've got to do this, nobody's doing it right now, it makes it hard for compliance, it makes it hard for us to be able to get anything out.

Ivan Abell: I understand.

Joe Harvey: Right now Eric, this is Joe. Right now it's up to the systems to notify you guys right? Is that correct?

Eric Hall: Right. And that's one of the things we had talked about changing I think, is to put it on the operator, because the system, they're not gonna, you know, Bob quit and went somewhere else, well bye Bob, they're not gonna.

Cathie Eisen: I'm out of compliance now.

Eric Hall: The systems aren't gonna do it, so we really should, it should be on the operator, that's what we're trying to do is put this on the operator.

Ivan Abell: And I agree a hundred percent. I just, I feel, I'm not gonna hand you a participation trophy for it, sorry, you know, I don't play that game, my employees, you know, if we split our agreement on employment such as my boss has told me, once I run out of compensation, you run out of time, you know, this situation is the same, they need to be able to notify you, if they don't get their mastery, they don't get their renewals, they all know, they have a certification, it says it expires in three years boys.

Eric Hall: Right.

Ivan Abell: You know, and it generally expires on your birthday and your birth month, if you haven't seen it in three years, maybe you need to be making a phone call, just saying.

Eric Hall: I agree, I agree with you a hundred percent. Just leaving it out there for them, they're not doing it. I mean, if we just say, well, you know, you need to do that, well it's not have to.

Ivan Abell: And I agree, but again that's where the monetary that we talked about for the late fees comes into play, that's where the stick that the compliance officers carry, they go in behind them, hey look man, you're non-compliant, you're not certified, well ya I am, where's my certificate, well ya, but it's a year lapsed, oh, well it's the state's fault, they didn't send me my renewal.

Eric Hall: We hear that all the time.

Ivan Abell: You know, again, I carry a driver's license in my pocket and I know when my driver's license expires, even with an eight year license, cuz I take it out and look at it occasionally, again, it's not the state's fault that I don't have a driver's license.

Eric Hall: True.

Cathie Eisen: I'm sorry. This is Cathie. I'm gonna be like Cindy Hudson used to be to me, let's keep the discussion specific cuz we have a lot of ground to cover and I think some of this needs.

Ivan Abell: Not a problem, that was my first statement that was made.

Cathie Eisen: I want all your input Ivan, but you know what I'm saying, let's just try.

Eric Hall: Well, so let's deal with this first question necessary, so Ivan what's your idea or suggestion on this first one?

Ivan Abell: Hit them with a late fee, if they can't get to you and tell you that they have moved, for their renewals, that's their responsibility, hit them in the pocket where it counts.

Eric Hall: Okay.

Ivan Abell: Which is what we originally had this discussion on.

Eric Hall: Right, right.

Cathie Eisen: This is Cathie. I agree the discussions, I've got notes here, I went to every Stake Holder meeting except for Farmington and so I think that the discussion in the meetings what it came down to is that we do have a provision, let's just say, if they haven't verified by January 31st, which gives them, that's a thirty day grace period on that which, by January 31st, if we're going off the first of the year then that fees gonna start coming in, so, on February 1st you're gonna owe a \$10 dollars, and the question was, or the suggestion or whatever it was, is there a provision or will there be within the software to then just ding the people that have it, _____, or is it just gonna ride out and is this gonna go.

Eric Hall: Well how is the system gonna know if?

Cathie Eisen: Well there's supposed to be, you're gonna be able to go in here and hit a verify button and the secure extranet portal, that's going to let you update to verify your information, right, so at the end of the month there everybody that's, there's gonna be people that had had it, is there any provision or, and is this \$10 dollar fee gonna go for twelve months, twenty four months, is it just gonna accumulate for three years if some of it just drops off. It just opens up a lot of you know, people should be responsible but, you know, at what point does that truncate.

Eric Hall: Right, well.

Cathie Eisen: You know what I mean, cuz it's kind of open ended, it's the same, and we get into that same thing later.

Eric Hall: Right, I was gonna say, if there's more discussion.

Cathie Eisen: People not renewing and stuff.

Eric Hall: There's more discussion on this later on so.

Cathie Eisen: Ya. So that was the only question, if they had verified it, if they haven't changed it, and does it end at \$120 dollars or can it go into two years, or, you know what I mean, there's a little.

Eric Hall: Well I think I don't know but, this is Eric. In my opinion, if they want a year they'll have to do something like put them on hold or something else, I mean we've gotta have something that sticks them a little bit, and just, instead of just saying, you know, you need to really do that, we need something to be able to jab them with.

Cathie Eisen: Right, it's like your driver's license, I mean if you, if I move to Arizona I've only got so much time and I've gotta get an Arizona driver's license, right, same thing, if I don't renew my driver's license it becomes invalid, you know, or if I'm driving, if I haven't renewed my plates and I'm driving without renewing my plates, I'm gonna get charged so much for like six months and then it caps at that.

Eric Hall: Right. Alright, we'll have some more discussion on this one.

Cathie Eisen: I'm trying to find my notes cuz I typed up, are we ready, you're running this.

Eric Hall: Do you have something?

Cathie Eisen: I'm good, I have a list of, you keep going.

Eric Hall: Okay, Bill Conner just a quick question, when we talked about the operator has to physically be by the system, make changes, to that system the changes are made. That's a yes, that's still the same thing, that's where we've gotta replace that, the change has got to be made, we can't certify an operator unless it's available within the system. Uh, and then this next question, what if it's a situation where they have a functioned part of the system that's operated by a computer and they have access to that computer to make changes electronically, there's no changes electronically, that's what we've been talking for a long time, there's been absolutely no electronic changes, they can monitor, but they can't make those changes.

Cathie Eisen: Have any of you guys printed off my comments? Did you print off everybody's comments, did you email Jeremy one?

Eric Hall: We did.

Nile Carver: This is Nile Carver. It's after the Stake Holder meetings.

Cathie Eisen: Oh, okay, oh, the next section, okay, thanks.

Nile Carver: In all the emails. Yours is in front I believe.

Eric Hall: Okay, the rest of them is Cathie and Nile. I don't see anything, anybody see anything else on that page we need to cover, these are just general questions, it looks like everything is already in place.

Cathie Eisen: Could I, just, this my, and I wish now that I could have coordinated a little more with you guys, what I did is, I made a list of in order of the proposed changes of the discussion, and so it does, it hits it from the beginning of the changes, and it might save, rather than going through all the comments and all the meetings, did they mail in there's too? So this is what I have.

Eric Hall: Ya, everybody that's mailed them in, we've gotten, we've got all comments submitted so far, and we still have time to submit some, I'm still expecting some from Mark Kelly, there is probably a couple more, probably gonna get some comments in later, but we need to at least review the ones we've got now so that Nile.

Cathie Eisen: So these get on a lot of them other than the Farmington meeting? This is pretty much summarizes the meetings that I went to with Nile.

Eric Hall: Okay.

Cathie Eisen: Which were short meetings, but I think we could, it would cover a lot of ground Eric, do you have a copy of that? Oh here, I got it. I summarized a lot of what you're gonna be talking about, bouncing around, if you go through all of those.

Eric Hall: Alright, well that's actually good, this will make it easier because then I won't have to (CELL PHONE RINGS). Three strikes I'm out, Nile call me. (LAUGHTER).

Cathie Eisen: Where's a copy machine, I'd like to make some copies?

Eric Hall: I'll go make some copies.

Cathie Eisen: Or you want me to?

Eric Hall: I'll get it. There not in the books, cuz I thought I saw this?

Cathie Eisen: Ya, but it's not in this book, I don't have a copy if I give you mine, everybody else if you go to the next section after the Stake Holder meetings, there's an outline that follows, follows it by, should be right behind that, right there Joe.

Joe Harvey: Says RE: revisions?

Cathie Eisen: Yes.

Joe Harvey: 20.7.4.

Cathie Eisen: It goes to order with the regulation changes and summarized comments, everything but Farmington, pretty much, I read like twenty-five pages of the Farmington comments last night and they're pretty well in keeping with everybody else's concerns, don't you agree Nile?

Joe Harvey: Ya, I read through that too, I kind of have the same concerns.

Cathie Eisen: I think it'll save us a lot, if we go through all these minutes we're gonna be here all day, I mean, all the back and forth conversation. I couldn't read it all last night, I read as much as I could, and I finally fell asleep.

Nile Carver: This is Nile Carver. Just after your first set of, the list you had sent Cathie, I also had taken apart my notes that uh.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, so that'.

Nile Carver: I think between the two of them it summarizes most everything that.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, with the blue, okay, I think that's, that'll make it a lot easier won't it Nile?

Nile Carver: It should.

Cathie Eisen: Good job, thank you. Ya, Nile did the same thing Eric, so if we could work off the two, do you have a copy of Nile's?

Eric Hall: It should be in our.

Cathie Eisen: I got it.

Eric Hall: It's right here, let me pass these out. I don't know what's the matter with our printer, it's running out of ink or something cuz it's one side white one side blue so.

Cathie Eisen: Did you get a copy Joe? I think between mine and Nile's that'll save a lot of room Eric. Right after the Stake Holder notes, the next page. That's Nile's.

Bob Towle: So are we going through the Farmington Stake Holder meeting first or what are we gonna do?

