Spring Demo Slated for Hermon

SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2014
1975 HARMON ROAD (RT 2)
HERMAN, ME

8 a.m. Coffee & Donuts
Mud Demo and Drilling of Well Will Start.

Ted McLeod and his crew will be drilling the well at his site. Jeff Quinn from Baroid will be on site to answer any questions, as soon as the well is drilled and water is obtained, a well screen will be set.

Noon Chicken Bar-B-Que (RSVP for LUNCH by May 10, 2014)
Raffle will follow Lunch

You must RSVP by May 10, 2014 for the LUNCH (which is Free) and to be put in for the RAFFLE drawing. You must be present to win. Please list all names.

This newsletter is funded by the Maine Groundwater Association through member dues and advertising. Any member of the Association wishing to receive a newsletter may contact the president or treasurer of the Association listed on the front of the newsletter.

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Mark Your Calendars!

Spring Demo Info

The next MGWA Director’s Meeting is scheduled for June 9. There are no meetings in July and August. Meetings start at 6:00 pm and are held at the Best Western Plus, 375 Main St, Waterville.

For questions on Commission business call Dave Braley at 207-441-5324

To send information for this newsletter or to make inquiries: Contact Jody Goodwin: Call - 225-3370, Fax - 224-7174, Email to jodyike@megalink.net

Mark Your Calendars!

Here are the dates which have been set for various meetings.

The Annual Spring Demo will be held on Saturday, May 17 (see page 12 for information.)

The next MGWA Director’s Meeting is scheduled for June 9. There are no meetings in July and August. Meetings start at 6:00 pm and are held at the Best Western Plus, 375 Main St, Waterville.

The Commission meets the first Tuesday of each month. These meetings are held at 286 Water Street, Key Bank Plaza, in Augusta.

Find us on the Web at mainegroundwater.org

For questions on Commission business call Dave Braley at 207-441-5324

To send information for this newsletter or to make inquiries: Contact Jody Goodwin: Call - 225-3370, Fax - 224-7174, Email to jodyike@megalink.net
President Jim Innis opened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. David Braley from the Maine Well Drillers Commission spoke on the subject of setback for the DEP’s Well and Shoreland Zoning Law that has been in effect. Site Evaluators have been affected by this law as now leachfields and water wells are considered structures and have to meet setbacks of 100 feet to 250 feet depending on certain requirements.

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by President Jim Innis with the following present: Joe Gallant of Stanley Hillock well Co., Mark Weeks & Michelle Weeks of Weeks & Sons, Inc., Frank Hegarty of Hegarty Plumbing and Heating, Nate Nichols of Premier Pump, Trevor Gould of H2O Well Drilling, Susan Smith of Hansons Well Drilling, Inc., Scott Hodgdon of Hodgdon Well Drilling, Jim Innis of Innis Well Drilling and Pat Pratt of C & R Well Drilling, Inc.

A motion was made by Frank Hegarty and seconded by Trevor Gould; President – Jim Innis, Treasurer – Susan Smith, Secretary- Pat Pratt was unanimously approved. Jim Innis opened the floor to nominations for 3 Year Directors, a motion to nominate the following for Directors was made by Susan Smith and seconded by Joe Gallant: Pat Kelsey, Jr, Scott Hodgdon, Marc Stevens and Harry Hanscom. A motion to close nominations was made by Susan Smith and seconded by Joe Gallant. President Jim Innis appointed Susan Smith and Mark Weeks as ballot clerks. Results Scott Hodgdon, Marc Stevens and Harry Hanscom where voted in. Paul Kelsey, Jr’s name was withdrawn as it was determined that he was not an active member.

Pat Pratt informed the MGWA that she and Rodney are resigning as Director’s to NEWWA, that they have enjoyed doing it but after 20 plus years, feel that it is time for someone else to take over. They asked that someone be appointed as soon as possible to be able to help with NEWWA Spring Expo on Feb. 28 and March 1, 2015. A motion to adjourn was made at 10:40 a.m. by Susan Smith and seconded by Trevor Gould.

A motion was made by Frank Hegarty and seconded by Trevor Gould to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2013 Annual Meeting Minutes and was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Joe Gallant and seconded by Frank Hegarty to approve the MGWA Annual 2013 Treasurer’s Report and it was unanimously approved. Mark Weeks and Frank Hegarty reviewed theTreasurer’s Report and found everything in order.

New Business: None

Company of Canaan, ME. Mr. Baker arrived at the office yesterday to update his licenses and pay the necessary licensing fees. David will send a letter to Mr. Baker requesting that he attend the March Commission meeting to discuss any drilling activities performed while unlicensed.

