

Minutes of the Ohio Operator Certification Advisory Council

May 15, 2025

The Advisory Council met on May 15, 2025. Members in attendance were Brandon Turner, member; William Bowers, member; Todd Hone, member; James Gellner, member; Robert Ostendorf, member; and Steven Baytos, member. Ohio EPA staff in attendance were Andrew Barienbrock, Kevin Swiadek, Colt Bush, and Pete Simcic. Michael Dolsen and Daniel Knife were also in attendance.

At 11:29 AM, the May Advisory Council Meeting was called to order.

After a review of the April 17, 2025, Advisory Council minutes, Todd Hone made a motion to approve the minutes. Steven Baytos seconded the motion. Motion carried.

1) Class IV Examinations to be distributed: Water

NAME, LOCATION	BT	WB	TH	CR	RO	KF	JG	SB
Vincent McMichael Jr, Crown Treatment Plant, 1 st submittal	**	**S		**		**		
Doug Smith, City of Akron, 2 nd submittal		**	**S	**			**	

Water Reclamation

NAME, LOCATION	BT	WB	TH	CR	RO	KF	JG	SB
Dale Kocarek, City of Aurora, 2 nd submittal			**	**	**S			**

2) Class IV Actions

Water Reclamation

NAME, EMPLOYER, SUBMITTAL	ACTION
Michael Brooks, Willoughby-Eastlake, 1 st submittal	Recommend Return

Steve Baytos made a motion to recommend returning Michael Brooks exam. Robert Ostendorf seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

2) Reciprocity Applications

Andrew Bartee has held his Drinking Water Treatment Class IIIA and Water Distribution Class IID license with the State of Kentucky since 04/28/2023 and 02/26/2024. Kentucky's lowest licensure is a Class I and their highest is a Class IV. Mr. Bartee took a State of Kentucky's examination previously reviewed by Council. It was determined that Kentucky's examination is one classification lower than Ohio. Mr. Bartee currently has 62 months of experience.

Andrew Herendeen has held his Class D-2 Waterworks Operator license with the State of Michigan since 11/2/2021. Michigan's lowest licensure is a Class 5 and their highest is a Class 1. Mr. Herendeen took a State of Michigan's examination previously reviewed by Council. It was determined that Michigan's Class D-2 examination is equivalent to an Ohio Class 2. Mr. Herendeen currently has 35 months of experience.

Matthew Perez has held a Water Distribution Class 3 with the State of Arizona since 8/19/2024. Arizona's lowest Wastewater Treatment certification is a Class 1 and the highest is a Class 4. Mr. Perez took the Level 3 Water Distribution Examination through WPI/ABC. The WPI/ABC Class 3 Water Distribution Exam is the equivalent of an Ohio EPA Class 2 Water Distribution license. Mr. Perez has 48 months of Water distribution experience.

James Gellner made a motion to recommend the Director issue a Class 2 Water Supply license to Andrew Bartee and Andrew Herendeen, and issue a Class 2 Water Distribution license to Matthew Perez. Todd Hone seconded the motion. Motion carried.

5) Certifications Issued

91 applications for certification were approved between April 14th, 2025, and May 12th, 2025. Certificates were issued to:

Paul Richard Matula	Water Reclamation	1
Christopher Allen Thomas	Water Supply	1
Roses Lein	Water Supply	1
Allison Crawford	Water Supply	1
Steven E Robinson	Water Reclamation	3
Valla Bryan Mowrey	Water Reclamation	1
Brandon J Iles	Water Reclamation	3
Jarrad Griffith	Water Reclamation	1
Kristina Cornett	Water Supply	1
Jonathan Norman	Water Reclamation	1
Scott Erb	Water Supply	3
Thomas James Rought	Water Reclamation	3
Jason L Watts	Water Reclamation	4

