



COLORADO

Division of Water Resources

Department of Natural Resources

Board of Examiners of Water Well and
Ground Heat Exchanger Contractors

Board of Examiners of Water Well Construction and Pump Installation Contractors

Please find the link to the recording here:

[Recording Link](#)

MINUTES

October 7, 2025

Oral Examinations October 7 BOE Meeting

The below individuals appeared before the Board of Examiners to take their respective oral examinations:

- Jacob Crouse, Archer City, TX, Air and Mud Rotary Well Construction Methods; Special License for Sonic Drilling Methods for Monitoring Well Construction
- Eric Stedman, Colorado Springs, CO, Special License for Monitoring Well Construction - (Augering and Monitoring; Including Sonic Drilling Methods)

1. Call to Order

2. **Attendees** - On October 7, 2025, the Board of Examiners held its fifth regular meeting for 2025. Chris Sanchez called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Other Board members present were Todd Hunter, Tim Kunau, Alex Powell, Terry Proffer, and John Hunyadi. Chris Jones, Larry Hakes (Virtual), Don Fuorrry, Kevin Donegan, Andy Flor, Marques Hatfield, and Nolan Tanguma attended as Board Staff. Jen Mele and John Newman attended from the Attorney General's Office. Licensed Contractor Travis Day (Water Pump Supply and Service, LLC) represented the Colorado Water Well Contractors Association (CWWCA).

In-person: Jim Hale, Lauren Tiedemann Loob, Cody Thomas, Dick Johnson, Michael Erion

Virtual: Tim Davis, John Pearson, George Stewart, Mark Kister, Nicole Garrimone-Campagna

3. Introduce Geothermal Board Member - Terry Proffer, CGD

- a. Terry Proffer introduced himself



4. Establish a Quorum

- a. All board members present

5. Review Agenda

- a. Items 11.3.b and 11.3.c were not included in the packet, but will be presented today
- b. Combine 16.c. with 12.b.
- c. Added footnote for 12.c.

6. Distributed [Google Form](#) to Attendees to sign-in and request public comment.

7. Approval of previous meeting minutes

- a. August 5, 2025
 - i. Todd Hunter motioned to approve the minutes as written. John Hunyadi seconded. Motion carried.

8. Report from the State Engineer's Office

- a. John Hunyadi provided a report on the actions of the Division of Water Resources including daily operations, actions to create measurement rules for the Western Slope, and the satellite hydrography project through the Dam Safety group.

9. Report from the Water Quality Control Division

- a. Alex Powell provided the report.
- b. SB-181 Agency Briefings will be compiled in February 2026
- c. Tri-annual review hearing for regs 41 and 42 in April of 2026

10. Report from Board Members

- a. Todd Hunter expressed that DWR needs well inspectors and asked John Hunyadi for the budget and momentum towards that aspect
 - i. John Hunyadi stated that he wants to pursue funding through grants, but the Colorado hiring freeze has impeded that process

11. Report from the CWWCA Liaison

- a. Travis Day provided the report
- b. Provided an update on the venue for the annual conference

12. Staff Report

- a. Update on Examination and Licensing Activities - updated 9/19/25
 - i. Current contractors - 246, Lapsed contractors - 8
 - ii. 2 Licensing Applicants (since last BOE meeting 8/5/25) - approved applications 1, pending applications 1 (followed up with 3 applications not approved Brad Butler, Justin Martin, Jordan Taylor)
 - iii. Will send out 2026 contractor licensing renewal packets in mid-November
- b. Continuing Education Update - updated 10/7/2025
 - i.  2025 CE Log of Courses - total of 69 courses/meetings to date (40 online, 29 in person)
 - ii. 1 pending CE course - Rocky Mountain Groundwater Conference

c. Well Inspection Program

i. Inspection Program Staffing - Don Fuorry, Div 1-2 Well Inspector

1. Chris Jones introduced Don Fuorry

ii. Well Permit Counts

1. Chris Jones provided the report
2. Terry Proffer asked whether geothermal use permits could be broken out between high-temp geothermal (open system) vs. closed-loop ground heat exchangers
 - a. Kevin Donegan responded that they are essentially all ground heat exchanger installer permits
3. Todd Hunter asked for update regarding the letters sent out to ask for abandonment
 - a. Kevin Donegan and Chris Jones stated that, from their recollection, the compliance was approximately 50 percent and that the Water Supply Team has plans to expand that process outside of the Black Squirrel district

