



Nevada Division of
WATER RESOURCES

STATE OF NEVADA
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Joe Lombardo, Governor
Vinson Guthreau, Director
Joe Cacioppo, P.E., State Engineer

STATE OF NEVADA WELL DRILLERS' ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
STATEWIDE WELL DRILLER'S EXAMINATION

August 4th, 2026

DRAFT (subject to revision)

(Final minutes will be available on the Board's website

<http://water.nv.gov/WellDrillersAdvisoryBoard.aspx> after ratification by the Board at the next scheduled Board meeting)

Board Members

Present: Arnold Lamon, Dennis Robblee, and Paul Forbes

Nevada Division of
Water Resources

Members Present: Manny Fernandez, and Gary Blake

Call to Order:

Manny Fernandez: We shall now call to order the quarterly meeting of the Nevada Well Drillers Advisory Board in Carson City, Nevada. Today's date is August 4th, 2026. The time is 8:07 AM. Representing the Nevada Well Driller's Board is Dennis Robblee, Arnold Lamon, and Paul Forbes. Representing the Nevada Division of Water Resources is Gary Blake, and myself, and Manny Fernandez. To comply with Open Meeting Law, notices of this meeting were posted in this building, and at the required locations throughout Nevada. At this time, we would like to open the floor for any public comment. Hearing none, we will proceed with the approval of the Well Driller's Advisory Board minutes.

Approval of Board
Meeting Minutes:

Manny Fernandez: Copies of minutes of the Well Driller's Advisory Board meeting, dated May 5th, 2026, have been distributed for your review. Are there any additions or corrections to the minutes?

Manny Fernandez: Hearing none, is there a motion for the board to approve the minutes, to stand approved as read?

Arnold Lamon: I move to approve the minutes as read.

Paul Forbes: I'll second it.

Manny Fernandez: Arnold motioned, and Paul seconded. All in favor say aye.

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: All opposed say nay.

The motion carries. Okay, thank you gentlemen. We will now move on to the business of the board.

Action

Board Business and Discussion:

Manny Fernandez: So I will start off and then if you gentlemen have anything you wanted to discuss. I just have a couple of topics here. First one is we have another adoption hearing for the regulations that we adopted last November. I mentioned at the last meeting that our reciprocity did not go through the legislative commission. So, they kicked it back to us to review and revise those regulations. We have another hearing scheduled. Basically, all we did was drop the reciprocity language. Anything that had to do with reciprocity, we took it out. The other big changes had to do with licensure. So, we changed to only needing three references before they test instead of four. And then the big one was we used to require two years' experience in the last preceding five years. We changed that to just two years' overall experience. You know because there's guys that have been doing it for a long time and then maybe took a break. So, we just want two years of experience. It's still subject to your discretion and the State Engineer's discretion what is relevant experience. That hearing is scheduled for September 1st, 2026, if any of you want to jump on there. Let me know. I think we sent out a mass email. Did you guys get that? About all the paperwork in there? But if you have any questions about that you can email or call me. Second thing I have is Ken Haffey who used to be in the drilling section- he did all the waivers, he used to do the board stuff, he had been with this office for twenty-four years. He just retired. So, I'm kind of filling in the waivers too. So, if you guys got waivers coming, there's going to be a little bit of a delay there because we're a couple of people short now.

Dennis Robblee: You're the only one I call anyways, Manny.

Manny Fernandez: And then we haven't had a section chief for the well drilling section in a while. Right? Chad was the last section chief we had. We still haven't filled his position. Temporarily we are under Christi Cooper in the Las Vegas office. She is the chief down there of that office and is kind of going to be overseeing our drilling section until we find someone else. You know Christi pretty well. She's cool.

Dennis Robblee: She is the one who sits in most of the time right?

Manny Fernandez: Yes. Okay. That is all I have. Is there anything you gentlemen wanted to bring before the board today? No. Okay.

Dennis Robblee: Have I mentioned I'd like a learner's permit type of license?

Manny Fernandez: It's on the record now.

Dennis Robblee: Yeah. Where certain things would have to be overseen by a supervisor. A licensed supervisor.

Manny Fernandez: Yeah. We can have discussions of that outside of the board meeting today. Of course we won't have any action on it.

Dennis Robblee: I would like to have a serious discussion if possible with all three of us.

Manny Fernandez: Yeah I'll get with one of the deputies of the State Engineer and see how they want to conduct that. Whether we need to have it in a public meeting and schedule it for November where it needs to be on record, or if we can just have an open discussion.

Dennis Robblee: Can we throw around some ideas after this meeting maybe?

Manny Fernandez: Not with this short of notice. I know the S.E.(State Engineer) is pretty busy.

Dennis Robblee: I just meant if we could throw you some ideas and you could take it to him.

Manny Fernandez: Oh yes, I can. I think I would rather convene it with one of the deputies and with the S.E. if he is available. Just because they have the authority to make those kinds of changes. Yes, we will talk about it. Hearing no further business, we will now proceed with the oral exams. Is there a motion from the Board to close the meeting, pursuant to NRS 241.030, to conduct the oral exam?

Arnold Lamon: I motion to close.

Paul Forbes: And I second it.

Manny Fernandez: Arnold motioned, and Paul seconded. All in favor, say aye.

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: The motion carries.

Oral Test of applicants for Well Driller's License by Statewide Well Drillers' Advisory Board, NRS 534.140 and 534.150.

8:16 a.m. – 9:21 a.m.

***Meeting closed to conduct Brad White's oral examination. ***

Action

Recommendation:

Manny Fernandez: Is there a motion from the Board to open the meeting?

Arnold Lamon: I motion to open the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

Manny Fernandez: Arnold motioned; Denny seconded. All in favor, say aye.

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: The motion carries. The Board will announce their recommendation, Denny?

Dennis Robblee: Brad, I'm going to advise that we give you your license. But I hope you learned a few things of what you don't know, about the monitor wells especially. I know you know your stuff and there's no two ways about it. But just make sure you don't get yourself in trouble. Hopefully you learned. Especially the seal part which there is a lot to it.

Brad White: Yeah. And what I don't know that will be where I will do my research. Obviously, that's my responsibility.

Manny Fernandez: Paul?

Paul Forbes: I also recommend approval. Same thing. I thought you were really strong in everything except the monitor wells. I think you're more than competent to be able to get that stuff and figure it out before you just put monitor wells in the ground. So I want to give you your full license.

Manny Fernandez: Arnold?

Arnold Lamon: I recommend a full license. Same as Paul and Denny. Brush up on the monitor wells.

Manny Fernandez: The board recommends to the State Engineer, Brad White, for a full water well license. The time is 9:33 a.m.

Public Comment: **Manny Fernandez:** At this time, we would like to close with a period for public comment. *Noise break*
Hearing none, we will now conclude this session of the Nevada Well Driller's Advisory Board meeting held on this day, August 4th, 2026, in Carson City Nevada.

Adjourn: **Manny Fernandez:** Is there a motion from the Board to adjourn the meeting?
Arnold Lamon: I move to adjourn the meeting.
Paul Forbes: And I second it.
Manny Fernandez: Arnold motioned; Paul seconded. All in favor, say aye.
Unanimous Aye
Manny Fernandez: The motion carries. Meeting adjourned. The time is 9:35 a.m.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Members of the public who are disabled and require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested to notify the Nevada Division of Water Resources, 901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 2002, Carson City, Nevada 89701 or contact Manny Fernandez at (775) 684-2833 or by email at amfernandez@water.nv.gov.

Recordings of this meeting are part of the Statewide Well Drillers' Advisory Board files in the State Engineer's Office and are available upon written request.