Austin Baker	Water Reclamation	1
Jacob Edward Bauman	Water Reclamation	1
Zane Wallace	Water Supply	1
Christopher H Toflinski	Water Reclamation	3
Thomas Smith	Water Reclamation	1
Andrew Fraley	Water Distribution	1
Nicholas James Napholz	Water Reclamation	2
Lisa Jeter	Water Supply	1
David Eric Smith	Water Supply	1
Craig S Harvey	Water Reclamation	3
Jason J Hunold	Water Supply	3
william Morrison	Water Supply	1
Jake Justice	Water Supply	2
Kaden Oehler	Water Reclamation	1
Aidan Martin O'dell	Water Reclamation	1
Brittini Darke	Water Supply	1
Ryan A Tonon	Wastewater Collection	2
Jarrold Blake	Water Supply	2
Logan Douglas Markert	Water Distribution	1
Andrew R Reville	Water Reclamation	2
Arturo Cavalli	Water Supply	A
Benjamin Petersheim	Water Reclamation	2
Anthony Gilbert ii	Water Reclamation	2
Dylan J Lee	Water Supply	2
James P Heilman	Water Reclamation	3
Dylan Mitchell	Water Supply	1
Richard Gautschi	Water Supply	2
Austin Dillon	Water Reclamation	1
Charles Sinnamond	Water Reclamation	1
Baily Hoert	Water Reclamation	1
Matthew A Young	Water Supply	3
David Arnold	Water Reclamation	1
Justin Harness	Water Distribution	1
Timothy Ballein	Water Supply	1
Eric Walters	Water Distribution	1
Richard W Powell	Water Reclamation	2
Justin Wright	Water Supply	2
Joshua Miller	Water Supply	1
Patrick Keiser	Water Reclamation	1
Darrel J Blevens	Water Supply	3
Matthew K Ford	Water Reclamation	3
Timothy Farrell	Water Distribution	1
Grant R Ungerer	Water Supply	2
Kres Kiser	Water Reclamation	2
John Osbourn	Water Supply	2
Chip Austin	Water Reclamation	2
Kwanda Smith	Water Supply	1
Ryan Hufford	Water Distribution	2
Jonathon Kelly	Water Supply	1
Richard Rasschaert	Water Distribution	2
Jeffery Unger	Water Supply	2
Dominic Nightengale	Water Reclamation	3
Matthew Copeland	Water Reclamation	1
Colin Richardson	Water Supply	1
Caleb Ellerbrock	Water Supply	1
William Alford	Water Distribution	2
Jacob P Trommer	Water Reclamation	3
Kevin Falasco	Wastewater Collection	2
Nathanael Reinhardt	Water Supply	2

Jim Huber	Wastewater Collection	2
Trevin Jay Humston	Water Reclamation	2
Trever Rerko	Water Supply	2
Lance Butler	Water Supply	1
Paul Corbin	Water Reclamation	1
Brian Christopher Spencer	Water Reclamation	2
Westin Bradberry	Water Supply	3
Donald Hillabrand	Wastewater Collection	2
Jamie P Sturgill	Water Supply	3
Brandon David Goldner	Water Reclamation	2
Colten L Porter	Water Distribution	1
Dwight D Slotter	Water Supply	3
Ethan Brown	Water Reclamation	1
Aaron Nova	Wastewater Collection	1
Nicholas Southard	Water Distribution	2
Jenna L Guth	Water Supply	3
Neil Hawkins	Water Supply	A
Dominic Dalessandro	Water Supply	1
Anthony Sherrill	Water Reclamation	3

6) Other Business

WPI gave 297 Ohio Water and Wastewater exams in the month of April.

Between the April 17, 2025, and the May 15, 2025 Council meetings, one Class IV application was received from Harvey Simmons. His application was reviewed during the meeting.

Steve Baytos made a motion to recommend approval of Harvey Simmons Class IV application. Brandon Turner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

At 11:46 AM, role was called, and each member agreed to move into executive session to investigate charges or complaints against licensees or regulated individuals.

At 11:55 AM Todd Hone made a motion to move out of executive session. Steve Baytos seconded the motion. Motion carried.

At 11:58 AM, Steve Baytos made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Robert Ostendorf seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The next Advisory Council meeting is set to occur on June 18, 2025 at 9:00 AM. The Council meeting will be held via Microsoft Teams.