

PRIVATE WATER ADVISORY COUNCIL
Kalahari Resort and Conference Center, Wisconsin Dells

Meeting Notes – January 8, 2025

1. Welcome and Introductions

a. Present:

- i. In-person: Jared Niewoehner, Terry Farago, Tim Jenks, Steve Tesmer, Rick Peterson, Terry Marshall, Bob Aune, Pete Chase, Jeff Beiriger, Marty Nessman, Bob Gundrum
 - ii. Virtual: Brian Broga, Kevin Olson, Chad Zuleger, Michelle Castile
- b. Introducing Jared Niewoehner – new Private Water Field Supervisor replacing Stacey Steinke. Jared started out of college working as a water well driller in the Decorah area of Iowa for Shawyer Well Company. He drilled mainly 6-inch wells, also municipal and large capacity irrigation wells. He has held positions in Water Use focusing on high cap wells and in Private Water as a hydrogeologist and field specialist.



2. 2025 Advisory Council Membership Updates

- a. WWA Well Driller vacancy exists from Troy Van de Yacht departure.
- b. Terms that are expiring on 1/31/2025:
 - i. WWA Well Driller – Terry Farago
 - ii. WWA Pump Installer – Dennis Crow
 - iii. WWA Pump Installer – Terry Marshall
 - iv. DNR Pump Installer – Steve Tesmer
- c. The following members agreed to renew their membership:
 - i. WWA Well Driller – Terry Farago
 - ii. WWA Pump Installer – Terry Marshall
 - iii. DNR Pump Installer – Steve Tesmer
- d. Dennis Crow – not present will be contacted regarding membership

3. WGNHS Updates (Chase)

- a. In NE Wisconsin, work is underway developing a groundwater model for Kewaunee County. The model will rely on an existing model from Door County. The main concern in this area is depth to Silurian bedrock which is heavily fractured and high levels of manure spreading rates that are in line with NR 151 standards. These spreading rates are dependent on depth to bedrock. Depth to bedrock is not always consistent especially in Door County and Eastern Wisconsin due to ridges and

escarpments just below the surface. Existing depth maps are made using data primarily derived from well construction reports. Farmers are going out into fields and doing soil probes to verify depth to bedrock. Where manure is being spread to NR 151 standards, samples from wells around the field are being taken and analyzed for nitrates, bacteria, and viruses. The study is ongoing. Virus sampling requires 150 gallons to be pumped through a dialysis filter. The number and type of viruses present in the groundwater are determined from those samples.

- b. In the Town of Campbell on French Island and just east of La Crosse there is a significant PFAS plume. Most private wells on the island are rather shallow. Progress is being made to provide a municipal well supply to those who reside on the island. Locating a water source that is PFAS free has been a challenge. The source of the PFAS is thought to be the La Crosse airport on the north end of the island. Groundwater flow is straight south across the island. A deep water source is being sought.
- c. Work is being done on hydro models for Burnett and another county. Work is also being done with the Lac Courte Reservation in Sawyer County to do a water table map for the reservation. They would like to determine the source of water that is used to water their rice fields. It is important for them to have a base map to determine what might need to be preserved.
- d. Work is being done with former lead and zinc mines in southwestern Wisconsin. This is part of a USGS sponsored rare earth metals inventory. They are looking for areas in the US that may have economic quantities of rare earth minerals. WGNHS is doing drilling and analysis to determine if there is anything there worth looking at. Remining of tailings has become more common due to improvements in extraction techniques.
- e. Other projects include studies on land use and impacts to groundwater. The city of Abbotsford relies on low producing wells for their water supply. Many wells are required to provide water to a relatively small community. Land adjacent to wells has been converted from agriculture to restored prairie. The study is determining whether this has caused a noticeable impact on groundwater, particularly with nitrates which are present and for which treatment (blending) is now required.
- f. A similar project is underway in Portage County where a large solar farm has been installed. Wells have been installed around the perimeter to see if there is an appreciable change downgrade of land that has been taken out of agriculture use. Typically, no immediate effects are seen as groundwater flow paths are on the order of years or decades.
- g. Work is being done with DSPTS to further develop a standard that is used as an indicator of groundwater flux and will determine whether or not a septic system can be installed. DSPTS is trying to extend use of the standard regionally across the state.
- h. Work is being done with the DNR on private water form a site near Beaver Dam. Roughly 5000 to 8000 gallons of ethanol spilled from a tanker a number of years ago. Bacteria eating the ethanol bloomed and caused iron bacteria problems and metals releases. A number of wells were replaced to avoid the downgradient degradation materials that resulted from the spill. A standard is being developed to determine if other wells down gradient might have to be replaced as well. Well depth required is being investigated.

