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**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Professional Licensure
BOARD OF STATE EXAMINERS OF PLUMBERS
AND GAS FITTERS**

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JOHN C. CHAPMAN
UNDERSECRETARY OF
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND
BUSINESS REGULATION

CHARLES BORSTEL
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

DECEMBER 2, 2015 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS	APPOINTMENT	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mr. Paul Kennedy Sr.	Chairman, Journeyman Gasfitter	✓	
Mr. Joseph McNamee	Member, Master Gas Fitter	✓	
Mr. Bahig A. Kaldas, P. E.	Member, Plumbing Engineer	✓	
Mr. Greg Hanley	Consumer Member	✓	
Open Seat	Member, Master Plumber		
Ms. Ruth Alfasso	Member, Dept. of Public Health	✓	
Mr. John MacDonald	Member, LP Installer		✓
Mr. Harold Knight	Member, Journeyman Plumber	✓	
Mr. Dan Kilburn	Member, Public Safety	✓	

9:00 A.M. AGENDA REVIEW: By Chairman Paul Kennedy

- Emergency Egress and Cell Phone Policy

VOCATIONAL SCHOOL PROJECT(S)

V1) MONTACHUSETT VOCATIONAL SCHOOL – 1050 WESTMINSTER STREET – FITCHBURG

Single family home – 10 Monroe Street – Ashburnham

Students will perform plumbing and gas fitting for a new single family home.

Applicant is not required to attend

A motion was made to allow this project to proceed by Mr. Kilburn and seconded by Ms. Alfasso: Unanimous

V2) ASSABET VALLEY TECHNICAL SCHOOL – 215 FITCHBURG STREET - MARLBOROUGH

Commercial project – Field House for the City of Marlborough Youth Soccer

Applicant is required to attend.

Meeting Notes: The carpentry shop is currently working there now followed by the electrical and the sheet metal departments. This is a project for the seniors only. The ratio for this project would be 6 to 1.

A motion was made to allow this project to proceed by Mr. Hanley and seconded by Mr. Kilburn: 7 for and 1 against: Motion carries.

PRODUCT REVIEW(S)

P1) P1) William Batten from Thermaco would like to address the Board regarding their current Big Dipper test site at Bay Path Vocational School in Charlton.

A motion was made to continue by Ms. Alfasso and seconded by Mr. Kaldas. Representative failed to attend.



BOARD OF STATE EXAMINERS OF PLUMBERS AND GAS FITTERS – , 2015
VARIANCES

PV123) COMCAST – 12 WASHER STREET - LOWELL

Mr. William Brady, (Vanderweil Engineers) is requesting a variance from 248 CMR Section 10.10 (18) Table 1. The Petitioner is requesting a variance to install one unisex toilet facility for employee convenience, in lieu of the required two employee restrooms. The petitioner notes the facility will not be staffed. During maintenance conditions (upgrades)/ maintenance of data hardware and support equipment) service technicians will work within the facility in teams of approximately 2-3 people for approximately 2-4 hour shifts one to two times per month. The Lowell Board of Health is not opposed to this variance request. The Interim Health Director reviewed the variance with the Building Commissioner and the Plumbing Inspector, and they have no objections to the request.

Meeting Notes: 6,000 square foot building with 2-3 employees.

A motion was made to allow the installation of one unisex handicap accessible rest room by Mr. Kaldas and seconded by Mr. Hanley: Unanimous

PV151) SOMERVILLE HOSPITAL – 230 HIGHLAND AVENUE - SOMERVILLE

(Mr. Albie Joyce, A & S Plumbing, Inc.) is requesting a variance from 248 CMR Section 10.06 (2). The Petitioner notes that Somerville Hospital currently discharges wastewater from laboratory and sterilization processes to the sanitary sewer. The MWRA is requiring that these discharges be segregated from other wastewater discharge sources for monitoring required under a Sewer Use Discharge Permit. This monitoring includes analysis for nickel and zinc. Nickel and zinc are known to leach out of ferrous and copper type piping materials when dilute deionized water discharges, as is the case with the wastewater to be monitored. Therefore, plastic piping and plumbing materials are needed to keep the nickel and zinc concentration in wastewater below MWRA discharge limits. In this case, schedule 80 CPVC piping is being requested for use. The wastewater from laboratory and sterilization processes has been representatively sampled, characterized and found to not require any treatment or be considered a special hazardous waste precluding it for 248 CMR 10.13 allowing for the use of polypropylene piping. Copies of the design drawings and characterization reports are attached to this application for reference.

Meeting Notes: The MWRA is requiring sampling and testing of the waste water discharge. They are concerned with metal leaching into the drainage system.

