

WATER WELL ABANDONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Water Well Abandonment Committee met on **Thursday, August 20, 2026**, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia.

Committee members present for the meeting:

James “Pete” Helmandollar
Caitlin King
Kevin LaLone
Pamela M. Pruett
Jesse Royall, III
Scott Vogel

Staff members present for all or part of the meeting:

Laura McClintock, Agency Director
Steve Kirschner, Director of LRPD
Jeannette Galanis, Executive Director
Stephanie Keuther, Assistant Executive Director
Joseph C. Haughwout, Jr., Regulatory Affairs Manager
Lisa Robinson, Licensing Operations Administrator
Khang Le, Administrative Coordinator

I. Jeannette Galanis, Executive Director, called the August 20, 2026, Water Well Abandonment Committee meeting to order at 1:09 P.M.

**Call
To Order**

Ms. Galanis reviewed the emergency egress procedures with the Board and members of the public.

Emergency Egress

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

**Administrative
Matters**

Ms. King made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pruett, to adopt the agenda of the August 20, 2026, Board for Water Well Abandonment Committee meeting.

Approval of Agenda

The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0-0. Ayes: Helmandollar, King, LaLone, Pruett, Royall, and Vogel. **Nays:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** None.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

**Public Comment
Period**

Jeannette Galanis, Executive Director, opened the public comment period of the meeting.

With no one wishing to come forward, **Ms. Galanis** closed the public comment period of the meeting.

IV. OVERVIEW

Overview

Member and Staff Introductions

**Member and Staff
Introductions**

Jeannette Galanis, Executive Director, opened the floor for Committee member and staff introductions. Each present member of the Committee and staff introduced themselves and briefly described their role in participating in the Water Well Abandonment Committee meeting.

Purpose of the Committee

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Committee**

Stephanie Keuther, Assistant Executive Director, explained that the Board for Contractors established the Committee to address the regulatory misalignment between the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and the Board for Contractors regarding the abandonment of Class IIIC wells and to consider whether contractors holding the Highway/Heavy (H/H) classification should continue to be permitted to perform Class IIIC well abandonment work.

Mrs. Keuther further explained that, as part of its review, the Committee would consider whether H/H contractors possess the appropriate qualifications, training, and expertise to safely and properly perform Class IIIC well abandonment work.

V. RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

**Resources and
Information**

Jeannette Galanis, Executive Director, presented the Board with the following resources to assist in determining whether Highway/Heavy (H/H) contractors should be permitted to abandon Class IIIC wells.

- §54.1-100-22 – Board for Contractors Regulations
- 12VAC5-630-450 – Well abandonment.
- 12VAC5-590-475 – Removal of wells from service.
- Excerpt from September 20, 2022, Board for Contractors meeting approved minutes.
- Excerpt from December 9, 2025, Board for Contractors meeting approved minutes.
- Guidance Document #7260: Contractor License Specialty Requirement for Well Abandonments
- Guidance Document #4919: Onsite Sewage Systems Designed by Professional Engineers & Onsite Soil Evaluators

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Guidance Document #7260

Ms. Pruett made a motion, seconded by Ms. King, to recommend that staff conduct an assessment of the impact that repeal of Guidance Document #7260 would have on contractors currently performing work under the guidance and present the findings to the Board for consideration prior to any action to repeal the guidance.

The motion was approved with a vote of 6-0-0. Ayes: Helmandollar, King, LaLone, Pruett, Royall, and Vogel. **Nays:** None. **Abstain:** None. **Absent:** None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Steve Kirschner, Director of LRPD, thanked the Committee and adjourned the meeting at 3:20 P.M.

Laura McClintock, Director

Date

Other Business

Guidance Document #7260

Adjournment