Cathie Eisen: Bob, so what we have, if you go to the next, there's a, you guys are gonna have trouble finding this. There's a page that says RE: revisions, 20.7.4 and the next line says comments and suggestions from Stake Holder meetings, it comes after all the notes from the Stake Holder, it's gonna be, it's from me, so on your email it's gonna show up a little different, but it summarizes in order of the changes, my comments and the next one is in bold, it's 20.7.4, Environmental Protection, Wastewater, Water Supply facilities, Utility Operator Certification, Nile's are Stake Holder meetings, and again, his runs in order, it has you know, all the suggested changes, let me see if I can find that email, did you find it?

Eric Hall: No, I didn't.

Cathie Eisen: Wanna make copies of that too, and I'll look in the emails and see if I can find.

Joe Harvey: Which one are you looking for?

Cathie Eisen: It's Nile's email that has two attachments.

Joe Harvey: Oh, okay.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, so it'll be the November 6th I think, is that the one where he sent a bunch of attachments?

Joe Harvey: Ya, I see that. That's the Stake Holder's meeting then you've gotta a David Sonenberg.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, one of these is from, there should be one from me, that's not it. I'm looking, okay, here it is, okay, it's gonna be the one from Nile on October 29th, and it's going to be the 10/15/19 comments of mine, I don't know where Nile's, did you send off your copies Nile?

Nile Carver: Yes.

Cathie Eisen: Did you find it Bobby? It's 10/15/19?

Bobby Towle: Yes.

Cathie Eisen: It starts with RE: revisions, those are my notes, and then Nile's gonna tell you where his are.

Nile Carver: This is Nile Carver. Mine is on Wednesday, October 30th, at 2:42 p.m., compiled Nile notes, and then also, there's a 9/26/19 UOCP Stake Holder's meeting, so it's October 30th.

Cathie Eisen: And you should, both sets of comments are in order of the regulation changes, so even if you can't find it, you guys will be able to follow along pretty closely.

Bobby Towle: I got it.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, cool. Everybody ready?

Bobby Towle: Thank you! Yes.

Cathie Eisen: You ready?

Eric Hall: Yes. Okay, which one do we wanna start with? You wanna start one?

Cathie Eisen: Okay, they're gonna mirror each other so let's start with 20.7.4.7C

Eric Hall: Okay.

Cathie Eisen: Okay? And if you can just follow along cuz these are gonna cover all the comments specific to each section.

Eric Hall: So, we'll just follow.

Cathie Eisen: So, we're gonna do definition, we're gonna go to C. Want me to do it?

Eric Hall: No. Okay, so one of them was the suggestion, 20.7.4.7C, change person to individual, certified operator means a person who is certified by the department or certified operator means an individual who is certified.

Cathie Eisen: This is Cathie. The discussion on that was that the way that it was written, it looked further on in the regulation it would mean that a system, person, or something that, instead of an individual and, or entity, just keeps them from trying to say that they can certify the system.

Eric Hall: System, okay. Do we like that, is that one of the ones that we want to accept?

Cathie Eisen: Okay, ya, cuz then you get down here, cuz it was personal.

Eric Hall: Okay, well let's take that first one, do we want to change person to individual? Do we agree with that?

Cathie Eisen: I'm good with it. Do we need everybody's, everybody to?

Eric Hall: We're not making an action on these right now so, actually what we can do is, if you guys, if we run into something that we're him/hum about, if you guys want some more time to think about it, we do have some more time that we can think about this, so there's no action items taken on this today, this is just review, what we like, what we don't like, what we think is valid and what's not valid.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, I'm good with it, so if anybody has comments say comments, if we don't hear any comment we'll move to the next one.

Ivan Abell: I'm good with it. So, what you're gonna do is put a definition in as an individual, is that correct?

Eric Hall: Ya, we're gonna change that word from person to individual.

Ivan Abell: But then you're gonna put in a definition as an individual as what they are? Because, as it's written here, C, you're gonna change person to individual, as you go through the definitions in 7.4.7, as you go down along in through there, P is considered a person.

Eric Hall: Uh, good.

Ivan Abell: So, you're gonna have to put an individual defining an individual as well.

Eric Hall: You're right, good call. Alright.

Cathie Eisen: So, we'll have to do the same thing on P.

Eric Hall: Okay, so, we'll change person to entity, which is a very good catch. Is everybody good with that? Changing person to entity?

Cathie Eisen: Yes.

Bobby Towle: Yes.

Eric Hall: Any discussion on that?

Eric Hall: Okay, let's move on. 20.7.4.7T. This is from Brandi Garcia, she wanted clarification as to what measure we used to determine population. She used statistics to finding the average household, um, I'm really surprised that this is, the way they, the compliance officers are the ones that determine the population, not us. They do that on their sanitary survey so, that's, to me that's not a.

Joe Harvey: Ya, it's Brandi's responsibility to look at the census or whatever.

Eric Hall: It's not on us, right. They tell us the population, we tell them what certification is required, so.

Ivan Abell: K, based on that, looking at definition of public water supply system needs, one, then you go down to B, and it says regularly serves an average of at least twenty-five individuals.

Cathie Eisen: This is Cathie. The thing is that I think Brandi wanted clarification and it is so, it could effect on your smaller systems, it could effect the determination of the classification of the system, that was the whole issue, is that you know, you have a community like Fort Sumner, that you know, you go off the 2.2 which you might have a lot of single people, you might, the population could vary by a hundred people and change the class, you know what I'm saying? So, she just wanted, you know, she wanted us to discuss, somebody's gotta make that call and so we could be consistent because different people are using different values. Like when you do your own assessment of the system for the sanitary survey, and you say we have fifteen-hundred people, but going off the census, if you've got so many meters and your applying 2.2 people to each household it changes that dynamic, so it just needs to be consistent across the board somebody, you know what I'm saying, who makes that call.

Eric Hall: Right. The compliance officer's make that call, I mean, they're the ones making the sanitary surveys, I can't determine that, all I can do is _____ the population decipher that.

Cathie Eisen: Next one's Nile's right? You're gonna have to bounce back and forth if you want to stay in order.

Eric Hall: So, as you know we're working on that OIT program. Rebecca has pretty much just said, let me know what you need to get that OIT running, but one thing we need before we can do that with staff, improve our work, and once we get that in, but it was mentioned that maybe we should come up with a Wastewater Lab Technician 1 OIT as well. What's everybody's thoughts? I mean personally I don't see a problem with it, I kind of think it's a good idea.

Joe Harvey: A Lab Tech 1?

Eric Hall: Ya, a Lab Tech 1.

Cathie Eisen: I think that's great cuz you already have.

Eric Hall: It's completely different from operations so. I kind of thought that would be a good to. Any comments on that one? 20.7.4.10I, suggested Wastewater Lab Technician 1 OIT?

Cathie Eisen: I think that's great, the more the merrier right?

Eric Hall: Right. Everybody good with that one on the phone?

Bobby Towle: Ya.

Maria Gilvarry: Yes.

Eric Hall: Okay, we'll move down to. Okay, we'll go back to 20.7.4.11A. There's no mention of UV disinfection, UV is used on some water systems to meet 4-log removal requirements, and I think we need to include advanced to levels 3's & 4's.

Cathie Eisen: You know, this is based off of other people's comments.

Eric Hall: I kind of agree with that, it makes sense. What do you guys think?

Cathie Eisen: I think it's helpful because when you view details you're gonna pull it out of, you know, especially cuz. This is Cathie. You know, obviously with Wastewater it's gonna affect the quality of your discharge, but we're also, when we're getting into reviews and on surface water, there's systems that are using UV to attain that four log removal and if your UV fails, that's one, you know, you're losing that barrier, you know, and they do require maintenance, it's not something you plug in.

Eric Hall: Well it's becoming more, people are starting to use UV more and more too. What do you guys think?

Bobby Towle: Ya, we have it on ours. Ya, I think it should be added.

Eric Hall: Any other comments on that one?

Cathie Eisen: Okay, well.

Eric Hall: Discussion.

Cathie Eisen: Is this, would this be the place to jump into, or are we gonna look at Joe's comments as far as including the other, he had, Joe Savage had mentioned like, you know, with your specific surface water, or your cartridge, bag filtration, membrane ultra-filtration, nano-filtration etc.

Ivan Abell: On 11?

Cathie Eisen: This is on Joe's comments, is that gonna be a separate area?

Ivan Abell: Under 11?

Cathie Eisen: That's under 12, that goes to 12.

Ivan Abell: I was gonna say, under 11, we're just classifying what the public water supply is in a public water facility, and I believe, no offense, but the comment that you made for UV needs to fall under 12, not 11.

Cathie Eisen: Well it falls maybe under both cuz it's under water and waste water right? Or is that both?

Ivan Abell: But 11 is only the classification of the system.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, okay, so it's 12?

Ivan Abell: Does that make sense?

Cathie Eisen: Yes.

Ivan Abell: Because 12 is treatment process.

Cathie Eisen: That's where it breaks about, okay, my bad.

Ivan Abell: No, no.

Cathie Eisen: Thank you, no, thank you. Okay, and then if you go back over to Nile's it's the same thing with the PH, the by Pen Style tester, recording by DPD and then we can jump, if we wanna jump into Joe's we're looking at your cartridge bag filtration RO.

Eric Hall: Well let's take care of these two and then maybe we can jump into that.

Cathie Eisen: Okay.

Eric Hall: Um, so we agreed on the Wastewater Lab Tech 1. Okay, some of the people talked about the PH Pen Style tester and the ____ coin residual by DPD method for the Small Water, Water Sample tech 1.