iii. Well Inspection Report

1. Chris Jones provided the report
2. While the well inspection team was understaffed, Div 1 and 2 inspections were low, but inspections have picked up with the hiring of Don Fuorry

iv. Variance Report

1. Marques Hatfield provided the report

13. Variance Requests - (Request: Approval, Approval with Modifications to Request, Approval with Requirements for Correction/Repair, Request Additional Details and Reconsider at a Later Date, Denial, Denial with Requirements for Correction/Repair, or Denial with Requirements to Abandon Existing Well/Hole)

- a. George Stewart, Lic 1286, Permit [84879-F](#), Well Abandonment Variance - Request Variance to Rule 16.2 to Leave Stuck Pumping Equipment in Well, Not Perforate at Confining Layer, and to Place Cement Grout Via Tremie to as Deep as Possible Due to Stuck Pumping Equipment.
 - i. Chris Jones introduced the request
 - ii. Chris Sanchez asked if Chris Jones believes the contractor made a good faith effort to remove the equipment from the well
 1. Chris Jones stated that he believes the contractor has adequately attempted to remove the equipment

- iii. Discussion regarding the status of the well, the previous attempts to remove the equipment from the well, and the possibility of removal with further fishing
- iv. Chris Sanchez motioned to direct staff to approve a conditional variance that requires the contractor to dedicate 40 hours of fishing time in an attempt to remove the wire and pumping equipment using a variety of tools. If unsuccessful, then the variance is approved as requested.
 - 1. Motion amended to add a condition requiring the contractor notify the well inspection team prior to each attempt
 - 2. Motion amended to specify that, if the removal is successful, the well must be abandoned per Rule 16.2
 - 3. Tim Kunau seconded
 - 4. Motion carried
- b. Jim Hale, Lic 1466, Permit [89975-F](#), Variance Request for Repair of Leaking Well Casing with Swage Patch and Sealant (10.3, 10.3.3.a) - Staff Requests Board Consider this Item and Agenda Item 16.c Together.
 - i. Chris Sanchez recused himself from this discussion due to his firm's involvement in the case
 - ii. Chris Jones introduced the request
 - iii. Chris Jones clarified with Jim Hale that the cement bond log was unsuccessful
 - iv. Chris Jones reminded Board of previous action in a similar instance
 - 1. Board discussed the feasibility of requiring the contractor to perforate or abandon
 - v. Discussion regarding the construction methods, local geology, current status of the well/pinhole, and possible patch methodology/materials
 - vi. John Hunyadi motioned, concerning agenda items 12.b and 16.c, to approve the variance request as proposed for the repair of the leaking well with the stainless steel swage patch and sealant, and to coordinate with Board Staff and the Well Inspection team during the installation.
 - 1. Motion amended to clarify that the contractor should work with Board Staff to verify that the sealant used is NSF 61 approved.
 - 2. Tim Kunau seconded
 - 3. Motion carried
- c. Matt Beeman, Lic 1374, Permit 19283-G, Geothermal Rule Variance Request for use of Rotating Head as Blowout Preventer (Geothermal Rule 8.2.3)¹

¹ The State Engineer currently has the authority to issue variances to the Geothermal Rules, Staff will not be asking the Board to approve this variance, but would like to discuss the topic with the Board.

***~~strikethrough denotes Item was not discussed at this meeting~~

- i. Chris Sanchez stated that he has a potential conflict of interest with this matter, but that he does not believe he is required to recuse himself since the Board is not taking action on the matter
 - 1. Kevin Donegan confirmed and provided a brief summary of the situation
- ii. Discussion regarding the details of the rotating head device and construction methodology using the device
- iii. Lauren Tiedemann Loob explained BBA Water's objection to the construction of this well, specifically requesting a limit to the production interval on the well and a requirement that a well inspector be on-site during construction
 - 1. John Hunyadi asked how Staff responds to Lauren's comment and what action can be taken
 - 2. Kevin Donegan responded that the well permit has since been amended to limit the production interval per the owner's request, but that it may be difficult to guarantee well inspector presence during the construction
- iv. Discussion regarding intended source and purpose of well, surrounding opposition to the well, and further action from Board Staff both as it relates to this specific well and this area in general
- v. Chris Sanchez clarified with Kevin Donegan that the permit the owner has is more a license to drill and that it can be revoked if a party displays injury, but that there is nothing currently preventing them from drilling the well

