



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 5th, 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, and Denny Robblee

Nevada Division of
Water Resources

Members Present: Manny Fernandez, Melissa Rowland, and Timothy Semays

Call to Order and
Public Comment:

Manny Fernandez: We shall now call to order the quarterly meeting of the Nevada Well Drillers Advisory Board in Las Vegas, Nevada. Today's date is August 5th, 2026. The time is 8:06 AM. Representing the Nevada Well Driller's Board is Arnold Lamon, and Dennis Robblee. Representing the Nevada Division of Water Resources is Timothy Semays, Melissa Rowland, and myself, 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 6th, 2026, have been distributed for your review. Are there any additions or corrections to the minutes? Hearing none, is there a motion for the board to approve the minutes, to stand approved as read?

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to approve the minutes as read.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

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

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: All opposed say nay.

The motion carries. We will now move on to the business of the board. I'll just give a quick summary. At the board meeting yesterday, same meeting, same format, in Carson City. We covered three topics: Business of the Board, just a quick summary we informed the board of the adoption hearing on September 1st 2026. We informed the board that our senior Well Drilling section staff member Ken Haffey has

retired after 24 years of service. And Christi Cooper is the new section chief. Do you gentlemen have anything? Hearing no further business at this time 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 exams?

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to close the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

Manny Fernandez: Arnold motioned, and Dennis 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.

8:15 a.m. – 9:25 a.m.

Meeting closed to conduct Joseph Katona's oral examination.

Action

Recommendation:

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

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to open the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

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

Unanimous Aye

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

Arnold Lamon: Joseph, I'm going to say let's come back in for a retest. Brush up on your Nevada rules and regs. Waivers. NOIs. All of the admin stuff. We know you're capable of drilling. Very capable. But right now is a time to know what the rules and regs are. So I'm going to say come back in for a retest.

Manny Fernandez: Denny?

Dennis Robblee: Joseph I'm going to echo that a little bit with a little more explanation. Because every now and again we get a guy in here that is super smart, awesome driller, and we sit here envious of the company they work for. You are certainly one of those guys. Unfortunately, at the end of the day I honestly don't think you have any grasp on what Nevada needs from you. Arizona doesn't carry over to here. Being from Arizona, you know what their water is like and we don't want no water like that. So to protect the resource we would like for you to know how Nevada wants it. Awesome guy, no doubt you are the greatest driller on the planet but you are also going to be the boss of several people coming in here too, you know? We need you to know that stuff. So I would like to see you retest as well.

Manny Fernandez: The board recommends to the State Engineer, Mr. Joseph Katona, for a retest on a limited water well license. The time is 9:25 a.m.

Is there a motion from the Board to close the meeting, pursuant to NRS 241.030, to conduct the next oral exam?

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to close the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

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

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: All opposed say nay. The motion carries.

9:41 a.m. – 11:07 a.m.

Meeting closed to conduct Tyler Mills’s oral examination.

Action

Recommendation:

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

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to open the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

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

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: All opposed say nay. The motion carries. The Board will announce the recommendation. Arnold?

Arnold Lamon: I recommend you for a full water well. Just keep in mind, you’ve said it many times, we all have to look at the rules and regs as we go. You’re more than capable to figure that out.

Manny Fernandez: Denny?

Dennis Robblee: I also recommend you for a full water well license.

Manny Fernandez: The board recommends to the State Engineer, Mr. Tyler Mills, for a limited license. Limited to sonic and auger equipment. The time is 11:07 a.m. Is there a motion from the Board to close the meeting, pursuant to NRS 241.030, to conduct the next oral exam?

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to close the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

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

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: All opposed say nay. The motion carries.

11:23 a.m. – 12:19 p.m.

Meeting closed to conduct Rylan McLean’s oral examination.

Action

Recommendation:

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

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to open the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

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

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: All opposed say nay. The motion carries. The Board will announce the recommendation. Arnold?

Arnold Lamon: Good job. I recommend you for a full water well license.

Manny Fernandez: Denny?

Dennis Robblee: I also recommend you for a full water well license. Good job. It was a pleasure meeting you and your boss today.

Manny Fernandez: The board recommends to the State Engineer, Mr. Rylan McLean, for a limited license. Limited to sonic and auger equipment. The time is 12:19 p.m. Is there a motion from the Board to close the meeting, pursuant to NRS 241.030, to conduct the next oral exam?

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to close the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

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

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: All opposed say nay. The motion carries.

12:50 p.m. – 1:32 p.m.

Meeting closed to conduct Tanner Bright's oral examination.

Action

Recommendation:

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

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to open the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

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

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: All opposed say nay. The motion carries. The Board will announce the recommendation. Arnold?

Arnold Lamon: Tanner, I recommend you for a limited license, for sonic rig and monitoring wells.

Manny Fernandez: Denny?

Dennis Robblee: Tanner, I'm not going to jump quite as quick on board. I am going to recommend you for license, but I'm also going to recommend- you know this stuff. You seem to know the things you don't know. So, you'll go back and check those before you proceed forward?

Tanner Bright: Yes sir.