Cathie Eisen: You're gonna hate me by the end of this.

Eric Hall: No, I'll just have a major headache after all this. What they're wanting I guess is to add that PH if you use a Pen Style tester and the ____ coin method by DPD to add on to the Small Water or the Water Sample Tech 1.

Eric Hall: This is Eric and in my opinion the Water Sample Tech 1, we only need to, it would be good if we could add a couple more things to that, it's just really, really a basic thing.

Cathie Eisen: I think both of those work.

Eric Hall: I agree.

Cathie Eisen: And this opens up where you can do your final review, you're gonna make sure that we have all the technologies underneath those sections that we should, including the newer ones.

Eric Hall: Right.

Cathie Eisen: This is the time to do it.

Eric Hall: What do you guys think about that? Pen testers and DP Chlorine to be added on for the Small Water and Water Sampler Tech 1?

Cathie Eisen: I'm good.

Joe Harvey: Ya.

Bobby Towle: Ya.

Cathie Eisen: Thanks Bobby.

Bobby Towle: You bet.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, so do we wanna look at Joe's because that's under water also?

Eric Hall: Okay.

Cathie Eisen: So, when we go to Joe Savages notes, he had suggested that some other new technologies, and we'd have to go ahead and classify these, but they're gonna be like Small Water Advanced and Level 3. He's looking at cartridge filtration, diet filtration, membrane ultra filtration, nano filtration, micro filtration, reverse osmosis, forward osmosis, chemical oxidation, and other technologies based upon review by NMED. Really those, because we're looking at, here right now, we have filtration just sand and gravity, you know, we're not really spelling out these other.

Eric Hall: He's just looking for more of a spell out on these?

Cathie Eisen: Ya.

Eric Hall: Than an addition?

Cathie Eisen: R.O. Did we mention R.O.?

Eric Hall: Well no, because what we did is we classified the special, such as, a lot of that stuff is, we've been doing it under special. Everything else is not special.

Cathie Eisen: Okay. So, we do cover all of these basically.

Eric Hall: Yes.

Cathie Eisen: Cuz we're covering.

Eric Hall: But.

Cathie Eisen: Well, we could, like under filtration, sand, gravity and pressure?

Joe Harvey: I'm thinking the pressure from.

Cathie Eisen: Oh here, it says pressure, so they're all covered.

Eric Hall: They're all covered.

Cathie Eisen: He just wants to be more.

Eric Hall: I mean, the way it supposed to read is, you read this and if it's not there you know it's under special, those are all special categories, conventional treatment, that's.

Cathie Eisen: I think we're good, so forget that. Remember we mentioned it.

Eric Hall: Yes, we did. Alright. Okay, so, back to this one now?

Cathie Eisen: Okay, so, we're gonna go to 13.

Eric Hall: Yup, okay. 20.7.4.13C. In order to perform Waste Water analysis for regulatory compliance, Waste Water facilities and an uncredible laboratory to be performed, by a certified Waste water technician after January 1st, okay, so I wasn't there, what are they getting at?

Cathie Eisen: It's Nile.

Eric Hall: Sir.

Cathie Eisen: Nile?

Nile Carver: This is Nile Carver, um, this was from a lab technician, uh, wanted it to say you know, because NMED does utilize approved state labs, that it's an in-house lab within a Waste Water plant that it would not be an accredited lab according to NMED.

Eric Hall: Right.

Nile Carver: So, they would like it specified that tests are performed by the certified lab technician.

Ivan Abell: This is Mike Abell. I thought we had talked about that once before. Being the fact that a Waste Water lab is not an accredited laboratory, and that's why we have the lab technician certifications to cover that, whereas NMED, Drinking Water Bureau accredits a lab based on the lab, not on the technicians that are in it, which is why we don't have water lab technicians, so, I thought, clarification, I'm good with that, um, I thought it was already addressed in the previous discussions that we've had.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, this comes up somewhere you know, so this was discussion you know further on, with lab techs as opposed to you know, the higher level of lab work in a certified lab is not covered underneath Level 3, Wastewater, that's where there was some discussion. If you're just doing, if you're doing it for compliance you're doing it in a certified lab, if you're doing it for process control, you don't have to be a lab tech.

Ivan Abell: Even, even, no, there's no accreditation for a Wastewater laboratory in NMED, there is not.

Cathie Eisen: Right, so if you're doing process.

Ivan Abell: It's all a process, so now there are other outside entities that will certify you to run certain tests, but NMED does not give an accreditation for Wastewater laboratory, each technician has to be certified, whereas in the water side of it, it's a whole different bailey whip.

Eric Hall: Absolutely.

Ivan Abell: You're accrediting the lab, so even if Cathie has no certification as a Wastewater lab tech, she can go in if she's been trained to work in the accredited lab under the lab director, or a certified operator, you're able to do those water tests okay, whereas what we're saying in the Wastewater side is, you need to be certified as a Wastewater lab tech 1, or equivalent, a 2 or 3, up to a certain point in order to do those tests, because those are regulatory that are falling under the EPA, they are not falling under NMED, they're falling under EPA, and that's why I say we need to make that distinction, that a water lab is accredited by the state, but a Wastewater lab is not because we don't have primacy for Wastewater. Am I correct?

Eric Hall: Absolutely. Ya, you're right, you're absolutely correct, ya, you're right, that's good, that's why we certify the lab technicians.

Ivan Abell: Right.

Eric Hall: That makes sense.

Cathie Eisen: I'm gonna fall back on my notes to 20.7.4.13A, back up a little bit, that would be a table.

Eric Hall: Okay. Go ahead, spit it out there Cathie.

Cathie Eisen: Oh, okay, I don't wanna walk on in.

Eric Hall: No.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, so, we'll back up, go to 20.7.4.13, public wastewater facilities, and then we have you know, similar tables, we have the water classifying, what level operator, there was comments that there was no mention of UV disinfection, and it's used up any Wastewater systems that needs to be included on your small wastewater advanced and levels 3 & 4, so we're also using it on smaller systems. Do you have Wastewater 1 and 2 that would be using UV or they're just covering the dunes and ponds or they're not really disinfection?

Eric Hall: They're not really.

Ivan Abell: I would.

Cathie Eisen: So, the moment they have UV they become a level 3?

Eric Hall: Ya.

Ivan Abell: This is Ivan Abell. I would, based on what we have in front of us I do not have a problem adding UV to this, but in my opinion, advanced waste treatment processes under wastewater, so that's a small wastewater advanced, a wastewater 3, a wastewater 4, given population, in the water side it would fall under, and I again, have no problem adding UV to it, but it falls under special as well, and there it goes from small water advanced to water 4's. Now, if we wanna get into the weeds and go wastewater 3 at a certain point, because in the wastewater side of it, we go to wastewater 3 and then jump the population to 4, you know, that's that's totally up to us, but if you're gonna go with UV, I'm gonna suggest you put ozone in there as well, O3.

Eric Hall: I agree.

Ivan Abell: Otherwise I would leave it as special.

Cathie Eisen: Uh, I think it could be spelled out.

Ivan Abell: Okay.

Cathie Eisen: I think its specific enough technology, don't you? I'm surprised that it's not there.

Ivan Abell: And again, that's why we're doing it now. We're backing it after ten years or whatever it is.

Eric Hall: We need to take a five minute break, I've got some people bringing me some legal documents that I think that's who's probably been trying to call me.

Ivan Abell: Not a problem. Let's take five, I make a motion we take a ten minute break.

Joe Harvey: I second the motion.

Eric Hall: All in favor.

(Aye), said by everyone.

Cathie Eisen: So, we're gonna go ahead and spell out UV.

Ivan Abell: I make a motion we bring the meeting back to under dictation.

Cathie Eisen: Oh, thank you! Do we need a second?

Eric Hall: I'll second the motion.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, we have a motion and a second to start the meeting back up. Gonna do a roll call. Dale? Is Dale here?

Ivan Abell: He was on the phone.

Cathie Eisen: Dale Graham?

Dale Graham: Yes, yes, I'm here.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, great. Okay, Joe Harvey?

Joe Harvey: Present.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, Bobby Towle?

Bobby Towle: Present.

Cathie Eisen: Ivan Abell?

Ivan Abell: Present.

Cathie Eisen: Cathie Eisen, present. Sidney didn't call in? Maria Gilvarry?

Maria Gilvarry: Here.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, and then Rick, and Sidney and Joe are out right?

Eric Hall: No, Rick's on the phone.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, Rick Mitchell?

Rick Mitchell: Ya, I'm here.

Eric Hall: He's the one with the phone that keeps ringing.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, that's right, he's here.

Eric Hall: Okay, where did we leave off?

Cathie Eisen: Go to my page, and we're gonna go to 20.7.4.13., ABCU.

Eric Hall: Okay, so 20.7.4.13, Albuquerque Water Authority, asked if we could have a wastewater sampler certification and a pre-treatment certification.

Cathie Eisen: For obvious reasons. How far do we go with it right?

Eric Hall: Well, here's my issue, how many certifications are we gonna end up with? I mean, I don't see it.

Ivan Abell: So, this is Ivan Abell: I have a question, how many systems currently are under EPA mandated pre-treatment?

Eric Hall: I don't know, that's something I'd have to get with the wastewater folks with.