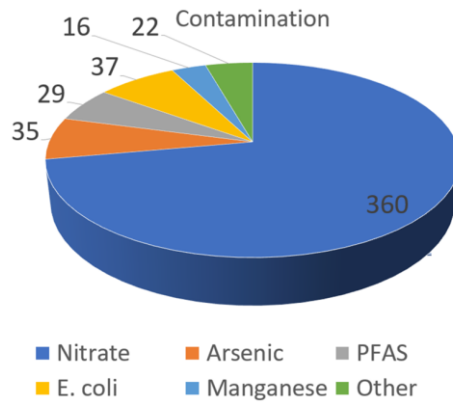
4. DNR Updates (30 min)

- a. ARPA Well Compensation Updates (Nessman)
 - i. Almost 800 applications have been received over the past 2 years.
 - ii. 671 grants were awarded for new wells, treatment and for well filling and sealing.

- iii. 92 of those awarded grants went to transient non-community water supplies that replace wells mostly due to nitrates.
- iv. \$9.2 million was awarded and \$6.7 million has been paid out.
- v. In May of 2024, applications were no longer being accepted.
- vi. What is the difference between what has been awarded and what has been paid out?
 - 1. When an application has been received, reviewed, and approved, a letter is sent notifying the applicant that they have been awarded the money they applied for.
 - 2. When the work has been completed, the applicant applies for payment to claim the award. This is the money that has been paid out.
 - 3. It takes 3 months from date of application to when money is paid out.
 - 1. Marshall: That is too long for smaller companies to hold a \$30,000 to \$40,000 note.
 - 2. Nessman: Payment claims come in every week and processing requires time.
 - 4. Marshall: With some ARPA wells, nitrates were addressed by going deeper, but high levels on iron and tannins caused deeper water to be of less quality than the original well with high nitrates. That will slow the payment process because people need to determine what the cost of a treatment system will be to treat water from the deeper well. People think that going deeper will always provide better quality water. Sometimes it is better to install reverse osmosis treatment for nitrate rather than drilling a new well deeper to get out of the nitrates.
 - 5. Nessman: We learned and got better as we went along. We advised going deeper to fix the nitrate issue, but that approach resulted in different water quality. It was unknown territory.
 - 6. Farago: They want us to go to 35 ft and then test it. This well wasn't for nitrate.
 - 7. Nessman: We have experience now that we didn't have before. There are up to 500 wells that were replaced.
 - 1. Beiriger: How many wells typically would be replaced on under the well comp program?
 - 2. Nessman: The need has always been there, but with the income eligibility limits and nitrates not being considered unless the well served livestock with nitrate above 40, this resulted in maybe 5 wells being replaced in 10 years for nitrates.
 - 3. Niewoehner: There were a lot of arsenic wells. Maybe 5 or 6 wells were replaced in a year when I was doing well comp.
 - 4. Nessman: There were more well abandonment grants....maybe 75 to 100 in a year.
 - 5. Beiriger: The expectation then is when the ARPA wells are done, we will return to the numbers seen under the statutory well comp program. We tried time and again to change the statutory program. With the ARPA numbers we now have data that we can share. You now have a paper trail that shows there is a need and shows what happens when money is available. We are talking about 10 million dollars here with a state budget that is sitting on multibillion dollars going into a reserve fund. If we work together, we can make a compelling argument for making these programs permanent.

