



WELL DEVELOPMENTS

Fall - 2009

BWWC

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BOARD MEMBERS

Kirk Waren, MBMG Member
Pat Byrne, Industry Member
Kevin Haggerty, Industry Member
Jeffrey Herrick, DEQ Member
Laurence Siroky, DNRC Member

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Board Members - Laurence Siroky, Chairman Pat Byrne, Jeffrey Herrick, Kevin Haggerty, Kirk Waren

Board Member Robert Bergantino Retires



Robert Bergantino retired September 15, 2009 from the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology.

Robert was appointed to the Board of Water Well Contractors in 1989. Robert has served on the Board of Water

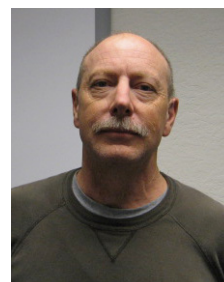
Well Contractors as the representative from the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology. Robert's vast knowledge of the geology of Montana will surely be missed.

Board Reappointments

Kevin Haggerty was reappointed to the Board of Water Well Contractors by Governor Schweitzer to serve a three year term. Kevin is owner of Kevin Haggerty Drilling in Bozeman. Kevin is one of two Board members serving on the Board from the drilling industry. Kevin was first appointed to the Board in 1997.

Laurence Siroky was reappointed to the Board of Water Well Contractors by DNRC Director Mary Sexton to serve a three year term. Laurence serves as the DNRC representative on the Board. Laurence is the Bureau Chief of the Water Operations Bureau of DNRC's Water Resource Division. Laurence was first appointed to the Board in 1997.

New Board Members



Jeffrey Herrick has been appointed to serve on the Board as the representative from the Department of Environmental Quality for a three year term. Jeffrey replaces Eric Regensburger.

Jeffrey is a geologist that practices (works in) hydrogeology and works at Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in the Source Water Protection Program (this is his actual work group). Jeffrey has a BS in Soil Science from Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, California. He then did his Masters work at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California. He majored in Environmental Systems - Applied Geology.

continued...



New Board Members continued...

Jeffrey is originally from California, but during and after college, he traveled extensively around the USA following work. He worked in environmental consulting and engineering for ~11-12 years, mostly contracting with state and federal clients on superfund projects as well as a number of large industrial sites. Most of the work involved extensive drilling programs to characterize sediment, bedrock, and groundwater. He began as a geologist on a drill rig and progressed in responsibility to become the field technical lead and site manager on many major programs. On some of these projects Jeffrey concurrently managed up to 5 drilling rigs as well as numerous technical investigations. A number of these investigation projects immediately turned into large remediation projects.

Due to the toll that the extensive travel was placing on his family, he settled down here in Montana and began work for Montana DEQ. Jeffrey spent ~2 years with DEQ Remediation, and then he jumped over to the DEQ Source Water Protection Program (SWPP). He has now spent ~8 years in the Source Water Protection Program. SWPP is a relatively non-regulatory group within DEQ and is involved in a wide array of efforts to protect drinking water supplies (i.e., source water protection).



Kirk Waren grew up in the northern states, including Alaska, Montana, Minnesota, and Ohio. After a three-year tour of duty in the Army at Fort Lewis, Washington, he attended the University

of Montana, graduating with a BA in Geology in 1985. He went on to graduate school, obtaining an MS in Geology with an emphasis in hydrogeology at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio in 1988.

He worked in private industry for Rittenhouse-Zeman and Associates in the Seattle area performing geotechnical and groundwater remediation work. He was then hired by the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) Water Management Bureau, where he worked on a wide variety of issues ranging from water rights disputes to basin scale hydrogeologic studies. After about 11 years with DNRC, Kirk worked for the Montana Department of Environmental

Quality, Industrial and Energy Minerals Bureau (coal mining regulation) as hydrogeologist and reclamation specialist.