Joe Harvey: It's usually, what is it? 5 MGD, if your design plan is 5 MGE or more you have to have a 5 MGD, pre-treatment program.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, I think ABCU requires, they, they, what they do is, they penalize system, you know, like I actually worked with a food processor in Albuquerque that you know, were paying huge extra fees because of the strikes up there, on wastewater you know, so they were trying to get them to do pre-treatment, but that's totally separate from a actual system that's required of pre-treatment. You don't what I mean, like if you have a brewery or something, discharging it to your wastewater plant, it's really helpful to have them pre-treated, I don't know if they have to be certified to do that.

Joe Harvey: There's probably only 7 or 8 cities in New Mexico that require pre-treatment program I think.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, but you don't have to have a certified operator to do that, that's just something that it's an obligation of that particular business, to clean up their wastewater before they put it into the sewer. So, I don't know, they were more, I think they were more concerned about the wastewater sampler more than anything else, just because it was kind of in the gateway for them as with the water sampler, to bring people in.

Joe Harvey: We had the lab OIT. If we have the OIT lab.

Eric Hall: I agree with you 100%.

Cathie Eisen: You've got enough on your platter?

Eric Hall: We've got enough certification going, it's.

Cathie Eisen: And me pushing for managerial, that I would much rather see, I think that's a little more important, such a whole new.

Eric Hall: Well, I mean, there's other things that, everybody that wants all these different certifications and endorsements, it's gonna be like this and then, are you gonna walk in with a level 4 and go, they're gonna say, well ya, it's a level 4 but do you have this endorsement, do you have this endorsement, well your level 4 means nothing. I don't want that, that should all be, you walk in with a level 4 and you walk into a system, that system should be able to go, man, this guy is a level 4, he's, we've gotta strengthen that thing.

Ivan Abell: And again, this is Ivan Abell. That's why I asked that question, um, and that would be my answer to them, that there are not enough systems that are required to have a pre-treatment, so therefore we don't have enough for that certification, they do offer that in other courses, uh, using the Sacramento manual for instance, if you wish to be pre-treatment certified you can do that there, now, will the state recognize that, I don't know, that's something that we need to look at, possibly under a level 1, or a level 2, because that's where that's gonna fall.

Eric Hall: Absolutely.

Ivan Abell: Now, as a facility, as you explained, the processing facility for food, uh, be it a cheese factory or a rendering plant, things of this nature, where they're having a small wastewater package plant onsite to reduce the strength of the BOD and the TSS that's going into the systems, those are gonna be permitted through NMED, so they're gonna require their own operators.

Cathie Eisen: And they can come in as a level 1.

Ivan Abell: That is correct.

Eric Hall: I agree.

Ivan Abell: They won't be coming in as a pre-treatment operator, they will be coming in as a wastewater operator.

Eric Hall: Absolutely. I agree with that 100%.

Cathie Eisen: Well said, well said.

Ivan Abell: And I believe that the wastewater sampling technician is falls under the level 1 and the OIT. The reason that we have a water sampling technician and not a wastewater is because it was a mandate through the drinking water, uh, USEPA drinking water, excuse me, that we had to have so many people to take lead and copper, so many people to do this, and there are multiple small water systems vs multiple small wastewater systems, so I believe that we're covered under that, and just again, my opinion.

Eric Hall: I agree. Okay, we're looking at 20.7.4.14J – Suggested, a wastewater lab tech 3 would be a lesser certification to a wastewater 4.

Ivan Abell: No.

Joe Harvey: Ya, we voted on this at the last meeting we had.

Eric Hall: Ya.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, it came up so it's there.

Ivan Abell: We voted on this before?

Eric Hall: Ya, we discussed it and we, already covered. Okay, 20.7.4.15 – Suggest that the whole section be stricken due to this not being an operator issue but rather a system compliance issue.

Cathie Eisen: I think that came up in your Farmington conversation also, right? Some of these are just one person.

Joe Harvey: Ya, this is Joe. My understanding of this whole section, they give the regulators a chance that if assistance failing and if they continue to fail, and haven't had any compliance the regulators can come in and name that, but that's not our issue.

Eric Hall: Right.

Joe Harvey: I think we shouldn't strike it though.

Eric Hall: I agree with you, I think we should leave it in there for that reason.

Joe Harvey: Ya, they have a tool in the tool box and they can go to this and say this, but we're not gonna sit here and tell people, we fought that battle before.

Eric Hall: Ya we did. No, but if the information is there for them.

Joe Harvey: Exactly.

Eric Hall: I agree, I think we leave it.

Cathie Eisen: No, I think it's important to, and I think that, a lot of that, some of that takes rural water cuz all of the Farmington, there was a huge hoop ta lah over that, and always, you know, it's just always, you get this one little cluster of people that don't want that pressure, they don't want that tool there in case it's needed, and at some point you know, if the old system is in continual failure you need some.

Eric Hall: You need some kind of a guidance or something to look at without having to, I think we leave it in there.

Joe Harvey: I think they're so confused on the intent of that, I think they're intent is that we're gonna come in and say hey, Tomorrow wants his password and come in and say hey, you need 8 operators.

Eric Hall: Ya, we can't do that, this whole minimum number thing that comes up, it's just, people aren't understanding that whole minimum number thing, as I was reading through the comments, there's quite a few about the minimum number, minimum number, we've already established that minimum number, so, okay. Which one are we at now?

Cathie Eisen: 20. Go back to my notes, so you're gonna go to 20F.

Eric Hall: Okay, 20F.

Cathie Eisen: After that, where we started.

Eric Hall: Okay, this comes back up to that problem. 20.7.4.20F - The way this section reads, the \$10 dollar a month late fee will continue indefinitely until the database is updated. Should this be capped at one year \$120 dollars? There was also a discussion as to how or if operators would be notified if they fail to update the database within the 30day period pryor to having paid late fees.

Eric Hall: I don't think that it's up to us to notify them of anything, that's on them, once again, I don't think we do that, it's up to them.

Bobby Towle: I agree. That's the same thing Ivan was just saying you know, how much can you babysit somebody, this is their responsibility.

Eric Hall: Ya, it's not for us to call them and say, well now you're late on this, now you're late on this.

Ivan Abell: This is Ivan Abell again. We also ran into an issue that was brought up in discussion of this, which is how we got to the blue writing, is, we had an operator that decided to renew after his three years so, he would just let it go, well, this is basically the same thing, if he doesn't get capped for the three years of late fees, he's still getting off at \$120 bucks, you know, he starts over again, so, it, I disagree, I agree that it stays as written, it does not have a cap, it continues on until they re-certify, and it's just something that falls along that line.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, so you have within that three year window it does it does, that's and you know so, worse case scenario for them, they just got certified and they wait three years to update, they're gonna have three years. It'll cure the.

Eric Hall: Well that's what we're trying to do, is trying to cure all this with the late fees, with the late certifications and all this.

Ivan Abell: Right.

Eric Hall: There's a lot of comments in there about that as well but. What I don't understand is, they'll keep complaining about our fees for their late renewals, pay your renewal.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, otherwise they're operating without a certification.

Eric Hall: Just like that guy at the conference, what do you all wanna charge me \$300 dollars, pay your renewal.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, okay.

Eric Hall: I agree with you Ivan on that one, I don't think it should be capped, I mean, it should continue until it's taken care of and if they don't, then they need to maybe be put on hold until they do or whatever actions we decide we want to take, I mean, we got the late fee but are they still gonna be valid if they don't, or do want to put them, after that three years if they haven't updated that then do we want to put them on hold until they do?

Ivan Abell: My recommendation is, I would let it continue to count, you know, unless they have a valid reason, I had to go to prison cuz I made a mistake in my life fellows, I couldn't renew my license, you know, well okay, maybe we'll let you come back, you know, there are some felon rules that go along with this but, circumstances, based on circumstances, not because I'm a lazy operator and I don't wanna go get more credit hours, I'll just pay my \$150 dollars and be done with it, that means I don't have to pay \$300 dollars a year to go to a short school, you know, we've been through that, that's how we got to that point.

Eric Hall: You're absolutely right. This is Eric. One of the bad things that was happening for a while that's ended now, um, is we had a trainer, there was a trainer that was level 4 certified, that

would purposely let his expire completely so he could go in and take the test and go back and teach people through the test, he did this four or five times, no more.

Maria Gilvarry: This is Maria Gilvarry. I do have a question about that one. This section that we're looking at is for the updating of the database.

Cathie Eisen: Right.

Maria Gilvarry: Let's say somebody finishes there, retires from the city, 3 or 4 years later, 2 years later I'm trying to get them back as a consultant or some format and they, once they left the city they were done, they didn't make any calls, they didn't do any updates cuz they thought they were done, you know, does that fall into the, well they didn't do it on purpose, they didn't do it to avoid renewals, they were just done as an operator and now two years later we wanna bring them back?

Eric Hall: So how are we gonna make that, how are we gonna know the difference between if they, they just come tell us oh no no, I just, we need some kind of a mechanism for, to stop these people that are using that loop hole.

Maria Gilvarry: Well I think that, you know, part of it goes back to certification renewal, it's their responsibility to renew their certifications, they need to be accountable for that. This is about the on-line database update, and you know, we have to update the drinking water watch whenever there's a change at the city, and it's up to the city to do that, not the operator.

Ivan Abell: Right.

