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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL AFFAIRS

F I N A L M I N U T E S

MEETING OF:

STATE BOARD OF CRANE OPERATORS

TIME: 10:30 A.M.

Held at

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2525 North 7th Street

CoPA HUB, Eaton Conference Room

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110

as well as

VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

March 25, 2026

State Board of Crane Operators
March 25, 2026

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BOARD MEMBERS:

Elizabeth Bailey, Esquire, Public Member
Arion Claggett, Acting Commissioner of Professional
and Occupational Affairs
Andrew S. Goulet, Professional Member
Steven Kuncelman, Professional Member, Chair
Daniel Mitchell, Professional Member, Vice Chair

BUREAU PERSONNEL:

Dean F. Picarella, Esquire, Board Counsel
Paul J. Jarabeck, Esquire, Senior Prosecutor in
Charge
Gregory S. Liero, Esquire, Board Prosecution Liaison
Marc Farrell, Esquire, Regulatory Counsel
Jessica Harris, Board Administrator
Kristel Hennessy Hemler, Board Administrator
Thomas Leech II, Esquire, Business Licensing Division
Chief
Michael Merten, Esquire, Board Counsel
Andrew LaFratte, MPA, Deputy Policy Director, Office
of Policy

ALSO PRESENT:

Justin Royer, Deputy Director, Policy at Pennsylvania
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Jacob Hill, Sargent's Court Reporting Service, Inc.

1 ***

2 State Board of Crane Operators

3 March 25, 2026

4 ***

5 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,
6 at 10:00 a.m. the Board entered into Executive
7 Session with Dean F. Picarella, Esquire, Board
8 Counsel, for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
9 deliberations on a number of matters that are
10 currently pending before the Board and to receive the
11 advice of counsel. The Board returned to open session
12 at 10:30 a.m.]

13 ***

14 [Dean F. Picarella, Esquire, Board Counsel, noted the
15 meeting was being recorded and continued
16 participation constituted consent to be recorded.

17 He also noted the Board entered into Executive
18 Session for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
19 deliberations on a number of matters that were
20 currently pending before the Board and to receive
21 advice of counsel.]

22 ***

23 The regularly scheduled meeting of the State
24 Board of Crane Operators was held on Wednesday, March
25 25, 2026. Chair Steven Kuncelman called the meeting

1 to order at 10:36 a.m.

2 ***

3 Roll Call/Introductions

4 [A roll call of Board members and introduction of
5 attendees was taken by Ms. Harris. A quorum of Board
6 members was present.]

7 ***

8 Approval of Minutes

9 MR. PICARELLA:

10 Do any Board members have any changes
11 to the minutes?

12 Seeing no response, I believe the
13 Board Chair will entertain a motion to
14 approve the minutes of the January 28,
15 2026 meeting of the State Board of
16 Crane Operators as presented.

17 CHAIR KUNCELMAN:

18 Can I get approval of the meeting
19 minutes of January 28?

20 MR. CLAGGETT:

21 So moved.

22 MR. MITCHELL:

23 I'll second.

24

25 Ms. Bailey, aye; Mr. Claggett, aye;

1 Mr. Goulet, aye; Mr. Kuncelman,
2 aye; Mr. Mitchell, aye.

3 [The motion carried unanimously.]

4 ***

5 Report of Prosecutorial Division - No Report

6 ***

7 Report of Board Counsel

8 MR. PICARELLA:

9 First item on the Agenda is Item No. 2,
10 David Bicker, Case No: 24-71-015294.

11 Based upon discussions in
12 Executive Session, I believe the Board
13 Chair would entertain a motion to
14 direct Board Counsel to issue the
15 Adjudication and Order in this matter
16 as the final Order of the Board.

17 CHAIR KUNCELMAN:

18 That is correct. Can I get a motion to
19 approve as discussed?

20 MR. CLAGGETT:

21 So moved.

22 MR. MITCHELL:

23 I'll second.

24

25 Ms. Bailey, aye; Mr. Claggett, aye; Mr.

1 Goulet, aye; Mr. Kuncelman, aye; Mr.
2 Mitchell, aye.

3 [The motion carried unanimously.]