6. Nessman: We have already been receiving legislative requests to provide data on ARPA. The governor's office has been tracking it, the legislature has been too. There were billions of dollars in ARPA money that came to Wisconsin. The governor's office did other projects throughout the state, but not all of the money was allocated, or it wouldn't be spent in time. We have until the end of 2026 to spend the ARPA funds. We had until the end of 2024 to obligate those funds. We were able to obligate our funds quickly. Other ARPA funded initiatives were not able to do so. So, the governor's office has offered us unobligated funding. This has not yet been announced by the governor's office so nothing more can be said about it. It will be announced before the end of this month. It will have to be spent by the end of 2026. It won't be 10 million because we would not be able to do it in that amount of time. 6.7 million was paid out in 2 years. We will have less than 2 years to spend the new funding.
7. Aune: The program that provided funding where income is less than \$60,000 is still available?
8. Nessman: That is the statutory program or the "well comp fund". That fund now has over \$2 million in it since we didn't spend any of it during the ARPA funding.
9. Beiriger: So, they double the amount of money that went into a fund that was not being used? It is weird that it just managed to make its way through.
10. Nessman: There may be potential legislation to change that. On a yearly basis with the statutory program, we were spending maybe \$150,000. That is all we could award.
11. Beiriger: That is interesting because with that program you only spend \$150,000 of the \$1 million that are being allocated. If the requirements are set to where no one is eligible or the taxation aspect of it is a problem, it is pretty clear with ARPA that if you create the right program, the funding will be used. What is the intent of the legislature? Do you want these wells to be fixed? You can put \$1 billion into a fund and then set the requirements so that not a dollar of it is spent. Then they'll say, well it's not being spent so we should get rid of this program.
12. Niewoehner: The other issue with the statutory program is the payouts. There is a maximum payout with the statutory well comp, and it doesn't cover the cost of the well. The prices that are set for common drilling and pump installing components are out of date.

8. Moving to the breakdown of contaminants that were addressed by replacement or treatment :



1. Nitrate had 360 of the 500 awards given.
2. Arsenic had 35 awards
3. E. coli had 37 awards
4. PFAS had 29 awards which were mostly in the Town of Stella.

b. Licensing Updates (Gundrum)

i. New license and expiration data for the 2024 calendar year were presented.

1. Expirations resulted from failure to meet continuing education requirements in 2024 or failure to renew prior to 12/31/2024.

NEW LICENSES 2024		EXPIRATIONS 2024	
PIP	67	PIP	70
WDP	6	WDP	12
HEDI	1	HEDI	0
PIB	19	PIB	44
WDB	9	WDB	12
HEDB	4	HEDB	2
WDRO	39	WDRO	42
HEDRO	31	HEDRO	23

2. Driller and pump installer licensees who met continuing education requirements in 2024 but did not renew before 12/31/2024 can still renew in 2025 with a late fee.

Expired with renewal eligibility (6 or more credits on record)			
PIP	24	WDRO	12
WDP	5	HEDRO	0
HEDI	0		12
	29		
	24 Individual	29 licenses	
	12 Individual	12 rig operator registrations	

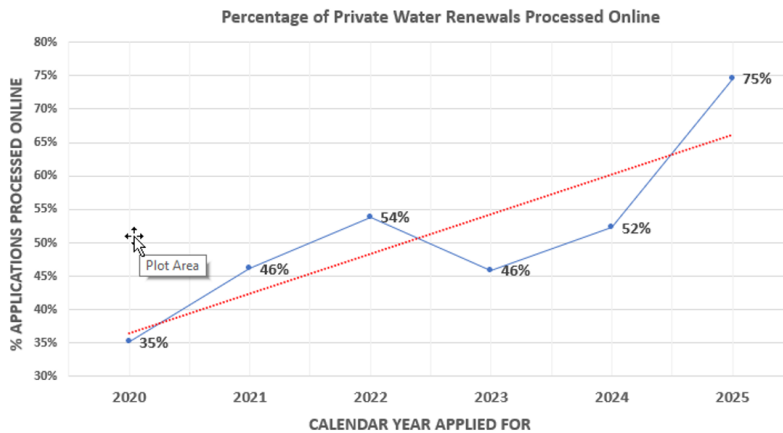
3. Marshall: Rig operators who reregister rather than renew must wait until after the first of the year to do so. How quick do you process WDRO registration applications for the new year once they have been submitted? Because you can't submit that application until after the January 1. You end up with a time lapse at the start of the year where

the rig operator is not registered and can not drill without direct supervision until their application has been processed?