Dennis Robblee: Okay, because the worst thing that can happen is we hand you this license you walk out that door and do something crazy and lose it anyways. There's a few things that were a little bit of red flags but I'm comfortable that you're aware you have to look at those things to move forward. Just make sure you do that, alright? It's obvious you know what you're doing. Just be careful and double check regulations before you move forward. So, I also recommend you for a monitor well license.

Tanner Bright: Thank you, sir.

Manny Fernandez: Any other limitations on that? Equipment?

Dennis Robblee: Sonic rig.

Manny Fernandez: The board recommends to the State Engineer, Mr. Tanner Bright, for a limited license. Limited to sonic rig equipment and monitor wells only. The time is 1:32 p.m. Is there a motion from the Board to close the meeting, pursuant to NRS 241.030, to conduct the next oral exam?

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to close the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

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

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: All opposed say nay. The motion carries.

1:51 p.m. – 3:18 p.m.

Meeting closed to conduct Kory Belle's oral examination.

Action

Recommendation:

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

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to open the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

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

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: All opposed say nay. The motion carries. The Board will announce the recommendation. Denny?

Dennis Robblee: Kory, you've done some really cool stuff. Right? Unfortunately, I'm not at the point where I think without oversight you can keep yourself out of trouble should you have that license. Hopefully you can walk away with this as a good learning tool. You have a lot of resources, and you can learn whatever. I think after today you will learn the things that you could really work on. I know- did you say James Poynor or Jacob?

Kory Belle: He was my driller, but like I said now my supervisor is Mike Hepworth.

Dennis Robblee: Oh okay. I don't know him personally. I know you have a lot of resources and there's a lot of stuff you could learn. I am not comfortable turning you loose with a license. I'm going to suggest that you retest and I'd like to give you six months before you can do that. I don't know how that works or if I'm even allowed. But I think six months of time with the information you learned today I think would be really good for you. I would suggest that if you aren't going to do any monitor wells and you've never done any, you might consider to ask to test for just a water well license or something. Because I think you saw just how objective some of that stuff gets, right? So, my suggestion is retest in six months. Pay attention to what those guys are doing and why they're doing it more importantly. I think you've done some really cool stuff but knowing why you're doing it would be a big help to you.

Manny Fernandez: Arnold?

Arnold Lamon: Okay Kory. I agree with Denny. You've done some cool stuff and keep it up. You've gotten yourself educated to a point where you can get this far. That's a plus. To mirror what Denny said, if you're not going to do monitoring wells, just come back for your water well. Brush yourself up on well plugging and construction of a water well. And geotechnical borings, those are kind of a bonus question. Try to learn a little bit about them. What you need, what you don't need. To me that's not a pass or fail thing. But it's something you need to know. I'm going to ask you to retest and wait the six months. That will give you some more time to learn more about what we're expecting.

Dennis Robblee: Sometimes the “why” you’re doing it is just as important as what you’re doing. I think you just need to interlock those pieces together a little bit before we’re comfortable.

Arnold Lamon: You’re more than capable. But just keep in mind that we’re here for this reason: so you can prove to us and the state that you know what you’re talking about so we can send you out there with a license to do the right things.

Manny Fernandez: The board recommends to the State Engineer, Mr. Kory Belle, for a retest for his water well license with a minimum of six months. So, for the record, that would be the February 10th board meeting in Las Vegas. Mr. Kory Belle can be scheduled for that date. The time is 3:18 p.m. Is there a motion from the Board to close the meeting, pursuant to NRS 241.030, to conduct the next oral exam?

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to close the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

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

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: All opposed say nay. The motion carries.

3:30 p.m. – 4:35 p.m.

Meeting closed to conduct Anthony Sasek’s oral examination.

Action

Recommendation:

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

Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to open the meeting.

Dennis Robblee: And I second it.

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

Unanimous Aye

Manny Fernandez: All opposed say nay. The motion carries. The Board will announce the recommendation. Arnold?

Arnold Lamon: Anthony, I’m going to approve your plugging only license. I want you to read up on monitoring wells. They’re not hard to abandon, but you’ve got to realize how they’re built before you go abandon them. They’re simple to abandon. They’re a little challenging to build at times but if you can read up on that. If they weren’t so simple I’d tell you no. But I approve your plugging license.

Manny Fernandez: Denny?

Dennis Robblee: Anthony, I’m excited for you. It looks like you work with your brother? I think you’ve got a great opportunity. There’s a huge hole in the market just dying for a company like your guys. But the difference between doing them right and wrong is so big. I think you guys could blow it up as big as you want it to go as long as you do it right. Especially the perforating part. Make sure all that stuff is right. And I’m sticking with gluing on top of the PVC because it’s not down the hole. I want that on the record.

Manny Fernandez: Can you just make your recommendation clear, like what you’re recommending to the state?

Dennis Robblee: Oh. Yeah. Sorry. For your plugging and abandoning license.

Manny Fernandez: The board recommends to the State Engineer, Mr. Anthony Sasek, for his water well license limited to plugging only. The time is 4:35 p.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 5th, 2026, in Las Vegas Nevada.

Adjourn: **Manny Fernandez:** Is there a motion from the Board to adjourn the meeting?
Arnold Lamon: I make a motion to adjourn 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. Meeting adjourned. The time is 4:35 p.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.