4 ***

5 MR. PICARELLA:

6 Item No. 3 on the Agenda, Daniel Nye,
7 Case No. 24-56-018738 (sic).

8 Based upon discussions in
9 Executive Session, I believe the Board
10 Chair would entertain a motion to
11 direct Board Counsel to issue the
12 Adjudication and Order in this matter
13 as the Final Order of the Board.

14 CHAIR KUNCELMAN:

15 Can I get a motion?

16 MR. CLAGGETT:

17 So moved.

18 MR. MITCHELL:

19 I'll second.

20
21 Ms. Bailey, aye; Mr. Claggett, aye; Mr.
22 Goulet, aye; Mr. Kuncelman, aye; Mr.
23 Mitchell, aye.

24 [The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Picarella noted
25 the initial case number cited for this matter was not

1 correct. The correct case number for this matter was
2 Case No: 24-71-018738.]

3 ***

4 MR. PICARELLA:

5 The last is Item No. 4 on the Agenda,
6 Joshua Stutz, Case No. 24-71-017602.

7 Based upon discussions in
8 Executive Session, I believe the Board
9 Chair would entertain a motion to
10 direct Board Counsel to issue the
11 Adjudication and Order in this matter
12 as the Final Order of the Board.

13 CHAIR KUNCELMAN:

14 That is correct. Can I get a motion as
15 discussed?

16 MR. CLAGGETT:

17 So moved.

18 MR. MITCHELL:

19 I'll second.

20
21 Ms. Bailey, aye; Mr. Claggett, aye; Mr.
22 Goulet, aye; Mr. Kuncelman, aye; Mr.
23 Mitchell, aye.

24 [The motion carried unanimously.]

25 ***

1 Report of Board Commissioner - No Report

2 ***

3 Report of Board Chair - No Report

4 ***

5 Report of Board Administrator

6 [Jessica Harris, Board Administrator, introduced
7 Kristel Hennessy Hemler as the Board's new Board
8 Administrator. Ms. Harris was moving to a different
9 role within the BPOA Licensing Division.

10 Mr. Picarella noted that Ms. Hemler and he were
11 working together to make some changes to the website
12 in order to better serve their licensees, especially
13 regarding citation issues.]

14 ***

15 [Ms. Harris referred to Item No. 6, the possible
16 November 2027 meeting date, which was currently
17 scheduled for Wednesday, November 24, 2027, the day
18 before Thanksgiving. She stated the date could be
19 changed to Wednesday, December 1, 2027.]

20 MR. GOULET:

21 I'll make a motion to approve December
22 1st.

23 CHAIR KUNCELMAN:

24 Second.

25

1 Ms. Bailey, aye; Mr. Claggett, aye; Mr.
2 Goulet, aye; Mr. Kuncelman, aye; Mr.
3 Mitchell, aye.

4 [The motion carried unanimously.]

5 ***

6 [Ms. Harris noted the proposed 2028 meeting dates in
7 the agenda packet. The proposed meeting dates for
8 2028 were stated as January 26th, March 22nd, May
9 31st, July 26th, September 27th and November 8th.
10 Chair Kuncelman suggested the Board vote on the dates
11 so the dates could be set on the calendar.]

12 CHAIR KUNCELMAN:

13 If the members are okay with those,
14 would there be a motion to approve
15 those as our calendar dates for the
16 year of 2028?

17 MR. CLAGGETT:

18 So moved.

19 MR. MITCHELL:

20 Second.

21

22 Ms. Bailey, aye; Mr. Claggett, aye; Mr.
23 Goulet, aye; Mr. Kuncelman, aye; Mr.
24 Mitchell, aye.

25 [The motion carried unanimously.]

1

2 Applications

3 [Dean F. Picarella, Esquire, Board Counsel, stated
4 Item No. 8 on the Agenda, Austin Phares, had been
5 discussed in Executive Session, and the Board decided
6 to table this matter until additional information
7 could be obtained.]

8

9 [Ms. Bailey announced she was leaving the meeting at
10 11:00 a.m.]