Maria Gilvarry: That's on me to make sure my drinking water watch is correct, every year as to who I have running my facilities, you know, that's not on my level 1 and my level 2, that they're name is correct in the drinking water watch, um, so, you know I go back earlier being said, it's their responsibility to update any information with UOCP for renewals, for verification and for any kind of communications that need to come from UOCP to operators, but there's you know, and I've had that situation, I've had two of my operators you know, do twenty-five years, cuz they retired and I was trying to get them back a couple of years ago, this kind of thing would of cost them an extra you know, \$240 dollars.

Ivan Abell: This is Mike. In my opinion on that Maria, again, if they come to the state they say hey look, these were my intentions when I retired, now the situation has changed and we allow the state to make that whoever that is at the certification level, the certification officer, whether it's Eric or Nile or you know Sasquatch, we just say look, you know, let them make that determination at that time.

Maria Gilvarry: But if the language is not in here, two or three generations from now, our iterations of this, everybody's gonna be held to the letter of the law.

Ivan Abell: And I understand.

Eric Hall: Well we've had, we do have some things in there in our regs already that say it's to the discretion of the department, we can add that language in on that as well, that would kind of help that correct?

Ivan Abell: I agree with that.

Maria Gilvarry: I think a little bit of discretion gives us room for these variables.

Eric Hall: Right, and that's why I say if we put it in there as to the discretion of the department, then that kind of leaves it open for us to be able to make that determination without it being a solid thing, and running and scaring people off, I mean.

Maria Gilvarry: Can that be somewhere else in the regulations so that if there are other ones we're not really thinking about right now that come up as a valid reason, why somebody may not be or should not be held for a fee, that it's an all incumbent thing at the discretion of the department, not just for this particular issue.

Eric Hall: Mmm, I think we have to address all of our issues in a different way, we can't just open that up for all, at the discretion of the department, some of them have to be solid.

Maria Gilvarry: Okay.

Eric Hall: I mean, we do have certain sections that we can do that with at the discretion.

Cathie Eisen: I think maybe we just put as far as fines goes, so it would just be under this \$10 dollar one and on the renewals also, we're gonna get into that discussion again when we get there.

Maria Gilvarry: Well I'm in total agreement that adults are adults and I want my operators to pay to be responsible for their renewals. This one to me can't hold somebody who thinks they're done with it, they're retired, they're good, they don't plan on spending anymore time in the facility and something changes and they come back and they get hit with a \$240 dollar fee and, or \$340 dollar fee.

Eric Hall: Right, and that's where it would come up to the discretion of the department, I've actually had people call me concerning that issue, uh, I had a guy that retired and had been retired a couple of years and he wanted to come back into the field because of the fact that he got offered a good contract job, so, situations like that, that's things that we'll look at and go okay, you know, that's a valid point to me so I.

Joe Harvey: Like if somebody's in the guard or something, they quit their job, they deploy and they're gone for a while.

Eric Hall: And then they come back and they, exactly. So that's why I say, if we just put it in there, it's at the discretion of the department.

(PHONE RINGS)

Eric Hall: That's strike 3 Rick, you're out.

Rick Mitchell: I'm done. (LAUGHTER)

Cathie Eisen: This is Cathie. This is something we can put on the website and what it really comes back to in the end is that, part of the responsibility of these operators is to remain familiar with the regulations and to follow them, so we really should be aware that and you know, it's just one other detail that we're responsible for as certified operators, right?

Eric Hall: Right. And we give, I mean Anne, she had really good regulations training, I mean we still have that training available, we, I mean we teach these people from the regs of what we expect of them.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, that's what it's for. Okay, are we ready to go to the next?

Eric Hall: Okay.

Cathie Eisen: So, the next one is 24.7.21.3, and on mine it says uh, that it would be, so 21 and 3. So it says pay a non-refundable, non-transferable exam application fee, one of the suggestions was to say individual, non-refundable, non-transferable, to clarify that it's specific to the individual who's applied for the exam and then on Nile's notes it shows where they do, they're allowed one re-schedule to a confirmed date on the exam schedule.

Eric Hall: Okay, so what are they wanting?

Cathie Eisen: So individual meaning, it would be just for that specific person, so you can't, so a city, if somebody quits and they say well, Joe's not here anymore but we want Fred to take the test in his place.

Maria Gilvarry: This is Maria. That's covered under non-transferable.

Cathie Eisen: Okay.

Eric Hall: Absolutely.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, so ya. So, does individual just clarify a little more and then Nile's was that somehow we even hear that you know, it can be rescheduled once, I don't know if that needs to be in the reg or.

Eric Hall: I don't know, I don't know if we're gonna be able to make for phone calls and.

Ivan Abell: This is Mike. I believe it is written with the non-transferable cuz in the beginning of that statement under A. Each applicant for certification as a certified operator shall, so that actually refers back to the individual that we discussed earlier, you know what I mean?

Cathie Eisen: Ya, we're kind of splitting hairs.

Ivan Abell: Ya, and I don't want get, again, I don't wanna open it up, it's up to the discretion of the department whether or not they wanna let somebody re-test, you know what I mean?

Eric Hall: Exactly.

Ivan Abell: Which is what we've done in the past, we've already set up precedence for that.

Eric Hall: Right, right. We've got the precedence we allow, 1 rescheduled for exam, we had to do that because we had several individuals that.

Ivan Abell: Right.

Eric Hall: Oh my gosh, it's a nightmare cuz they paid to apply for two tests and then they say, well, I'll take this one now, but I don't feel like this one so please move me over to this one, it's a nightmare.

Ivan Abell: Ya.

Cathie Eisen: Okay.

Eric Hall: No, I agree. Okay.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, on Nile's 27.4.21A. – The \$ dollar sign on 43.

Eric Hall: Oh ya, okay, that's a definite. Ya, we need to add that on there. Okay, 20.7.4.21A5, it's the table, uh, water supply 1 and wastewater 1 certificate.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, just because when you're issuing the, just here at the bottom of the table you can strike out the OIT because they're gonna be getting their level 1's.

Eric Hall: Okay.

Cathie Eisen: So, they're not OIT's _____ any longer.

Eric Hall: Oh, at that point they're not OIT's. Okay, I agree. Everybody else, what do you think?

Rick Mitchell: Sure.

Bobby Towle: I agree.

Ivan Abell: Yup.

Cathie Eisen: Then we're gonna go to 22 to A.

Eric Hall: This is something I think we've already discussed as well at our meetings, um, all levels of certification requires a high school diploma.

Cathie Eisen: So, it says strike each.

Eric Hall: Each level, all levels, okay. Thoughts on that? And this is cosmetic stuff in this but, we need a lot of cosmetic.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, the same with 22.A – These are all Niles's, I'm gonna agree with anything Nile says. (LAUGHTER). Cuz he said, he's worked at it.

Eric Hall: So, omit the OIT and put in the water 1 and wastewater 1 at that point?

Cathie Eisen: Yes.

Eric Hall: Okay, and then we're gonna, all levels of certificate, we're gonna change each level to all levels of certification require high school.

Ivan Abell: So, are we gonna go with all or any or have both?

Cathie Eisen: Ya, I had any.

Eric Hall: Would any be better, does that sound better?

Cathie Eisen: Well. (LAUGHTER)

Eric Hall: (LAUGHTER) Nile?

Ivan Abell: Nile has all, Cathie has any. I say we stand up and hook it up, let's go.

Cathie Eisen: If we go with any it'll read, any level of certification requires high school, if we go with all levels of certification, I think all levels sounds better.

Joe Harvey: I think all levels sounds better myself.

Eric Hall: All levels, alright.

Cathie Eisen: All levels, so we'll have to add s to level, okay.

Eric Hall: Perfect.

Cathie Eisen: This is another Nile.

Eric Hall: 22A?

Cathie Eisen: Yes, so he's gonna add to that additional language.

Eric Hall: Okay sir, so you wanna talk about that one a little bit?

Nile Carver: Which one are we on now?

Eric Hall: 20.7.4.22A – Required relevant experience.

Cathie Eisen: So that's relevant, that's pertinent to everything except the OIT's and samplers, so it does need to be, I agree.

Eric Hall: I agree.

Cathie Eisen: Let's just add that to that.

Eric Hall: Ya, just add that in, I agree.

Cathie Eisen: That's easy.

Eric Hall: And Nile didn't have to talk.

Cathie Eisen: That was my bad, sorry Nile, I'm terrible.

Eric Hall: Okay, where are we at now?

Cathie Eisen: We're moving to 22C.

Eric Hall: 22C? Okay, 20.7.4.22C. Successfully completed higher education means earning a 70% equivalent grade in a college degree program that was originally put as a college level class, but that's, if we're just gonna depend on one class anybody can go take a test and get a 70%, I mean, you know, it's, it should be agreed.

Cathie Eisen: Did you get C1?

Eric Hall: Did I miss that one? Oh okay, I jumped one didn't I. 20.7.4.22 – Add, we'll add 4, subparagraph B.

Cathie Eisen: And, in 20.7.4.7 Subsection O – Definitions of operators in training.

Eric Hall: Oh, okay. Yup, I agree with that. What do you guys think?

Ivan Avell: Okay.

Joe Harvey: Yup.

Cathie Eisen: Nile's got this.

Eric Hall: Nile's on top of things, he's always on top. Alright, now we're at 20.7.4.22C – Um, we wanna change college level class to college degree program.

Cathie Eisen: I agree, right?

Eric Hall: I agree. I think so.

