

Highway Construction Materials Technician Certification Board Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Reynolds Toney. The following members/guests were present.

MEMBERS

Reynolds Toney	ODOT
Scott Seiter	ODOT
Don Smith	APAC
George Raymond	ODOT
Kendall Adams	M.J. Lee
John Jones	Duit
Rod Abbott	Sherwood
Gary Evans	ODOT

GUESTS

Bill Gamel	ODOT Consultant
John Benson	FHWA
Bill Emery	ODOT
Paul Keck	ODOT
Mike Vahabzadegan	Engineering Services & Testing
Jan Preslar	General Counsel

TRAINING CENTER STAFF

Steve Sawyer	Program Director
Karla Irvin	Administrative Assistant

1. Reynolds Toney determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.
2. The Chair moved to agenda item #4. RHCMTs Bill Emery and Paul Keck addressed the Board with concerns regarding the recertification process. Their contention was that:
 - 1) The original certification process is sufficient to test the applicant's skills, knowledge, and abilities.
 - 2) Any subsequent examinations are an ineffective and financially inefficient attempt to adhere to the original Federal mandate that the states have a process for ensuring that all materials technicians working on federally funded projects are "qualified."
 - 3) The sampling and testing procedures in question are relatively simple and, therefore, do not warrant such a rigorous process for ensuring the accuracy of their results.

The Board appointed a task force (Don Smith, John Benson, Gary Evans, George Raymond, and Scott Seiter) to look into the issue and make a recommendation.

3. The Chair moved to agenda item#6. Jan Preslar made a presentation reviewing the roles and responsibilities of the Board. Steve Sawyer agreed to send a copy of the presentation to all Board members.
4. The Chair returned to agenda item #2. George Raymond made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2005 meeting. Seconded by Scott Seiter. Approved unanimously.
5. The Program Director:
 - a. reviewed the 220Q Fund activity.
 1. Stated that contractors would be paid the minimum amount stipulated in the contract for classes with low enrollments but deemed necessary to meet industry demands.
 2. Called attention to the fact that the 220Q Fund balance continued to grow and that some reduction in fees may be suggested in the near future.
 - b. Stated that bids had been awarded for equipment purchases.
 - c. Informed the Board that the web development software acquisition and related training would cost approximately \$6300.
 - d. Reported that the investigation into the formal RHCMT complaint was complete. Summarized the specifics of the complaint. Experts in the field of the test results in question had unanimously concurred that, due to the number and nature of the variables involved, the allegations could be neither proved nor disproved. The Board advised the Program Director to write the official memo and also send written notification of the investigation's final disposition to both parties.
 - e. Reported that he would offer some evaluators the opportunity to opt out of the program if they felt they had significant difficulty failing applicants even when failure was warranted.
6. John Jones reported on the progress of a PC paving construction training program being developed by the local PC paving association in conjunction with John Benson of FHWA. George Raymond emphasized that this program was not being considered for continuing education in the HCMTCB program. John Benson suggested that it might become part of an Inspector Certification program if the Board ever endorsed such certification.
7. There was no new business.
8. Motion to adjourn by Don Smith. Seconded by Rod Abbott. Meeting adjourned.