The Commission will determine whether any violations had occurred and if further action is warranted.

Discussion: The Commission confirmed that the complaint received regarding Western Maine Drilling of Lincoln, ME and the setbacks to an existing geothermal well had been resolved at the previous meeting. The rules do not include required setbacks for new water wells from existing geothermal wells. The rules do have required setbacks for new closed-loop geothermal wells from existing water wells because the process of constructing a closed-loop well could impact nearby wells. Once a closed-loop geothermal well has been completed and grout has “set”, the risk no longer exists and water wells may be installed in close proximity. No further action on the complaint is required.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:15 a.m.
Well Driller’s Meeting Minutes
Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2014
Location: 286 Water Street, 3rd Floor

Attendees: Commission Members: Donald Robbins, Certified Geologist, Public Member; Chairman Frank Hegarty, Master Pump Installer; Joe Gallant, Master Driller; Ike Goodwin, Master Driller; Tom Weddle, Hydrogeologist, Maine Geological Survey, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry; Dwight Doughty, Jr., Hydrogeologist, Maine DOT; David Braley, Senior Geologist, Maine CDC and Prevention; and Doris Labranche, Commission Clerk.

Legal Counsel: Deanna White, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General.


Minutes prepared by: Doris Labranche, Commission Clerk.

Proceedings:
Don Robbins - Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m.

Topic: Approval of November 2013 Minutes
Discussion: Frank motioned to approve the January minutes with edits; Dwight seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. Doris will distribute to Commission members.

Topic: Complaints
Discussion: Complaint received from Ms. Lisa Pulieris of Windham, ME regarding Atlantic Water Solutions. Both Ms. Pulieris and Cindy Killer were present and offered testimony.

Ms. Pulieris corrected her written statement to indicate that ‘the crack was in the ledge, not the casing’ as she had indicated in her written complaint. She had misunderstood an explanation given to her by her husband who had attended the Atlantic Water Solutions inspection of the well. The complaint alleges repeated positive coliform bacteria tests, including one E-coli positive. Copies of the sample results are included with the complaint.

Cindy Killer, Atlantic Water Solutions, stated that she subcontracted the job to Mr. Mark Koenig, Maine Well & Pump LLC. According to Ms. Killer, Mr. Koenig did not provide Atlantic Water Solutions with a well log or a copy of the well reporting card required for submittal to the Maine Geological Survey. Ms. Killer provided the Commission with a copy of the proposal/agreement between Atlantic Water Solutions and Mr. Robert Cloutier, Ms. Pulieris’ father.

David reminded the Commission that according to the rules a complaint may be filed by anyone for 24 months following well installations. The entity that contracted for a well to be installed is not relevant to the Commission’s decision to investigate a complaint. Complaint investigations tend to focus on the proper location and construction of water wells as described in the rules. The rules do reference the use of appropriate contracts. Section 207.1 states: Contracts and complaints: In the absence of a written agreement, whose terms satisfactorily address water quality or water quantity, the Commission may adopt any of the recommended practices established in these rules as the standard upon which to evaluate a complaint against a driller or pump installer related to the drilling of a water well or installation of a water pump.

Finding E-coli in well water is an indication that surface water has direct access to the well, whether due to construction of the well or naturally occurring conditions. Cindy Killer stated that the well was inspected using a down-hole camera, but the inspection was not recorded. She indicated that there were 20 feet of casing in the well and that the first water bearing fracture was located at 38 feet below grade.

Frank motioned to send out the Commission’s independent inspector; motion seconded by Joe, the vote was unanimous. The Commission received approval from both the homeowners and Atlantic Water Solutions to complete the inspection using the Commission’s independent inspector. David will notify the inspector, who will then organize and complete the inspection.

Ike motioned to notify Mr. Koenig, Maine Well & Pump LLC., of the complaint and for additional information regarding the construction of the well; motion seconded by Dwight, the vote was unanimous. David will draft the letter.

Discussion: Anonymous complaint received regarding Adam Baker Well Drilling.

Please see January on page 11
President Joe Gallant called the Director’s Meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. with the following present: Jim Innis, Mark Taplin, Ronnie Taplin, Scott Hodgdon, Marc Stevens, Patty Stevens and Pat Pratt.

A motion to approve the January 11, 2014 MGWA Director’s Minutes was made by Jim Innis and seconded by Mark Taplin and was unanimously approved.

A motion to approve the March 10, 2014 Treasurer’s Report was made by Jim Innis and seconded by Marc Stevens and was unanimously approved.