Ivan Abell: I agree.

Joe Harvey: Yup.

Eric Hall: Okay, alright. Go down to the next one, we're still on his?

Cathie Eisen: Ya, C, Table F and it's on mine also so. ABCU requested that we make, they all hold a specific majors which would be considered to be related to water wastewater fields so that when people apply for jobs they know before they apply for certification if that could be a source for level, because what they do is, they're hiring people, making an assumption that they're gonna be qualified for a certain level and then we go back and they're not, you know, it's for advancement, so Nile's got it, Nile spelled it out, I think it's great, I think we need that.

Eric Hall: Ya, 12 months.

Cathie Eisen: And then he's got all the different degrees which is nice. So, it would be right there.

Eric Hall: Ya, that is nice. Ya, I agree, actually I like that last one too, bachelor of science degrees that are approved by the New Mexico Utility Operator Certification program.

Cathie Eisen: So, are we okay with all those, are we civil engineering is that where?

Ivan Abell: Well, I was gonna say, this is Mike Abell again.

Cathie Eisen: Open a can of worms here.

Ivan Abell: I think we left it vague for a reason.

Eric Hall: Okay.

Ivan Abell: Because it was up to the discretion of the board or the program, and I think we left it vague for that reason because now you're qualifying a bachelor of science, well I have a bachelor of arts.

Cathie Eisen: Ya, but science and then he's going on a specifying but, the civil engineering, I don't know, cuz these are the ones that are really gonna fight us on these, and they're gonna say, well.

Ivan Abell: Oh, and that's the issue we've already had of CE, you know, PE's apply and rejected due to no hands-on experience.

Eric Hall: Right.

Ivan Abell: Lest I be reminded that the gentleman from NMDOT, the guy that was from North Carolina, South Carolina, I can't remember which one, but he was you know, well this is what I did there and this is what I did, now I came here to do that but you won't accept my degree, cuz he had a bachelor of arts.

Eric Hall: Right, and we were given six months for non-related.

Ivan Abell: Right.

Eric Hall: So, is your recommendation that we keep it the same?

Ivan Abell: My recommendation would be to keep it the same because that only gives us a little more discretion, you know what I mean, and you're not pinning yourself in a box.

Eric Hall: Right, we don't need that.

Cathie Eisen: Right, but, so the issue that ABC had is that, they would, the way that it reads is you know, you get your level 2 and then you can use that training to, then it becomes get another year experience or something if you have a degree in an approved program, you know, what they're doing is when they get these people in and they're getting them certified, and then they want, once they get to the level 2 and they wanna get to the 3 or 4 they're able to apply some of this towards experience to get another level.

Eric Hall: We count this experience after they've gotten one year experience, that's what all these, that's what we can actually keep these and say, okay, now you've done your one year, now you'll be approved.

Cathie Eisen: Exactly. So, they want, and so that's the reason, so this isn't for your original initial certification, it's only to get you to be able to get your next level and obviously ABC is hiring a lot of people that have degrees and they're depending on that and they just wanna know, so at this point these do qualify, we just have to make sure that it's really clear that it only kicks in after they're certified not as a tool to get certified initially, right? Am I saying that correctly?

Eric Hall: Well, after they put in that first year that's when they can do, whether they're certified at that point or not, that's how they use that, I've got one-year experience now I can use my college.

Cathie Eisen: Which means you could go to a level 2?

Eric Hall: Depending on, the way it is now, depending on what it is, because some of them will get their six months and then the others will get their.

Cathie Eisen: Right. So that's where this is, it would be, that's why it's a rough draft. So I think in all fairness, personally I think they have a valid argument because they're getting, they're hiring these people, they're giving them a year experience but they're counting on them being able to not just come in as a 1, but potentially as a 2, or you know, or they're trying to get them in their 3's cuz they want the high level operators, and they, so, if they don't have this, they're investing all their time in these people and they're still not able to get them where they want.

Ivan Abell: This is Ivan Abell and I apologize, I guess I'm confused, who is ABCU?

Cathie Eisen: Albuquerque.

Eric Hall: That's the Albuquerque Water Authority.

Ivan Abell: Okay, that's why I'm asking. ABCU does not compute, Bernalillo County Water Authority, I understand.

Cathie Eisen: I apologize if I.

Ivan Abell: That's okay, that's okay. ABCU tells me that this is a testing agency.

Eric Hall: It's University, ABCU.

Cathie Eisen: Okay, ya, no, I should have spelled it out.

Ivan Abell: That's okay.

Cathie Eisen: I guess cuz I run into it enough that.

Ivan Abell: That's fine, and again, that's all the clarification I needed, it's Bernalillo County Water Authority.

Cathie Eisen: So, maybe we don't need this.

Eric Hall: I don't know that we spell it out.

Cathie Eisen: Spell it out in the reg but they can, my suggestion to that would be that they can, if they have an individual who's applying that that individual can reach out to the program and ask us in advance of applying for the job or as part of their application, which degrees would be, you know, just have this available.

Eric Hall: Well I think we can leave the list of degrees on there, but I don't think we need to really explain this all out like this, I mean, we've already explained it out once.

Cathie Eisen: I think it's helpful having the list of degrees available, whether it's written into the regulation or something or they can call the program and ask, however you wanna do it, I like seeing it spelled out personally, cuz right here we're just saying bachelor science degree, in a major related to water and wastewater. That is related, these are related and they are, right?

Eric Hall: So, is the question that they want these added into the regulations?

Cathie Eisen: They just want these available, they would just be happy if...

Eric Hall: They are already available, we already list.

Cathie Eisen: Where?

Eric Hall: Right there, all of the degrees we accept in the Regulations.

Cathie Eisen: They are not in the Regs, that's what I'm saying.

Eric Hall: Oh, right, right, they just want this available?

Cathie Eisen: Yeah, in whatever form, it doesn't need to be in the Regs, personally I think we just let them know or if somebody calls you already have a list, just email it to them, you send an email, if the Authority has this list on their cork board they won't even need to ask that question, they can ask that of the applicant. So, we just give that to them and we're good. They are the only ones worried about it. My idea.

Eric Hall: Okay. Thoughts, comments, suggestions?

Joe Harvey: I'll agree, what you guys said to be honest with you.

Cathie Eisen: They just want to know what it is.

Ivan Abell: I disagree, I would not put a list of degrees. I don't because you are pinning yourself into a box. Well I got a Civil Engineering degree, all I ever did was design bridges. Really, I design bridges with my civil engineering degree so that ought to give me enough after my 12. My 12 months of experience or 24 months of experience then I ought to be able to get my level 3.

Eric Hall: Okay, so that should be another one of these at the discretion of the Department. They send in their degree and we look at it and see what's involved.

Ivan Able: Right, in my opinion again that's why I say I am very opinionated but.

Eric Hall: Well that makes sense, I mean.

Ivan Able: Well that's why we left it when we did that to be somewhat discretionary because if you do have a Bachelor of Science and Civil Engineering, but you have only designed power plants or built bridges you know.

Eric Hall: Well, that falls in with a lot of these, I mean the sanitary engineering, mechanical engineering

Joe Harvey: Yeah were giving them credit for the education not for work that they have done after their education, right? Were giving them credit for what they have done in schools. So, it doesn't matter what they do after school so, multiple people taking... What they learned in school microbiology, chemistry. So., I like that, what Cathie said you keep a list here you don't put it in the regulation you keep a list and if they want to know.

Eric Hall: Then they can call us, and we can talk to them.

Multiple People Talking:

Ivan Able: And I will agree with that. Keeping the list. I wouldn't put it in the reg. but

Eric Hall: Put it out there anyway, just have us have the list and we could make the call and talk to them and say what did you do for them I know your...

Ivan Able: Right, you have an environmental engineering degree and again like I apologize uhm, were looking at the experience of the college experience not their work experience.

Eric Hall: Right, and actually what we can do to with these if they call us and say I have a civil engineering degree, well let me see the transcripts and we can go over what classes they have taken and base the decision on that.

Cathie: And we have done that before.

Eric Hall: We have

Ivan Able: We have.

Cathie: We don't want to exclude them we want to make sure its relevant, so I think.

Eric Hall: I agree with Ivan's point of not putting it out there and we will keep the list, but it will be at our discretion and we will ask for the transcripts and then they can give us the transcripts and we can review them and say well he's done this or hasn't its underwater basket weaving no.

Cathie: And if the authority wants them to do that prior to accepting their application that's at their discretion. Right?

Eric Hall: If they want to.

Cathie: Cause otherwise, they are just catering to them. This is coming specifically from and what I told them in the meeting was that if they're that concerned, and somebody comes in and applies they got a degree in civil engineering then it's up to that individual or the authority to do the research before they take their application they can put on their they can require that. That's on them, right?

Eric Hall: Yeah, its up to them to submit you know get all their information.

Cathie: We talked about it and if they are going to argue about it that there if they we're done with Niles list.

Ivan Able: The only one we have to work on now is 20.7.4.22 C2 which was the successfully completed higher education earning a 70% or equivalent grade and we have a college level class we changed from Niles reg it would be a college level course or degree program and Cathie has an approved field of study. Uhm, I tend to go with the degree program, but I can see where a field of study would be interesting. So, I turn it over.

Eric Hall: Phone people comments, hello? That's what we are looking at just is just the choice if we are going to use college field of study or degree program.