Break from 10:55 to 11:08

14. Review of Active Complaints and Settlement Recommendations

- a. Requested Board Action
 - i. 25-BC-006, Justin Scherer, Permit [321018](#), Unlicensed Individual Submitted and Signed GWS-32 for Work Performed by Well Owner, Inaccurate Information on Work Report. Request Board Allow CWI to Discontinue Investigation.
 - 1. Chris Jones presented the situation
 - 2. Chris Sanchez motioned to direct Staff to discontinue investigation on complaint number 25-BC-006. John Hunyadi seconded the motion. Motion carried
 - ii. 25-BC-008, David Lawson, Fred Day/Travis Day Allege Signature on GWS-68 Submitted by Mr. Lawson to State Engineer is a Forgery. Request Board Allow CWI to Discontinue Investigation and Defer Pursuit of Mr. Lawson to Rio Blanco County Sheriff Dept.
 - 1. Chris Jones presented the situation

2. Travis Day provided additional information on the history of the well and requested that the Board not drop this case
 - a. Chris Sanchez asked why Travis Day would prefer to not handle this situation with the local Sheriff Dept.
 - i. Travis Day responded that, in a small community, this situation would lead to a loss of business
 - b. Chris Jones stated he would be willing to participate with local law enforcement as Travis Day pursues this matter
3. Discussion regarding what action the Board would be allowed to take against David Lawson
4. John Hunyadi stated that he would check with Division 6 about ordering the disuse of the well without a valid surface water diversion
5. John Hunyadi motioned to direct Staff to discontinue investigation with respect to case number 25-BC-008. Chris Sanchez seconded. Motion carried

Lunch break from 11:40 to 12:11

- iii. 25-BC-010, Jacob Hill / JDs Excavating, Unlicensed Contractor, Advertisement for Well and Pumping Equipment Repair and Installation; Installation of Pumping Equipment without a License. Request Board Refer Complaint to AG to Pursue Unlicensed Contractor for \$2000 Monetary Penalty, Attorneys Fees, and Injunction in District Court against future advertising or work requiring license by the Board.
 1. Chris Jones presented the situation
 2. Board clarified with Chris Jones that no further evidence of physical work on a well has been identified
 3. John Hunyadi motioned that the Board refer the complaint in case 25-BC-010 to the AG Office to pursue the unlicensed contractor for a \$2,000 monetary penalty, attorney fees, and an injunction in district court. Chris Sanchez seconded. Motion carried
- b. Status Updates
 - i. 25-BC-009, Dustin Hathorn, Lic 1562, Permits [192260](#) and [337705](#) - Working While License Suspended, Working While License Lapsed, Violations of Construction Rules and Admin Rules; Update on Hearing Schedule.
 1. Chris Jones provided an update
 - ii. 23-BC-030 and 25-BC-012, Ray Newmyer, Permit [321914](#); Submittal of Inaccurate Information on Multiple Work Reports; Pump Installation Standard Violations; Update on Hearing Schedule
 1. Chris Jones provided an update

***strikethrough denotes Item was not discussed at this meeting

2. John Hunyadi clarified with Chris Jones that the February Board meeting would not begin until later in the day due to the hearings that morning
- iii. 24-BC-038, Howard Crandall Jr, Lic No. 1229, Permit [318158](#), Type I Multiple Confined Aquifer Constructed as a Type I Single Confined Aquifer Well, Inadequate grout through Interval required by 10.4.5.2.c and Inadequate Steel Casing in Interval required by 10.5.4.2.b, Untimely Submittal of Work Reports 17.3, Inaccurate Information on Work Report 17.2 and 17.4.
 1. Chris Jones provided an update
 2. John Hunyadi clarified with Chris Jones the method by which these violations and this pattern of violations was found
 3. Discussion regarding the construction of the two Crandall wells in this agenda, the action that would be taken against them, and whether Chris Jones should bring these complaints to the Board or handle them internally
 - a. Board expressed preference that Chris Jones continue to handle these unless a large number of complaints or a more complicated situation arises
- iv. 25-BC-020, Howard Crandall Jr, Lic No. 1229, Permit [332221](#), Type I Single Confined Aquifer Constructed as a Type II Aquifer Well, Inadequate Grout at Confining Layer 10.4.5.1.c, Inadequate Annular Space in Required Grouted Interval 10.4.4, PVC used as Surface Casing 10.3.1.
 1. See previous item for combined discussion