Membership Applications: A motion to approve the Affiliate Membership Application for Tobin Knowlton, Western Maine Water, Inc. 292 Park Row, Westbrook, Me 04092 was unanimously approved.

Legislative Committee: Joe Gallant reported that we are on board with the site evaluators. The bill to exclude wells as structures in the DEP Shoreline restrictions has gone through the workshop and should pass as is in the next session of the Legislature.

Education Committee: President Joe Gallant appointed Ted McLeod as Chairman of the Spring Demo. Ted is going to contact Jeff Quinn of Baroid about doing a mud demo at a well site that Ted McLeod has near his shop. Date will be set according to Jeff Quinn’s schedule.

Web Site: No report.

Old Business: A motion to publish the newsletter 3 times a year was made by Jim Innis and seconded by Marc Stevens and was unanimously approved.

A motion to send American Ground Water Trust $100.00 was made by Mark Taplin and seconded by Marc Stevens and was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Marc Stevens and seconded by Scott Hodgdon to put the MGWA Contract on the web site was unanimously approved.

A motion to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. was made by Jim Innis and seconded by Scott Hodgdon and was unanimously approved.

Editor’s Note - There was no February Director’s meeting.

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Respectfully Submitted:
Susan Smith
Treasurer
Well Driller’s Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, December 18, 2013
Location: 286 Water Street, 3rd Floor

Attendees: Commission Members: Donald Robbins, Certified Geologist, Public Member; Chairman Frank Hegarty, Master Pump Installer; Joe Galtant, Master Driller; Mike Abbott, Hydrogeologist, Maine Geological Survey, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry; Dwight Doughy, Jr., Hydrogeologist, Maine DOT; David Braley, Senior Geologist, Maine CDC and Prevention.


Guest: Mike Abbott, Hydrogeologist, Maine CDC and Prevention.

Affirmative vote:  Approval of November 2013 Minutes:

Minutes prepared by: Doris Labranche, Commission Clerk.

Prepared by Frank, unanimous vote.

Minutes approved by: Doris Labranche, Commission Clerk.

Previously approved by: Frank, unanimously.

Approved by: Frank香 who.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:50 a.m.

Well Drilling Company of Canaan, ME.

The Commission received an anonymous complaint alleging that Adam Baker Well Drilling was installing drinking water wells without appropriate licenses. The Commission has no records of valid licenses for this company or its employee.

The Commission shall draft a cease and desist letter notifying the company about the complaint and the license requirements in Maine. The company and individuals involved have the opportunity to demonstrate compliance.

David Braley stated that in the past, Paul Gauvreau, AAG, indicated that the Attorney General’s Office could take subsequent action regarding any unlicensed activity. Frank motioned to have staff send a letter to the driller inquiring on its drilling status. If the license has lapsed for more than 3 years, then the driller would have to sit for another exam and pay licensing fees going back 3 years. It was noted that Adam Baker Well Drilling Inc., company license #WD00335 expired 12/31/2010. Adam Baker’s Pump Installer’s Apprentice license does not have an expiration date. David Braley amended the motion: that the letter state we have received a complaint of unlicensed drilling and pump installation activities on the part of Adam Baker Well Drilling. We have collected information from a website, Facebook page, and from other drillers who have collaborated the complaint, and he is to cease and desist, or show that they are in compliance with the rules and regulations. Frank agreed with the amended motion: seconded by Joe, and the vote was unanimous.

2. Anonymous complaint received regarding Western Maine Drilling of Limerick, ME.

The Commission received an anonymous complaint alleging that “Western Maine Drilling” had installed a water well less than 45 feet from an existing geothermal well. The Commission reviewed the relevant sections of the rules and determined that there are no regulations for water wells from geothermal wells. When the geothermal rules were drafted it was determined that once installed a closed loop geothermal well was not at risk to a drinking water well, and that open loop wells could be treated like drinking water wells. Although the complaint was not accepted by the Commission, a letter will be sent to the driller informing the driller that a complaint was received. The Commission considers this matter closed, no further action will occur.

Topic: Exam Application

Journeyman Well Driller Application received from Hollis Temple of Bob Temple Well Drilling Co. – tabled pending 3 references.

Topic: Finances

Finances are handled by the department. We haven’t heard anything. We haven’t had any expenses. The biggest expense used to be the inspections which were performed monthly, however, that number has been reduced to once a year. No known issues at this time.

Topic: Public Comments

None at this time.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:50 a.m.

Thanks

LD 1755 passed in the workshop unanimously on February 27th. Wells and geothermal heat exchange wells have been excluded from the definition of structure!