Maria Gilvarry: This is Maria, whatever would be the clearest definition of description. I am not sure everybody understands the same language but as long as the UOCP understands it.

Cathie: I believe the degree program is probably more specific.

Eric Hall: Yeah, I kind of agree.

Ivan Able: I agree with that if we use degree program. Its falls under the list for H. A little closer even though we are having a list we are not putting it in the reg

Eric Hall: That should be part that's on our list is that what your

Ivan Able: Well, what I am saying is it falls under it make the jump from equivalent grade in a college level degree program and then that follows along with what's at the bottom for civil engineering, sanitary engineering mechanical engineering.

Eric Hall: True, yeah that does make more sense.

Ivan Able: okay, does that I mean because we are talking that level of education.

Eric Hall: Yeah, I agree. That makes sense.

Ivan Able: Because these are actual degree programs not fields of study.

Eric Hall: Yeah, and that takes that jump down to those

Ivan Able: Even though those aren't listed in the regulation it helps us make that transition

Eric Hall: Exactly, it jumps straight over that instead of, okay.

Ivan Able: And the last one that Cathie has, is.

Cathie: Well it's not last because there's more on the other side of the page but.

Ivan Able: Oh, I'm sorry I didn't see that the bottom of that page the last one of that I think it's a clerical thing. It was 3 then it was 2 originally.

Cathie: Yeah, it looks like all the numbers are slashed but its actually section 4.

Ivan Able: Right.

Eric Hall: it was on that table.

Cathie: It's just a typo because of the way.

Eric Hall: Okay, we just need to fix the typo then.

Ivan Able: And it will be what you what you go to the corrected copy. That 4 will be correct. 1,2,3,4. Because we pushed that to the end when it was number 2.

Eric Hall: Right.

Ivan Able: We added the other 2 lines of text it became 2 – 3 and we had to strike those 2 to make the 4.

Eric Hall: Right, okay... That makes sense. Thank you, Jill.

Cathie: Do you want to do your section really quick, your comments.

Jill Turner: I don't really have anything to add. Everything was pretty much covered.

Eric Hall: Okay, are we on the next page yet.

Cathie: We are on the back of, I think Niles done so we go to 27-4-25A.

Nile Carver: So, this is in the renewals side of it.

Eric Hall: Renewals, ooh this is where it gets fun. Okay, so 20.7.4.25A Consider adding a section B and add if the certification requirements have not been met applicant is required to obtain an additional 10 training credits and retest.

Cathie: For the OIT. Its just. You can interpret it because you know your certified for the 3 years and if you haven't met the experience than you don't get your level 1. You would have to go back and retest but its not spelled out anywhere. I think it would just be helpful.

Eric Hall: And this is strictly for the OIT.

Cathie: Yes. It says they can't be renewed, right.

Eric Hall: And we just need to spell it out a little bit more.

Cathie: Yeah.

Eric Hall: Is that how you had that planned Nile? I know you are writing, sorry. 20.7.4.25A.

Cathie: It says it can't be renewed, that it doesn't really tell you that they would have to be certified.

Maria: This is Maria, isn't that covered under lapsed certificates if they don't renew then they would become lapsed and then.

Cathie: The OIT is unique though.

Maria: Well in the OIT it says no renewal so if your lapsed your lapsed.

Eric Hall: Yeah, it's still a certification I mean its I think it still has to follow along with the same rules of the other certifications.

Cathie: Because it goes into C. If you look at C it says the water and waste water OIT cannot be renewed upon expiration reexamination will be required for the reinstatement. So it is there it just reads it's a little confusing. You have to start over again you would obviously have to get more credits but if it's spelled out its just my thought it would make it easier.

Eric Hall: Well let's do this. How about when were are adding these into the regulations we will add that statement in there and can look at it as a whole see how as a whole we could make that decision at that time to see whether it fits or not.

Cathie: Yeah, so that covers both those because that second one should be C in front of where it says see above.

Eric Hall: Yeah, okay so that should be C and that covers that same thing. Okay...

Cathie: Yes, and that explains again so simple enough.

Eric Hall: Yeah, we will add it into our revisions and once we get it all revised we will bring it in and go over it all again and see if that's how we want it. Okay, 20.7.4.26B Cap Penalties at 1 year or maximum \$300 for all individual certifications. Well this is where we were talking about this.

Cathie: We have been kicking this one around.

Eric Hall: I mean this is the one where its going to be the Departments discretion. I mean its going to be the same way uhm. I don't know about capping it for the ones that are actually abusing it. But that's where we make our determination and say this guy is not abusing this is what he's trying to do and we can work with it but if it's like this John Miller guy that has the same 10-20 credit units from back in 80 something and never has that's the kind of stuff that we have to stop and make these people pay for that.

Cathie: But we don't want someone to retire and read the reg and go I been up for 2 years and never did that and its going to cost me \$1200 to come back.

Eric Hall: Right, and that's why I think if we put that in there at the discretion of the Department that leaves it open well and then they could call us.

Cathie: I agree fully that there was just a lot of comments.

Eric Hall: Oh, I understand. So, we can cap it at \$300 but I don't know that we want to do we?

Cathie: No, I think as long as there's a way to I don't know what do you think Maria? Obviously, we talked about it.

Maria: I don't know. Let me think about it.

Eric Hall: And that's what's so good about these. I mean these aren't final solid decisions. These are just us reviewing. We can take these home and I know a lot of times I will go to sleep and wake up and I'm going wait a minute what. So, we can take these home look at them discuss them enter them into the regs we can look at it like that this is all for discussion and review. We don't have to make any decisions on any of these today.

Cathie: And I think the next comment Eric also was that the big thing is closing that loop hole and we have closed it because we have made it clear that those additional credits for renewal and recertification will be required and must be within the previous 3 years, so they can't go back and grab those from 10 years ago. They have to be current.

Eric Hall: Yeah, well that's for renewal.

Cathie: Well we should make it for renewal or retesting because that would also have to close that loop hole. If they would have to attend training within the last 3-years if they have at least had the opportunity to know what the new regulations and technologies are. That locks it there to and it's a simple change. Your credits are only good if they are within the last 3-years period.

Eric Hall: Right, okay. What do you guys think? What I try to do with these things is try to look at which is maybe not one of my good sides but any situation that comes up I try to look at the other side and say what could happen what are the consequences where is this going to go and that's why I am hesitating

and trying to think if there's anything that we need to think of as a board that if we add that in is it going to be doing anything else.

Cathie: As far as the training credits only being good for 3-years. I think its great personally but.

Eric Hall: I mean I don't see a problem with adding that retesting in there. I just want us to make that there not.

Cathie: Why wouldn't it. The purpose of attending training is to remain current with regulations and technologies.

Eric Hall: What do you guys think about that one.

Ivan Able: I don't have a problem adding it in there.

Eric Hall: Anybody on the phone got a comment on that?

Rick: I don't.

Eric Hall: You're on the phone Rick.

Rick: Hey... Laughter....

Eric Hall: Uh, I don't have a problem with that. Why don't we do that as well we put it in the reg and bring it up and pop it up and when we have the set of regs we will look at it and make decisions. I think its going to be a lot easier for us once we get these inserted into the regs and we could sit down and look at the regs and go through the regs and go okay maybe that doesn't make sense or boy that's good. What do you all think sound good put it in the regs and see.

Several Responses: Sounds good to me.

Eric Hall: Is that it?

Cathie: That's it unless you want to get into your Farmington conversation or the other.

Eric Hall: I guess we better.

Cathie: Its 11:42

Eric Hall: Yup... You all want to go over the Farmington ones.

Chatter.....

Eric Hall: I mean we can sit down and go through this. You guys can take this home and read it we can do it by email and we can chat. How do you guys want to do it? Its up to you. I am here until 4 so I will stay here until 4 and talk. We can always do that we gone over a lot today.

Cathie: Well what's fair.

Joe Harvey: There's a lot of information in that one. There's a lot of discussion.

Eric Hall: There's a lot of discussion in this.

Cathie: I think we covered the core of it but there's a lot of you know you got 30 pages of conversation in there.

Eric Hall: I mean we can all take this and read it when we can and make comments you know email each other on these and say this is what I think on this and this is what I think. There's a lot of stuff in here that I didn't have a chance to go over the Farmington one. Almost all the way through.

Cathie: Yeah, I didn't read it all either.

Eric Hall: There's some of this stuff that's just a lot of conversation that's not really uhm, applicable to what we are doing. So, I think that's maybe something we do you could take it back with you and mark out the things you think instead of us going through it here saying okay Nile said and then unknown person said I mean we could do that and.

Cathie: I will even volunteer for everybody's sake since I have a little more time to try and summarize it.

Eric Hall: That would be great if you would do that it would be even better if you can summarize This. Because there a lot of stuff in here where people complain.

Cathie: And I went to all the other meetings, so you know I can pick up the scene there I will do that.

Eric Hall: Okay, that would be great if you do that. So, Cathie is going to make a summary of the Farmington comments. It's the there's a lot of them there and so instead.

Cathie: I will take a hard copy with me and it will make it a lot easier.

Eric Hall: Instead of going through every one of these uhm you guys will kind of just read through them and Cathie will send out the summary that will make it much easier for us to review what we need to and what's not pertinent.

Cathie: Including any other comments there were a few others random comments that you got to.

Eric Hall: Well we will probably receive other comments as well. I already talked to Annie about what if we receive more comments can we just do it by email and send them out and she said that was fine we could do that.