1. Gundrum: Applications can be submitted before the first and processed with a January 1 start date.
2. Marshall: That is not the way it was understood. We were told that we could not submit the application until after January 1.
3. Gundrum: You can submit that application before January 1 and it will be processed for the next calendar year.

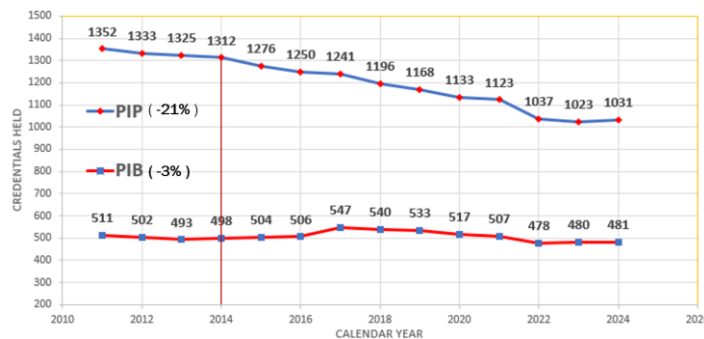
ii. License and registration renewal data for 2024 was presented.

1. 75% of renewal applications were processed online for the 2025 calendar year.



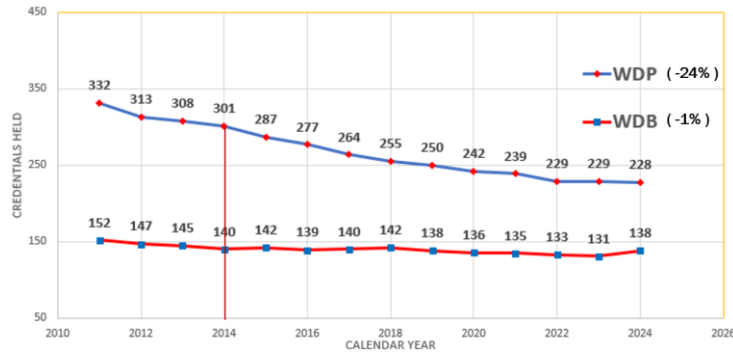
2. (PIP) Pump Installer licenses increased from 1023 in 2023 to 1031 in 2024, the percent reduction over the past 10 years is at 21%
3. (PIB) Pump Installing Business registrations have remained steady at around 480 for the past 3 years and with a 3% drop over the past 10 years.

PUMP INSTALLER (PIP) / PUMP INSTALLING BUSINESS (PIB) 10-YR TREND



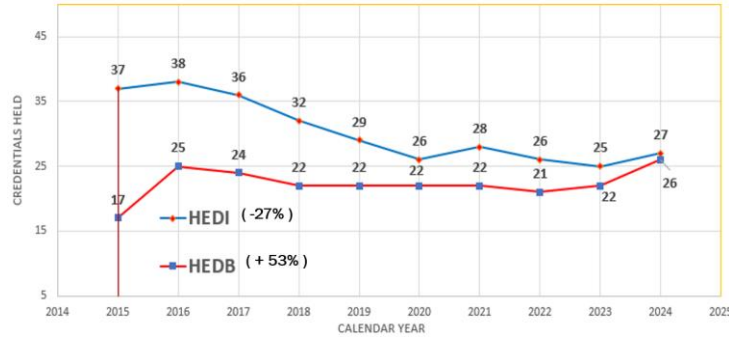
4. The number of (WDP) Water Well Driller licenses has been little changed over the past 3 years. The number of licenses held has dropped 24% in the past 10 years.
5. (WDB) Water Well Drilling business registrations have increased from 131 in 2023 to 138 in 2024. There has been little change in the number of water well drilling business registrations held in the past 10 years.