“Thank you” to Burns Well Drilling for having a connection with a lobbyist and having him speak on our behalf for free! (Sorry, I don’t have his name.)

“Thank you” to all of the members that attended the hearing, on February 20th and for contacting the members on the committee.

Thanks,
Susan Smith-MGWA Treasurer

2015 Budget has $2.4M for Groundwater Uses

President Barack Obama’s fiscal year (FY) 2015 budget request for the U.S. Geological Survey is $1.1 billion, an increase of $4.13 million above the FY 2014 enacted level.

The 2015 budget includes an increase of $2.4 million for the groundwater monitoring network and $2 million for grants to state water resource agencies to improve the availability and quality of water-use data they collect and to integrate those data with the USGS Water Census. The budget also proposes increases of $1.2 million to fund more than 50 streamgages in the National Streamflow Information Program, $1 million to expand work related to water availability issues on tribal lands, $750,000 for national hydrologic modeling for groundwater sustainability, and $700,000 to develop and improve the next generation of streamflow measurement techniques.

A family business since 1992, located in Central Mass, We are a wholesale supplier and source for Water Well, Environmental, Geothermal, Geotechnical and Construction drilling.

We represent many manufacturers and have most everything you could possibly need for your drilling project. Let us help you find what you need!

Contact Ed, Andy, Rob, Gary, Pat or Howard with any questions.
November Commission, continued from page 6

feet from other neighbor’s tank.

Proposed well to be completed and constructed in surficial materials to the depth required by site specific overburden conditions.

Rolf’s WDC - Ted Rolf & Philip Doyon, Augusta
Proposed well to be located no closer than 102 feet from the onsite leach field and 34 feet from the onsite tank. No closer than 100 feet from neighbor’s leach field and 100 feet from neighbor’s tank.

Proposed well to have a minimum of 90 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock or as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type seals with bottom seal a minimum of 100 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight.

Cross WDC - Douglas Cross & Mike Keating – Homeowner, Lincolnville
Proposed well to be located no closer than 75 feet from the onsite leach field and 40 feet from the onsite tank, and 10 feet from property line.

Proposed well to have a minimum of 70 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock or as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type seals with bottom seal a minimum of 100 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight. No grout required.

Goodwin Well & Water Inc. - Ike Goodwin & Lee Coughlin – Homeowner, Newry

Proposed well to be located no closer than 41 feet from the onsite leach field and 40 feet from the onsite tank. No closer than 43 feet from neighbor’s leach field and 60 feet from other neighbor’s tank; and no closer than 60 feet from the other neighbor’s leach field and 70 feet from the neighbor’s tank.

Proposed well to have a minimum of 120 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock or as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type seals with bottom seal a minimum of 120 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight. Grouting not required.

Lawrence Lord WDC & Nicholas Hanson – Homeowner, Baileyville
Proposed well to be located no closer than 60 feet from the onsite leach field and 42 feet from the onsite tank. No closer than 50 feet from neighbor’s leach field and 60 feet from neighbor’s tank, and no closer than 100 feet from other neighbor’s leach field and 100 feet from neighbor’s tank.

Proposed well to have a minimum of 100 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock or as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type seals with bottom seal a minimum of 100 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight.

Topic: Exam Application

Open-Loop Exam Application: Doris to develop an open-loop exam application; like motioned to accept. Frank seconded, and the vote was unanimous. The Commission does not need to review the application.

Topic: Public Comments:

None at this time.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

Temple WDC - Scott Temple & Dennis Casey – Homeowner, Winthrop
Proposed well to be located no closer than 60 feet from the onsite leach field and 41 feet from the onsite tank. No closer than 45 feet from 1st neighbor’s leach field and 65 feet from other neighbor’s tank and 45 feet from 2nd neighbor’s leach field and 56 feet from neighbor’s tank.

Proposed well to have a minimum of 120 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock or as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type seals with bottom seal a minimum of 120 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight.

Peter Morton WDC – Peter Morton & Mary Orne – Homeowner, Cushing
Proposed well to be located no closer than 50 feet from the onsite tank. No closer than 100 feet from 1st neighbor’s leach field and 100 feet from neighbor’s tank, and no closer than 80 feet from 2nd neighbor’s leach field and 80 feet from neighbor’s tank.

Proposed well to have 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock to a depth just above the first fresh water bearing fracture, with a minimum of 20 feet of casing; as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type seals with bottom seal core seals with bottom seal just above fresh water fracture and top seal up inside 6 inch well casing. Both top and bottom seals shall be water tight.