



Deval L. Patrick
Governor

Timothy P. Murray
Lieutenant Governor

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Public Safety

One Ashburton Place, Room 1301
Boston, Massachusetts 02108-1618

Phone (617) 727-3200

Fax (617) 727-5732

TTY (617) 727-0019

www.mass.gov/dps

Mary Elizabeth Heffernan
Secretary

Thomas G. Gatzunis, P.E.
Commissioner

Minutes

Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians and Sprinklerfitters
Department of Public Safety, Bldg B, 1380 Bay St., Taunton, MA 02780
July 18, 2012, at 10:00 a.m.

1. Meeting called to order by the Chairman at 10:10 a.m., followed by roll call:

Board Members Present:

Henry Geryk, Chairman
Mark Fortune
Michael Torchio
Jennifer Revill
John Viola
Pauline Lally
William Gallagher
Leo Fahey

Brian Logan, Supervisor, District Inspectors
Cesar Lastra, Technical Code Coordinator
Holly Bartlett, Clerical Assistant
Gerald Stevens, Applicant
Michael Girouard, Applicant
Leo Benoit, Concerned Citizen
Michael Murphy
James Perron
Richard DiCapua
Christopher Halle
Richard Martir
David Grzech

Board Members Not Present:

Dan Dumont
Frank Norton
William Young

Guests Present:

2. A motion to approve the agenda for today's meeting was made by Mark Fortune, seconded by John Viola, and agreed upon by a unanimous vote.
3. A motion to enter into record the minutes from the May 16, 2012 meeting was made by Mark Fortune, seconded by John Viola, and agreed upon by a unanimous vote.
4. The following applications for licensure were considered by the Bureau:
 - Application from Gerald Stevens to sit for the Journeyman Sprinklerfitter exam was considered, Mr. Stevens was present at this meeting. The Chairman explained that Mr. Stevens' application is before the Bureau for consideration as he holds qualifications other than those specified in 528 CMR. Following brief discussion, **a motion to approve Mr. Stevens' application was made by Jack Viola, seconded by Bill Gallagher, passed by unanimous vote.**

- Application from Michael Girouard to sit for the Refrigeration Technician exam was considered, Mr. Girouard was present at this meeting. Jennifer Revill asked the Chairman why this application was before the Bureau; the Chairman explained that the district engineering inspector felt that since this applicant holds other qualifications other than those specified in the regulation. Discussion regarding Mr. Girouard's training and experience followed. Brian Logan made a suggestion to the members to table this application until the next meeting, allowing the DPS to review the school's curriculum and present a recommendation to the Bureau at the next meeting. **A motion was made by Bill Gallagher, seconded by Mike Torchio, to table this application until the next meeting to allow DPS to review the curriculum of the schooling submitted with Mr. Girouard's application. This motion was passed by a vote of seven to one; the dissenting member moved to deny this application.** The Chairman asked Mr. Girouard to provide curriculum documentation from the Old Colony Trade & Technical School.
- Application from Michael Murphy to sit for the Journeyman Sprinklerfitter exam was considered, Mr. Murphy was present at this meeting. **A motion was made by Mark Fortune, seconded by John Viola, to approve this application; motion was passed by unanimous vote.**
- Application from James Perron to sit for the Journeyman Pipefitter exam was considered, Mr. Perron was present at this meeting. Following brief discussion, **a motion was made by Mark Fortune, seconded by Leo Fahey, to approve this application; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
- Application from Richard DiCapua to sit for Journeyman Pipefitter was considered, Mr. DiCapua was present at this meeting. **A motion was made by John Viola, seconded by Mark Fortune, to approved this application; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
- Application from Christopher Halle to sit for the Refrigeration Technician exam was considered, Mr. Halle was not present. Mark Fortune asked if Mr. Halle had stated that he would not be in attendance at this meeting; Holly Bartlett replied that she had attempted to notify Mr. Halle of this meeting, but had not heard back from him. Pauline asked what the difference between 'limited' and 'unlimited' means in the Connecticut license. It was noted that Mr. Halle currently holds a license in Connecticut, but the Bureau is unclear as to what that license covers. **A motion was made by John Viola, seconded by Jennifer Revill, to table this application until the next meeting to consider what a Heating, Piping & Cooling Limited Journeyperson's license issued by the state of Connecticut covers; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
- Application from Richard Martir to sit for the Refrigeration Technician exam was considered, Mr. Martir was not present. It was noted by the Chairman that Mr. Martir had attended a community college in NH that is not currently on the list of schools approved by the DPS, but that he had been approved and sat for RT exam in 2007, at which time New Hampshire Community Technical College was on the approved school list. It was also noted that Mr. Martir had not provided detailed documentation of his work experience. **Motion was made by Leo Fahey, seconded by Mark Fortune, to deny this application; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
- Application from David Grzech to sit for the Refrigeration Contractor exam was considered, Mr. Grzech was not present. It was noted that Mr. Grzech holds contractor licenses from several other states, but that he has never held a Massachusetts Refrigeration Technician's license. Following brief discussion, **a motion was made by John Viola, seconded by Leo Fahey, to deny this application; motion passed by unanimous vote.**

5. Old Business:

- a. Cesar Lastra presented the Bureau members with a demonstration of how to use the new DPS License Lookup tool, including a handout. During this demonstration, Mark Fortune addressed the matter of licensed Sprinkler Contractors using their licenses to pull permits for work being performed by other individuals/companies. Specifically Mark asked if the License Lookup tool could be used to identify companies without a licensed SC on staff, and if DPS is doing anything about this.

6. New Business

- a. John Viola brought up the matter of whose area of responsibility covers installation of dry standpipes used in automatic sprinkler systems. Mark Fortune addressed this, stating that if the dry standpipe is connected to an automatic sprinkler system, licensed sprinkler fitters should be performing the installation. *** The Chairman said that he would draft a letter to the Commissioner requesting a ruling from the General Counsel.**
- b. Mark Fortune brought up the matter of sprinklerfitters establishing businesses and using the contractor licenses held by other individuals to pull permits and do contracting work. Mark will be working with Brian Logan to identify individuals who are engaging in this activity, and to ensure necessary action is taken to address and stop this activity.

7. With no remaining topics on the agenda, a motion was made by Mike Torchio, seconded by Mark Fortune, to adjourn this meeting at 11:50 a.m., motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**Action items to be addressed at the next meeting are indicated by an asterisk*

The next meeting of the Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinklerfitters will tentatively be on Wednesday, September 19, 2012.