WATER WELL DRILLER (WDP) / WELL DRILLING BUSINESS (WDB) 10-YR TREND



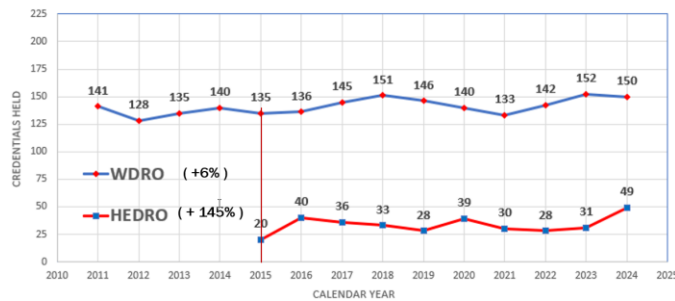
6. The number of (HEDI) Heat Exchange Driller licenses held has increased from 25 in 2023 to 27 in 2024. The number of heat exchange driller licenses held has dropped by 27% since 2105.
7. The number of (HEDB) Heat Exchange Drilling Business registrations held has increased from 22 in 2023 to 26 in 2024. The number of heat exchange drilling business registrations held has increased by 53% since 2015.

HEX DRILLER (HEDI) / HEX DRILLING BUSINESS (HEDB) 9 -YR TREND



8. The number of (WDRO) Water Well Drilling Rig Operator registrations held has decreased from 152 in 2023 to 150 in 2024. Since 2015 there has been an increase of 6% in the number of active water well drilling rig operators.
9. The number of (HEDRO) Heat Exchange Drilling Rig Operator registrations held increased from 31 in 2023 to 49 in 2024. Since 2015, the number of heat exchange drilling rig operator registrations held has increased by 145%.

WATER WELL RIG OPERATOR (WDRO) / HEX RIG OPERAOTR (HEDRO)



- c. Rule Revisions (Nessman/Gundrum)
 - i. We are now in the public comment period for the Environmental Impact Analysis for NR 812 and NR 146 revisions.
 - ii. Comments will be accepted through January 20.
 - iii. The EIA and draft Board Order can be viewed at the rule change website
 - 1. [Proposed Permanent Administrative Rules || Wisconsin DNR](#)
 - iv. Council members requested seeing rule revisions in track changes format.
 - 1. Having the revisions available in track changes format allows for review and comment in advance and to work out issues before it reaches the public hearing.
 - 2. The board order format can be difficult to follow with respect to what is being changed and what is not.
 - v. General overview of NR 812 revisions
 - 1. Focus was on subchapter III which focusses on pump installation.
 - 2. Changes have been made in approvals.
 - 3. Not all non-pressure storage vessels need to be approved before being installed.
 - 4. Setbacks do not apply to anything above ground.
 - 5. You will no longer be limited to the approved product list provided by code. You no longer have to submit products for approval.
 - 6. As long as the product meets DNR criteria, it can be used. It doesn't have to be on the approved products list.
 - 7. For historic wells that are less than 6" into bedrock (especially limestone bedrock), the diameter of the well will no longer be used to determine compliance when doing a property transfer well inspection.
 - 8. For valve pits, if the pit houses just valves, it will not need to be filled and sealed. If the well is filled and sealed, then the pit will be considered gone and does not need to be filled and sealed.
 - 1. Marshall: What about separation distance from the pit to the new well?
 - 2. Niewoehner: Current code requires 8 ft separation distance to a pit or alcove.
- 5. Well Driller License Applicant Training - Welding (Gundrum)
 - a. Since January of 2020, water well driller license applicants are required to complete 33 hours of training before license exam eligibility is granted. Six of the 33 hours needs to be hands-on training in welding. Successful completion of a 2G vertical fixed pipe welding performance qualification test conducted by a certified welding

instructor is accepted in lieu of 6 hours of training. Locating a welding instructor who will provide this qualification test has been a challenge for driller applicants.