15. Report from the Attorney General's Office

- a. John Newman Attorney General Report - This is a background briefing on legal issues in the written report.
 - i. On the matter of Douglas Hasser, case number 23-BC-032, service was refused, which could cause future complications

16. Old Business

- a. Well Construction Rule Changes
 - i. "Grace Period" for projects contracted/bid under old rules
 1. Tim Kunau presented his request for a "grace period"
 2. Discussion regarding what action could be taken, inside or outside of the official rulemaking process
 3. Board and Staff discussed that situations like these could be handled through variances that come before the Board with a contract prior to the acceptance of the new rules already prepared to review
 - ii. Staff evaluating if any corrections are needed before January

1. Chris Jones highlighted that, if opening the rules is not an option, a policy will likely need to be produced regarding the placement of bentonite grout in monitoring wells under rules 14.3.5.2 and 10.5.3.6
 2. Board requested that Staff draft a policy for Board review
- b. Review/Approve By-laws
- i. Jen Mele presented the By-laws for review
 - ii. John Hunyadi motioned that the Board approve the By-laws as presented in agenda item 15.b. Chris Sanchez seconded. Motion carried
- c. BOE Administrative Rules
- i. DRAFT Comment Solicitation Form?
 1. Kevin Donegan presented the draft form, which will likely be sent out by the end of October 2025
 - ii. Stakeholder Meeting - CWWCA Annual Meeting January 7-9, 2026
 - iii. Contracting for Services that can only be Performed by a Licensed Contractor to be considered by AGO in conjunction with BOE Admin Rules
 1. Todd Hunter questioned why this topic continues to arise and stated his belief that statute defines this practice as illegal
 2. Staff clarified that this issue does not require action today and that this issue will be considered in conjunction with BOE Admin rulemaking

17. New Business

- a. Cody Thomas (Owners Agent), Permit [23219-MH](#), Appeal of Denial of Conversion of Monitoring and Observation Hole to a Production Well under Receipt No. 10043784
- i. Cody Thomas and Dick Johnson (previous owner of property) presented the history of the property and well
 - ii. Chris Jones described the construction of the well
 - iii. Discussion regarding the water quality samples, the local geology, and the construction details of the well
 - iv. Chris Sanchez motioned to accept the request to convert the monitoring well permit to a production well under receipt 10043784 subject to the following conditions. 1. The approved well permit contains language clarifying that there are deficiencies in the well construction that could impact the water quality of the well and that 2. The well cap integrity shall be confirmed and repaired to the extent that it is not intact.
 1. Board Staff clarified that, due to a policy outlining the process to register an existing well through the Chief Well Inspector and a desire to move away from the idea of post-construction

variances, the Board is asked to approve the construction details and appeal of the Chief Well Inspector's decision for monitoring well conversions that were initially denied by Board Staff

2. Chris Sanchez modified the motion to grant the appeal of the denial rather than to approve the well permit
 3. Tim Kunau seconded
 4. Motion carried
- b. Mark Kister & Colorado River Engineering, Inc. Application to convert a monitoring well constructed under [21327-MH](#) to a water production well. Staff Opinion of Construction Has Not Changed Since Previous Denial; Deferral to Board for Evaluation of Construction Information for Monitoring Well Conversion to Production Well
- i. Chris Jones presented the situation
 - ii. Michael Erion and Nicole Garrimone-Campagna provided background information regarding the local geology and status of the well
 - iii. Tim Kunau clarified with Chris Jones that new permit would not be subject to the aquifer restriction of the original well permit
 - iv. Andy Flor provided more information regarding the geology based on limited information in the area
 1. Clarified with the Board that the geologic interpretation has changed slightly, but the opinion is still that the well has penetrated through at least one confining unit, making it a Type I well
 - v. Discussion regarding the local geology, the effect of faulting on how interconnected the aquifers are, and possible action regarding the well
 - vi. Travis Day commented that this area is heavily fractured, and that grouting is extremely difficult
 1. Tim Kunau responded that he agrees
 - vii. Discussion regarding whether well should be converted, abandoned, or left in place, and the precedence that such a decision will make
 - viii. Discussion regarding the abandonment/repair methodology should that be the determination
 - ix. Nicole Garrimone-Campagna clarified with Chris Jones that staff has determined this well to be constructed in a Type 1 aquifer and that the Board is looking at approving or denying the construction information for consideration during the permitting of the well rather than approving the conversion
 - x. Multiple attempts at a motion made, both for and against the conversion of the well