11

12 Appointments - Presentation on Water Well Drillers
13 [Andrew LaFratte, MPA, Deputy Policy Director, Office
14 of Policy, stated House Bill 2302 was introduced on
15 the April 19, 2026, and referred to the Professional
16 Licensure Committee. The Bill creates a license
17 class for private water well drillers and classifies
18 that license class under the State Board of Crane
19 Operators. Mr. LaFratte stated a primary sponsor of
20 the Bill was Representative Paul Takac. There are 13
21 co-sponsors to the Bill.

22

23 Mr. LaFratte noted the Bill adds several
24 definitions for terms related to the water well
25 profession, including but not limited to,
decommissioning environmental well, geotechnical

1 well, groundwater, water wells, well drillers, and
2 well owners. However, the bill does not apply to
3 individuals who drill, construct, modify or
4 decommission oil or natural gas wells. It does not
5 apply to functions performed for normal agricultural
6 operations as defined in the Right to Farm law.

7 Mr. LaFratte stated the Bill adds four
8 professional well driller members to the Board. It
9 also calls for the Conservation and Natural Resources
10 Agency to have a nonvoting member sit on the Board.
11 There is also a section provided for licensed well
12 drillers (LWD) and title protection for that. The
13 LWD will have specific categories related to those
14 well drillers. Mr. LaFratte noted the qualifications
15 for becoming a well driller along with a
16 grandfathering provision for individuals that have
17 practiced within the last five years and have
18 completed at least 50,000 feet of drilling. Well
19 drillers must register with the Board and their rigs
20 must be registered with PennDOT. There are
21 additional qualifications and reporting requirements
22 for well drillers.

23 Mr. LaFratte explained the Bill was being tracked
24 at the Bureau, and he wanted to provide an overview
25 of the Bill.

1 [A Formal Hearing was held from 11:03 until 11:08
2 a.m. in the matter of the Application for Licensure
3 as a Crane Operator of Thomas Isabell, Case No. 25-
4 71-018150.]

5

6 [Pursuant to Section 708(a)(5) of the Sunshine Act,
7 at 11:08 a.m., the Board entered into Executive
8 Session with Dean Picarella, Esquire, Board Counsel,
9 for the purpose of conducting quasi-judicial
10 deliberations and to receive the advice of Board
11 Counsel. The Board returned to open session at
12 11:35 a.m. It was noted Mr. Claggett left the
13 meeting at 11:16 a.m.]

14

15 MR. PICARELLA:

16 Based upon discussions in Executive
17 Sessions, I believe that the Board
18 Chair would entertain a motion to
19 direct Board Counsel to draft a final
20 Adjudication and Order at Case No. 25-
21 71-018150, consistent with discussions
22 in Executive Session.

23 CHAIR KUNCELMAN:

24 That's correct. Can I get a motion to
25 accept the stated?

1 MR. GOULET:

2 So moved.

3 MR. MITCHELL:

4 Second.

5

6 Mr. Goulet, aye; Mr. Kuncelman, aye;

7 Mr. Mitchell, aye.

8 [The motion carried unanimously.]

9

10 Miscellaneous

11 [Jessica Harris, Board Administrator, noted the next
12 Board meeting dates in the agenda packet and on the
13 agenda.]

14

15 Adjournment

16 MR. PICARELLA:

17 Mr. Chair, if you would call for the
18 adjournment.

19 CHAIR GOULET:

20 I'll make a motion to adjourn.

21 MR. MITCHELL:

22 I'll second.

23 [There being no further business, the State Board of
24 Crane Operators Meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.]

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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing summary minutes of the State Board of Crane Operators meeting, was reduced to writing by me or under my supervision, and that the minutes accurately summarize the substance of the State Board of Crane Operators meeting.

Jacob Hill

Jacob Hill,
Minute Clerk
Sargent's Court Reporting
Service, Inc.

STATE BOARD OF CRANE OPERATORS
REFERENCE INDEX

March 25, 2026

1
2
3
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TIME	AGENDA
10:00	Executive Session
10:30	Return to Open Session
10:36	Official Call to Order
10:37	Roll Call/Introductions
10:38	Approval of Minutes
10:39	Report of Board Counsel
10:44	Report of Board Administrator
10:50	Applications - Austin Phares
10:51	Appointment - Water Well Drillers
11:03	Formal Hearing
11:08	Executive Session
11:37	Miscellaneous
11:37	Adjournment