- b. An online listing of certified welding instructors is available: Welding Schools in Wisconsin - Classes, College Courses and Certified Welder Testing Centers | GoWelding.org
- c. Some instructors will respond to performance test inquiries, some do not.
- d. Verification of test completion is accepted on DSPS Forms SBD-10899 or SBD-10900
- e. Some instructors are concerned that these forms might be presented as or interpreted to be a Wisconsin welding certification, when being used to indicate successful completion of the performance qualification.
- f. Brian Strebe at Lakeshore College in Cleveland, WI has put together a 6-hour training session water well drillers. He has been in contact with Keith Karr at Chippewa Valley Technical College.
- g. An invitation was extended to council members to contribute to the development of the 6-hour training program. If anyone is willing to provide input into development of welding training, they would be put in touch with Brian Strebe and/or Keith Karr.
- h. Marshall: Is the option to test out of the required 6 hours of training available or is the work being done to provide testing as an alternative to the 6 hours of training?
- i. Gundrum: That is part of what we are trying to address here. What is required to “test out” of the 6 hours of training varies considerably depending on the instructor. For some, a short welding test is all that they require. Other instructors require as much as 6 hours of training before they applicant is tested. In that case, it is essentially the same as 6 hours of training. In that case, there really is no benefit (savings in money or time) when taking a performance qualification test rather than 6 hours of training.
- j. Marshall: This sort of thing will take care of its self on the job site. Testing out of the 6 hours of training in welding helps, but I am not comfortable with the requirement for 6 hours of training. Two of our employees went to a Tech School for a course in welding and they knew more about welding casing than the instructor. If your spending \$800 for an instructor to do a welding test, what are you getting out of it?
- k. Farago: It shouldn't require 6 hours to train someone how to weld casing or how to weld a pitless adaptor.
- l. Nessman: That is where your assistance is needed. What can be provided in the training to make it value-added. Or maybe the code needs to be changed.
- m. Gundrum: There may be more to the welding process than what some are aware of. The current training proposal includes experience in the SMAW process with 1 hour dedicated to theory and 5 hours dedicated to hands-on welding activity.
- n. Nessman: The requirement is being set for applicants who lack knowledge and experience in welding.
- o. Marshall (to Rick Peterson) : Would it be possible to work with one of these instructors to develop continuing education where the applicants come in and do a welding test with the instructor observing? The instructor could then verify that they are capable and pass them so that they meet the welding requirement.
- p. Gundrum: An instructor may not be comfortable passing someone on a performance qualification test that is based on a visual inspection.
- q. Marshall: You can look at a weld and determine the penetration rate and quality of a weld based on a visual.
- r. Nessman: This is something that we can work with you on. Obviously, an instructor may want to do more than a visual.

- s. Jenks: When running percussion, you need to have a good weld.
- t. Gundrum: Does everyone make 3 passes when welding?
- u. Jenks: Drillers who are not driving casing may make one pass and send it down. Welding is self-regulating. You're either going to do it right or you're not.
- v. Nessman: We need to develop a minimum standard. If they have had training with you and can pass a test, then that is where we need to determine what test to do to verify. We are still going to need something that says they can weld before a license is issued. Let's commit to working together on this.
- w. Marshall: We should work towards having one session where they can do the performance qualification test and then be done. If training with Matt Kouba doesn't work out, we can work with one of the instructors to do this.
- x. Farago: The Plumbers union had a good welding setup. Is that an alternative?
- y. Beiriger: The past business manager was not reelected. There is a new manager, and I am not sure how open they are to sharing the space. The facility could probably be rented. Whether they are open to doing that needs to be determined.