- xi. Staff recommended that the Board not approve the conversion of the monitoring well constructed under 21327-MH to a production well because Staff's hydrogeologic review determined this well was constructed through at least one confining layer, and the well was not constructed according to the Rules in place at the time for a well penetrating through a confining layer
- xii. Todd Hunter motioned that the monitoring well constructed under 21327-MH does not meet the criteria to warrant conversion to a production well. John Hunyadi seconded. Motion carried
- xiii. Michael Erion clarified with the Board that the next steps are to seek a new well permit and work with staff to determine the necessary grout interval(s)

Break from 2:55 to 3:10

- c. Permit [89975-F](#), Possible Grout Issues Made Evident by Leakage Through Weld and Volume Calculations from Cementer Report; Staff Request Board Order Cement Bond Log and/or Order for Repairs.
 - i. Discussed under item 12.b
- d. BOE Bulletin 2025-A Construction of Wells in the Upper Laramie Aquifer
 - i. Andy Flor and Kevin Donegan presented the bulletin
 - ii. Andy Flor stated that Staff will finalize the document, look for comments, then post the bulletin after obtaining Chris Sanchez' signature
 - iii. Chris Sanchez commented that the BOE policy section is hard to find on the website and should be made more visible
- e. Tim Davis, Contractor Application, All Drilling Methods and Pump Installation Methods. Request Board Input on Application Suitability and Review
 - i. Chris Jones presented the situation
 - ii. Tim Davis provided more information on his application and previous work
 - iii. Todd Hunter asked specific questions regarding the experience Tim Davis had with various equipment, narrowing the possible licenses that he may obtain
 - iv. Chris Jones clarified with Tim Davis that, upon obtaining one license, Tim Davis may apply for other licenses without 2 years of experience
 - v. Chris Jones stated that he will take the Board's opinion into consideration and move forward with Tim Davis' application, accepting the applications for air rotary construction, mud rotary instruction, and pump installation less than 100 GPM

18. Public Comment

- a. Travis Day
 - i. Stated that he would like to collaborate with the Board to get direction on how to work with Staff while grouting in fractured areas

***strikethrough denotes Item was not discussed at this meeting

- ii. Staff asked Travis Day to draft a letter to the Board regarding their request for situations where they cannot grout according to the Rules

19. Board Training HB18-1198 Best Practices for Boards and Commissions

- a. Jen Mele provided the training
- b. Kevin Donegan stated he will look into getting BOE-specific emails for Board members
- c. John Hunyadi clarified hearing process with Jen Mele
- d. [Draft BOE Policy 2019-1 Amended](#)
 - i. Andy Flor presented policy, stating that the Board can provide comments and Staff will look for approval during the next meeting
- e. [Board Member Training Manual](#) - Best Practices for State Boards and Commissions
 - i. Andy Flor pointed out the manual on the website

20. Future Meetings

- a. Tuesday, December 2, 2025, 1313 Sherman St., Room 318 & Online
- b. BOE Administrative Rulemaking Stakeholder Meeting
 - i. Thurs or Fri, January 8 or 9, 2026,
Delta Hotels Denver Thornton, 10 E 120th Ave, Northglenn, CO 80233
- c. Tuesday, February 3, 2026, 1313 Sherman St., Room 318 & Online

21. Executive Session (if needed)

- a. Douglas Hasser et. al.: 23-BC-032
- b. Daniel Weber; 25-BC-001
- c. Dustin Hathorn; 25-BC-009
- d. Ray Newmyer; 25-BC-012 and 23-BC-030

22. Report from Executive Session

- a. Executive session was not held at this meeting

23. Adjournment

- a. Chris Sanchez adjourned the meeting at 4:13 pm