Kirk was hired by the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology in early 2007 as an associate hydrogeologist for the Groundwater Assessment Program, and is now a senior research hydrogeologist for the new Groundwater Investigation Program. He lives in Butte with his wife Angie and two youngest children, Betty and Alex.

Chairman Pat Byrne's term will expire in 2010 and will be up for reappointment.

Renewals

There were a number of renewal notices returned to the Board office due to inaccurate addresses. The Board needs to be notified of address changes. It is the responsibility of licensees to notify the Board of any changes in contact information. Each year the Board needs the following information:

1. Completed renewal forms including current address and phone numbers.
2. Renewal fee plus late charges after July 1.
3. Bond continuation certificate for the next year. The licensee needs to contact their bonding company to verify where the bond certificate is being sent. The license renewal is not complete until the bond is received by the Board.
4. Proof of four hours of Board-approved continuing education for the year. License renewal time is not the time to get approval of training that was attended during the year. All continuing education classes need to be preapproved.

The renewal forms are sent out annually the first part of May. It is best to have the bond and continuing education certificates handy to include with the renewal form and fee when they are returned prior to July 1.



Rig Stickers

Administrative Rule § 36.21.413 states that "... each licensed Montana water well contractor shall attach to each drilling rig a gummed label indicating the current water well contractor's license has been purchased..." Very few current stickers have been found on drilling rigs. Over 300 stickers are mailed out each year.



Top of Casing Heights

Administrative Rule of Montana §36.21.647 requires 18 inches of casing extension above the local surface runoff level. A variance permit is needed for well casings that are below ground surface. Unpermitted wells will need to be brought up to construction standards. Contractors are reminded that the casing of any water well shall extend not less than 18 inches above the regional flood level of record. In floodplain areas this level is mapped and available from the local County Floodplain Administration.

Continuing Education Credits

Please remember that proof of continuing education credits and bond are required. In the case of education, this means a hard copy of a document that can verify that a) you were in attendance and b) details what was covered in the course/convention. If you have any doubt if a course will qualify for your CE's, contact the Board in advance. You will be asked to provide a full description of the course you plan on attending.

Dry or Inadequate Wells

Two unusable wells were found uncapped and in need of abandonment. Small animals, pets, rodents, feces from roosting birds and other contaminants could easily fall into the well. Well owners could become liable for contamination of the ground water.

Dry or inadequate wells are addressed by Administrative Rule of Montana § 36.21.679. This rule requires that water wells which are constructed and do not provide adequate supply of water shall not be considered completed until the well driller either:

1. Removes the casing and fills the hole with cement, grout, concrete or bentonite clay grout; or
2. Constructs the well in accordance with minimum well construction standards and welds a ¼ inch thick steel plate fully covering the top of the casing providing a watertight seal.

Well owners are responsible for abandoning dry or inadequate holes. Drillers should try to convince well owners to abandon these wells while they are set up and have the equipment on site to abandon the wells. Drillers may charge the well owner for abandoning dry or inadequate wells. A well log report form must be completed and filed within 60 days after moving the drill rig from the hole.

Next Board Meeting

February 5, 2010
Billings Hotel
Convention Center
9AM
Billings, MT



Eric Regensburger accepts a plaque of appreciation for serving on the Board for eleven years from Chairman Pat Byrne. Eric was appointed to the Board as the Department of Environmental Quality representative in 1998.

New Licensees

Water Well Contractors License

(Both drillers upgraded from the Water Well Driller's License)

Jeff Glazier	Glazier Drilling Inc.	Kalispell, MT
Russell Schelle	American Drilling & Supply	Billings, MT

Water Well Drillers

Brandon Lear	Gary's Drilling	Billings, MT
Tory Wing	AAAA Drilling	Helena, MT
Gregory Hickel	Hickel & Tooke Drilling	Turner, MT

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Continuing Education Classes

National Ground Water Association Winter Expo	New Orleans, LA	Dec 10-13, 2009
Montana Water Well Drillers Association Convention	Billings, MT	Feb 3-4, 2010



Board of Water Well Contractors

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Helena MT 59620-1601