6. New Business

a. PFAS Litigation Ad



- i. Nessman: PFAS results are available from the DNR website. Samples from Waupaca Water System and a Waupaca area lake do not exceed PFAS standards. There is no known PFAS contamination that the DNR is aware of in the Waupaca area. The DNR is not sure what the ad may be referring to.
- ii. Beiriger: This is an attempt at a class action lawsuit. The add is a solicitation. The law firm exists within another law firm based out of Washington DC. This is a sponsored add where parts of the ad change based on the area where it is viewed. The U.S. military and federal government are exempt entities and have immunity from lawsuits. The concern is that liability for a well that is found to contain PFAS will rest with the driller. The driller would then be in a defense mode and could spend \$100,000 to get out of a \$1 million claim. If the insurance company refuses to pay, the answer may be that it will go to court, and the driller will not have representation. What is surprising is that the attorneys should know better than to say "your water is contaminated" as this is a statement of fact which is not true. But it could cause people to call them. This is the concern, that people will continue looking for a pocket that they can pick, and it is not clear where the liability protection is going to come from. The governor's office has been resistant to providing blanket liability because they want to hold the manufacturers accountable. The question is how you delineate who is and who is not in the liability chain. The same concern exists on the septic side of things.

- iii. Nessman: The DNR posts information on known PFAS contamination online to keep public aware of what is in the groundwater. We haven't done a lot of sampling in the Waupaca area.
- b. Watertight Flexible Conduit for Wells ([HYDROMAX](#) example)



- i. Bruce Walker (not present) requested that this be added as an agenda item.
- ii. Marshall: Its not so much the pipe, it's the fitting.
- iii. Farago: This is needed when coming through a concrete wall. It must be liquid tight or rigid when coming through concrete.
- iv. Nessman: We will need to check with DSPS if this can be used above ground where it is exposed to sunlight.
- v. Marshall: There is more of a problem where the electrical code requires schedule 80 pipe that needs to be glued into a schedule 40 fitting. It is at that connection where it breaks 90% of the time. The flexible tube could pull out of the fitting if hit with a lawn mower, but it wouldn't break.
- vi. Aune: I use a 1" die and thread the connection rather than gluing it. Threaded is stronger than glued connection.
- vii. Jenks: In the past we used galvanized. Galvanized won't break when hit with the lawnmower, but the problem then is that it moves and damages the well cap. So, you're better off using conduit that will break rather than damaging the well cap. At a past continuing education session, someone from the DNR stated that they don't care if its drop pipe or electrical conduit, as long as its schedule 80. We questioned it and they said, "no its fine". So up until our last meeting I have been using schedule 80 drop pipe. So now I am in violation. What about the past? When was is it OK and when wasn't it?
- viii. Nessman: We are looking forward and not back. So going forward it has to be electrical conduit and not drop pipe. As long as it is intact.
- ix. Marshall: There are now people using schedule 40 conduit with a schedule 40 fitting and they are getting written up for it. Now you're saying as long as it is intact it is OK.
- x. Nessman: If it is a property transfer well inspection on an existing installation and it is schedule 40 and intact, it is OK. Inspection of existing installations began in 2012 I believe.
- xi. Niewoehner: When field specialist are inspecting a new well installation, that is when they are writing up schedule 40. They are not going out and inspecting existing wells to see if they have schedule 80.