Cathie: It is okay...

Eric Hall: I thought that was somebody I know. I thought that was Kendall walking by.

Ivan Able: Next agenda item.

Eric Hall: Okay so we got the exam schedule done we got that we don't that okay Jill wasn't here there was no report we pretty much got that covered she's working with us with the UOCP and we pretty much covered what her reports doing.

Cathie: So, Jill's, Sarah's not here Jason not here.

Eric Hall: No report, no report.

Ivan Able: Eric do you want to continue to talk?

Eric Hall: Uhm, I really don't have much of an update. I think we pretty much covered what we are doing. Yeah, seriously I gave my report pretty much and we are working on schedules we are working on agendas and.

Joe Harvey: Have they advertised for anybody to replace Anne?

Ivan Able: Internal? Well let me ask this? Do you all have any candidates internal?

Eric Hall: Well let me put it this way. I'm gonna throw this out there for a certain reason. Anne was an A. My other staff member is an O. That's operational and the A is advanced. I know my other individual is going to apply for the advanced which I am almost positive there is not anybody that can come in with more qualifications than Nile. So that's the kind of direction I see that happening he's going to apply for that job more than likely unless Maria Ortiz, Mike Hoffman or says somebody wants to come back.

Ivan Able: I understand that's why I give that if your looking at anybody internally. Now as progression moves not being familiar with how the state operates with pay grades I would assume that everybody would progress up the ranks and we would go forward from there that would be kind of a no brainer. But are looking at anybody to replace Nile's position.

Eric Hall: One of them the guy is unreal he is a fireball he works just like Nile and I and everybody he goes. He is working for Finance right now he's done construction. The guy picks up on stuff like this. That's one of the guys that showed their interest. The other option we talked about is maybe we need to get another certified operator. We are leaving all options on the table. The other option we talked about is maybe we need to get another certified operator. So, we are leaving all options open, but we have received interest from a few candidates that wouldn't be bad for the Program.

Ivan Able: So, are you looking at filling that position by January? Or are you looking at as soon as possible?

Eric Hall: As soon as I possibly can the way this has to work, and I tried to get them to do things I know they have done for other people and they wouldn't do it for me but uhm, the way its got to go is I got to go through the whole entire process. I know, and then he applies and if he gets hired then I have to go through the whole process again. So, I really don't and that's another reason for the schedule change I don't know how long this is gonna drag out. That's what I have tried to explain to Bill and the

Association. One of the things we are looking at is Maria Ortiz contacted me and told me she would be available for contract work and I jumped for joy on that because she knows how to do this stuff.

Cathie: She's close she's in Santa, Espanola...

Eric Hall: If we could get her to contract on we could get caught up and we could get some of this stuff taken care of we might be able to do something more or something different, but I can't predict that right now I have to go with here's what we can do right now and that's you know.

Ivan Able: That's all I ask is being fairly trying to get you the help that your needing I understand Jill is working on that so. The process the wheels of the State move just like everyone else's they move very slowly but there is no backing up so.

Eric Hall: No, the only way that I am going to be able to push things and I am trying to push a little bit quicker is if they said this is a critical position and supposedly on critical positions they move a lot faster.

Ivan Able: But you don't have to go before the Legislature and all of this other good stuff?

Eric hall: No.

Cathie: And just on the side Rebecca Roose is incredible I have met with her twice and she's on it. She is from Washington and she really, she's passionate.

Eric hall: she's really passionate about. I love our new Administration.

Cathie: She listens... Laughter.

Eric Hall: She cares.

Cathie: She's interested.

Eric Hall: Just like Jill was saying she works directly with me on things which is so not normal. I mean and before the Secretary I mean I never saw the Secretary I never knew who he was. Oh yeah, I heard yeah, the name but I never saw him. Our Secretary now comes down and talks to us. He is very involved he doesn't just sit up in his 4/4 office he comes down and talks to people and he's very engaged and I think and that's why I am saying this is the time to move because we got the Administration we got people that's gonna back us right now. Things could change and then we could be screwed again. So, I think we really need to grasp this and run with it.

Cathie: I think just because Rebecca's here for the duration and things are gonna change she's gonna you know she's putting down her proposals for the Legislature you know I think there's gonna be more money and more support the Programs gonna grow.

Eric Hall: She's already asking me about checking she's gonna start working on the financial sides of the OIT Program and she's really wanting to move things forward and I am so tickled about that Rebecca is awesome awesome. So, there's my lengthy report.

Cathie: do you want to comment, or do you want me to comment on the NM Infrastructure Finance Conference? Because that was great conversation too and stuff that I wanted to put on the agenda or should I put it on the next agenda.

Eric Hall: Yeah, lets do that lets put it on the next agenda and then we can discuss it.

Cathie: That falls under what we talked about earlier. More on the study guides the tests and put them in the Program.

Eric Hall: Yeah, yeah... I think that will be good I don't know about you guys, but my head is spinning.

Cathie: Okay, so there's no other public Comment or other business just that we did attend the conference and it was fabulous and really had some great input on you know what we can do moveing forward to help get more operators retain operators improve on training and everything and our next meeting we will go into more discussion on that.

Eric Hall: Yeah, it was a very good conference I am glad they asked us to speak it was they were active and involved uhm, everybody had a lot to offer and it was a great conference and like Cathie said we will go into a little more detail and talk about what we did talk about.

Cathie: If we are talking about work groups.

Eric Hall: Yeah, there's a lot of movement on the UOCP side and other entities now that's we been stale in some places and things are starting to really pick up.

Cathie: Well we are going to get the municipal league more involved and this was a great way to bring in there should have been more people it was uh, the panel was awesome.

Eric Hall: Oh, it was great and the one thing I can say about staffing I know everything looks really slim on testing and stuff right now, but I have been guaranteed at least one more staff this next fiscal budget and at least one. When I put in my proposal I put in 3 and Joe Martinez came up and said put 5. I'm not going to get 5. You shoot for the moon and see what you can get. So they're working on that to and that was on of the things when Rebecca said okay what's one of the biggest deals with the UOCP and he said they don't have staffing. So they are aware of this. So, they pretty much opened it up for me and Nile you guys work as many hours you want to from now to the end of the year and work yourself under the dirt. But on their defense, I did go up and ask for their help and that's what they offered so that's what Nile and I are doing. Right now, we are kind of scaling it back a little bit because we have been putting in crazy hours. But on their defense the Drinking Water Bureau is very short staffed on all areas uhm, there starting to get the positions filled they got Jill into the SWIG, they got Joe under the manager they got the new compliance manager in so things are starting to get filled in so they're scrambling like us there short on staff there trying to get people hired there trying to get things taken care of and uh, the thing I like the most about this is they have pretty much just said here's your Program run it. And I am not used to that. I mean that's the way it should be and I love it so were looking at more staff and I want people to understand and look at the future look don the road of what's coming I mean and its good stuff its not just same old stuff again and we are trying to hurt the operators or anything like that

everything we are doing is trying to assist the operators and the systems. Okay I will shut up I am off my soap box right now.

Cathie: No thank you Eric.

Bobby Towle: Your good man I am glad to hear its going in the right direction my friend.

Eric Hall: I really feel it I do. I feel things are going in a great direction So.

Cathie: well it makes us all feel so much better and you look a lot better so.

Eric Hall: Oh, I'm feeling great I am feeling so much better. I'm tired but I am doing good.

Cathie: Okay, do we go to adjournment?

Eric Hall: Next meeting.

Ivan Able: Other business I have one other thing. In the sheet listing everybody. At the bottom drinking water representative its showing Joe Martinez as the Acting Chief but his email is Danielle dot Shuryn.

Laughter....

Ivan Able: I am not 100% sure that's accurate.

Eric Hall: Well it maybe I don't know. Okay that's a good catch.

Ivan Able: okay, just that small catch.

Eric Hall: That's a good catch.

Ivan Able: I make a motion that we set the next meeting for January 30, 2020. This is a Thursday before the exam in Las Cruces.

Cathie: Boy you're on it today.

Eric hall: He is Ivan is like

Joe Harvey. I will second the motion.

Eric Hall: all in favor.

Several Responses: AYE

Laughter...

Eric Hall: Any opposed.

Cathie: motion carries.

Ivan Able: Item 13.

Eric Hall: Alright our favorite item.

Cathie: Okay, I need a motion and a second for adjournment

Joe Harvey: This is Joe and I make a motion for adjournment.

Bobby Towle: This is Bobby and I second the motion.

Cathie: Okay, I need a roll call Dale Graham.

Dale Graham: yeah

Cathie: Okay its 5 o, clock.

Eric Hall: I was gonna say it sounds like its 5'o clock.

Cathie: Joe Harvey.

Joe Harvey: Yes

Cathie Eisen: Bobby Towle.

Bobby Towle: Yes.

Cathie Eisen: Ivan Able.

Ivan Able: Yes.

Cathie Eisen: Cathie Eisen, Yes.

Cathie Eisen: Maria Gilvarry.

Maria Gilvarry: Yes.

Eric Hall: Oh Man.

Cathie: And Rick Mitchell.

Rick Mitchel: Yes.

Eric Hall: Now you can go answer your phone

Cathie: Meeting Adjourned.

Eric Hall: Meeting Adjourned.

Cathie: So, we adjourn the meeting of the Utility Operator Advisory Board at 11:58AM.