

North Carolina Septic Tank Association
P.O. Box 35864
Greensboro, NC 27425-5864

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting
September 16, 2006
Home of Doug Lassiter
500 Smithdale Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27107
9:00 a.m.

The Board of Directors meeting was held on September 16, 2006 at the home of Doug Lassiter in Winston-Salem, NC.

The meeting was called to order and everyone welcomed by our host, Doug Lassiter. Jim Lanier opened with prayer.

Attending:

Connie Stephens, President	David Wallwork
Jimmy Shoaf, Treasurer	Larry Beam
Monica Rhea, Secretary	Keith Blackburn
Latt Moretz	Jerry Pearce
John Peele	Jim Lanier
Chris Dobbins	David Cooper
Doug Lassiter, Lobbyist	Michael Hoover (special guest)

Absent:

Gabe Dellinger	Ace Potter
Frank Pearce	Stanley Mills

The meeting began with the reading of a Thank you note from Jason White. Jason was one of the Scholarship winners for 2006. A copy of this letter will be posted on the web-site. Jim Lanier also suggested a small tape recorder be purchased for Monica Rhea to record the meetings and take the

minutes from the recordings instead of trying to write every word during the meeting. This was approved.

Minutes from the June 24, 2006 meeting were read, corrected and approved. Latt Moretz made the motion, seconded by Jim Lanier and approved.

Treasurer Report was reviewed. With an ending balance on 8-31-06 of \$24,428.25. The educational fund has a balance of \$7,578.71. The Demonstration fund has a balance of \$.96. Jim Lanier made a motion to approve report, Jerry Pearce seconded and all approved.

Doug presented an update on H688. The Bill passed in the Senate 47-0. The Bill passed the House concurrence 103-0. The Bill was signed by the Governor and will be effective January 1, 2008.

The Act creates a new "North Carolina On-Site Wastewater Contractors and Inspectors Certification Board." The appointments for the members of the Board are as follows:

Paul Higdon, Installer, Western
Al Gerard, Subsurface Operator, East
Gene Young, NC Environmental Health
Connie Stephens, Installer, Central
Ralph Hollewell, Environmental Health Specialist, East
Diana Rashash, NC Cooperative Extension, East
Jim Lanier, Installer, Central
Glenn Hines, System Inspector, East
Russ Davis, NC Home Builders Association.

These appointments have not been endorsed yet at the time of the September meeting.

The 2006 Scholarship Winners are as follows:

Amy Cooper Jason White
Lindsey Jackson Leah McMasters

The Scholarship committee hopes to raise more money this year with more fundraising projects such as: corporate level sponsorships. For instance Gold, Silver, Bronze levels are donations of \$1000, \$500, and \$250. Platinum sponsors would commit \$1000 for the next 5 years.

2007 NCSTA Convention has been scheduled for Tuesday March 27, 2007 through Friday March 30, 2007. The meeting will be held at The Village Inn Golf and Conference Center. Speakers and Presentations are in the works. Anyone with ideas should forward them to Doug.

Doug introduced Dr. Mike Hoover from NC State University as our special guest and to speak with a proposal for the Board. Dr. Hoovers' proposal consisted of a collaboration of sorts with NC State and NCSTA for the training and certifying process that is now mandated with the passing of H688. He would like to meet with 3 or 4 members of the association to discuss training needs, topic subjects, and hands-on field training and testing. He proposes a two stage process. Stage 1 would be taking a course followed by a test. Stage 2 would consist of a field test or an apprenticeship with a certified installer. The certified installer would check off the types of systems the apprentice was qualified to install.

The NCSTA could charge a fee for the courses they offered. This would allow us to recruit new members by possibly giving discounts to members or giving a one year membership when they register for a course. This would also allow another avenue of revenue for the association. NC State already has a training facility and would very much like to work together to ensure a quality education opportunity for all installers seeking certification.

Dr. Hoover was asked to wait outside while the Board discussed his proposition. The Board decided to name Jim Lanier, Connie Stephens, Doug Lassiter and David Cooper to a committee to further meet with Dr. Hoover and plan a partnership with installer certification education. A meeting was scheduled for Friday September 22, 2006 in Hillsborough at the extension office.

Doug discussed the fact that the Division of Environmental Health received funding for an additional engineer and two regional soil scientists. To date these positions have not been filled and when the Assembly comes back in January, if they have not, the money for these positions will disappear. Doug will talk to Terry Pearce to see if we can push for these positions to be posted and filled.

Discussion was started by Latt Moretz about a proposed change to H688 to require Environmental Health Specialists to attend the Installer Training Classes. He proposes change under definitions (5) to say including the local Health Department and offices. Keith Blackburn made a motion for Doug to

separate tank issues and rules to (52,53,54) so it can move forward despite current delays. This was seconded by John Peele and approved.

Chris Dobbins proposed that Doug look into some type of legislation that would protect the installers' ability to collect for work performed. For example: Final Inspection would be contingent on a statement from installer that payment had been received for work performed at that house. Permit would be tied to full payment of all subcontractors. Doug said we would discuss this further.

NOWRA is electing a new Board of Directors. Frank Minton, from Ring Industrial Group submitted a candidate for our recommendation. This candidate was Al Schnitkey. The Board decided that we would not do this as a Board since we did not want to recommend a certain candidate, but individuals were allowed to do so, if they wished.

Next Meeting will be held January 13, 2007 hosted by Frank and Jerry Pearce.

Motion to Adjourn made by Latt Moretz and Seconded by Keith Blackburn. Approved and meeting adjourned.