- xii. Marshall: Schedule 80 also reduces wire size that can be used because of the wall thickness. Then you need to adapt to the 1 ¼ opening on the cap. So, unless you're threading it, you are using a schedule 40 fitting.
 - xiii. Jenks: I spoke with electricians regarding this and was told that anything that is exterior and goes into the ground needs to be schedule 80 but nobody is enforcing it with regard to electrical code requirements.
 - xiv. Marshall: So, we have the DNR trying to enforce this based on electrical requirements saying it has to be schedule 80, when electricians are saying it is not a big deal. What are we supposed to do?
 - xv. Nessman: From a property transfer inspection point of view, the only thing that should be called out is whether the electrical wires at the well head are not properly enclosed in electrical conduit. I am open to suggestions, but it is hard to have the well code not be in agreement with the electrical code. If you can provide suggested language, do so during the comment period. If you wanted to submit it now, you could. I don't think existing installations are addressed in 812.42.
 - xvi. Niewoehner: In 812.42.8 Existing well seals and caps: **(a)** A noncomplying well cap or well seal shall be replaced with an approved well cap or well seal in any of these situations: **1.** The existing cap or seal, or the electrical conduit is broken or damaged
 - xvii. Nessman: We may want to have similar language in the property transfer portion of code. But is use of schedule 80 for electrical drop pipe ok?
 - xviii. Jenks makes mention of problems caused by inconsistencies in requirements and enforcement. Uses sample tap requirements as an example.
 - xix. Nessman stated that we can make adjustments to the code under this revision so that people are not getting "dinged".
 - xx. Jenks commented that as long as it is understood upfront what will be required because it sounded like people were getting written up for the electrical conduit requirements.
 - xxi. Nessman: Conduit doesn't fall under a citable issue. If someone received a citation for other violations, the conduit might also have been mentioned. Since a gov delivery has gone out on this, it always been treated as an NON unless it is an ongoing issue. We can make property transfer inspection consistent with 812.42.
 - xxii. Peterson: It reads is that "if the electrical wiring at the well head is not fully enclosed in conduit", but you can have a cracked fitting that allows vermin into the well head while the wires are still protected. So, the language needs to address a broken or cracked fitting as well.
 - xxiii. Nessman: It was mentioned that threading is better than using a connector. Maybe we need to include that as well.
 - xxiv. Aune: You can't cut a thread on schedule 40. The die that is used makes a difference when threading schedule 80. The rigid 1" threaded galvanized pipe threader works.
 - xxv. Jenks: If there is a 90° elbow on the drop pipe, you need to put a slip coupling on it to allow for vertical movement. There is a PVC version available that works well. Electrical is starting to require this on anything that has a fitting to protect the pipe from heaving and settling that occurs after installation.
 - xxvi. Nessman: We are open to any suggestions, but do we want to require it?
 - xxvii. Peterson: Just allowing it would be all that is needed, not a requirement.
 - xxviii. Jenks: Should include language that says it needs to be schedule 80 electric conduit.
7. Old Business – [Wellmaster Press X Press](#) casing connection follow up
- a. Nessman: This was discussed with our attorney, and we went over the requirements for casing connections in 812. The Press X Press connections do not comply with code. Language would have to be written to allow for its use. Because this is a specialty product with specific tolerances, we would need to address those specifics

when there is a code revision that addresses casing connections. We will need to work on approval when there is an opportunity to do so.

- i. Jenks: If there is enough interest in using this connection, it might be worth a rule change to accept it.
 - ii. Marshall: I would not use it. I'm not sold on it.
 - iii. Beiriger: If you look at parallels in the plumbing industry, when there is a shortage of labor, you look at materials as a means to do more work with the same workforce. Sooner or later, if it works you are going to have to look at it.
 - iv. Nessman: This would be something for a new code revision which wouldn't start for another 1.5 years. It may require product approval that includes verification of tolerances.
 - v. Beiriger: You would need to codify the installation procedures.
8. Existing septic systems and drilling a well on adjacent property.
- a. Marshall: The specific setting in question is putting a new well in an adjacent lot and maintaining the separation distance from the neighbor's existing septic. A variance is written on the separation distance to the neighbor's septic, not on the existing site septic. If that neighbor needs to replace his septic, how does the county view that situation? Currently there is a variance issued for the well being too close to the neighbor's septic. Now the neighbor has to put in a new septic system.
 - b. Jenks: You can get a variance for a well being too close to a septic system, but you cannot get a variance for putting a septic too close to a well.
 - c. Nessman: Typically, if there is already a variance for distance to an existing septic, the county will recognize that and if it is the same distance, it would be the county's decision.
 - d. Marshall: Are we creating future problems when allowing this to be done? I would prefer that the well encroaches on the existing property's septic system rather than on the neighbor's.
 - e. Beiriger: I can provide a county contact to discuss this situation.
 - f. Chase: This can create legal issues in reducing the use of a property based on a neighbor's well location.
 - g. Nessman: The current code language only addresses where you put the well, not where you put the septic system
 - h. Niewoehner: Its likely better to have the variance affect one property instead of two.
 - i. Peterson: Another issue is measuring the distance from the well to the toe of the septic system. I had to refer to septic records to establish where the actual toe of the septic system was. Measuring to the cell makes more sense as it can be difficult to determine where the toe of the septic system is located. The cell is a more definitive measurement.
 - j. Nessman: We have put out some communication on that, but we can put out more.

9. Adjourn