A motion was made to allow polypropylene pipe and fittings for the drainage system by Mr. Hanley and seconded by Mr. Kilburn. Unanimous

PV PV153) MUSEUMS ON THE GREEN – 65 PALMER AVENUE - FALMOUTH

(Mr. Patrick Guthrie, Architect) is requesting a variance from 248 CMR Section 10.10 (18) (m). Work seeks to replace a non-accessible unisex restroom in the 20th century ell is to be replace with a new handicap accessible unisex restroom. The request is for a waiver to allow the building to be renovated with a single, unisex handicapped accessible restroom. The Falmouth Department of Health was properly petitioned.

Meeting Notes: The total square footage of the building is 1,600.

A motion was made to allow the installation of one unisex handicap accessible rest room by Ms. Alfasso and seconded by Mr. Hanley. Unanimous

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PV156) DONNA WHITE (RESIDENCE)–OG CROTEAU (OFFICE) 581 SUMMER ST. - FITCHBURG

(Mr. Donald Desmarais, M.P. OG Croteau P & H) is requesting a variance from 248 CMR Section 10.06 (2)(o). The Petitioner notes a fire in August of 2014 destroyed the office and living quarters of the owner. Upon installation of a new modular building for use by the owner of O.G. Croteau Plumbing. The residential use is on the 2nd. Floor and the Office space is on the 1st floor. It was discovered that PVC piping was used throughout the commercial space. The petitioner is requesting a variance to allow the PVC waste and vent lines to remain in place with connections to same using PVC piping for waste & vent in the basement. Water piping in the basement will be Type L copper. The Fitchburg Board of Health was properly petitioned

Meeting Notes: Best Built homes provided her with a 4 piece home. The building is delivered and partially installed.

A motion was made to allow the PVC that is currently installed may remain. All additional waste and vent piping installed in the basement must be commercial material by Mr. Hanley and seconded by Mr. Milburn. Unanimous

PV157) JACK & SONS FENCE – 10 NASHUA STREET - WORCESTER

(Mr. Groberio, is requesting a variance from 248 CMR Section 10.10 (18). The Petitioner is requesting to eliminate one of the two bathrooms. There is only one employee on site and equipment will stored on one side only, and the other side occupied by one person. . The Worcester Board of Health was properly petitioned. Worcester Inspectional Services supports this request.

Meeting Notes: The storage building is about 2,600 square feet.

A motion was made to allow the installation of one unisex handicap accessible rest room by Mr. McNamee and seconded by Ms. Alfasso. Unanimous

PV158) JUMBO SELF STORAGE - 1450 BOSTON-PROVIDENCE HIGHWAY - NORWOOD

(Mr. Graves, Architect) is requesting a variance from 248 CMR Section 10.10 (18). The property in question is an existing retail facility that will be converted into a self-storage facility. As indicated in the code the regular place of daily work within this building is the administrative area where fewer than five (5) employees will work. This area is outfitted with the required accessible toilet facilities for both men and women. Areas outside of this office area consist of storage containers and interconnecting corridors for transient use only and where visits to storage containers are typically are 15 minutes or less in duration. While the travel distance to the toilet facilities from the furthest portion of the building is approximately 500 feet, the regular place of daily work for the employees at this facility is within 50 feet of the toilet facilities. The Norwood Board of Health letter confirmed it is aware of this variance request.

Meeting Notes: This is a self storage building

A motion was made to approve this installation by Ms. Alfasso and seconded by Mr. McNamee. Unanimous

PV161) ASEMBLY BLOCK – ROW 6 - 449 CANAL STREET - SOMERVILLE

Mr. Blair Chamberlain is requesting a variance from 248 CMR Section 10.06 to allow the use of PVC and CPVC within in the residential section of this complex. The Somerville Board of Health defers to the local inspector who opposes this variance request.

Meeting Notes: They are requesting the portion of the building under 10 stories to be allowed in PVC and CPVC. For the record, the Plumbing Inspector, Anthony Sillari is not in favor of this request.

A motion was made to deny this request by Mr. McNamee and seconded by Mr. Hanley. Unanimous

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FYI – Board Delegated Staff Approvals – Board Vote Is Not Required

Drinking fountain requirements waiver in medical and office buildings.

DA PV155a – A.W. CHESTERTON COMPANY – 860 SALEM AVENUE - GROVELAND

Floor drains and gas/oil/sand separator waiver when installing permanent bollard(s).

DA PV155b – A.W. CHESTERTON COMPANY – 860 SALEM AVENUE – GROVELAND

DISCUSSION(S):

D1) Revisions to 248 CMR

The Executive Director and Legal Counsel presented the Board with drafts of minor amendments to 248 CMR 3.00, 10.00, and 11.00, which were distributed electronically a few days before the meeting, for purposes of adhering to Executive Order 562. Legal Counsel apologized for the Board not being able to have more time and engage in more extensive modifications to the regulations, however the Executive Order deadline necessitated immediate Board action. The draft regulations incorporated comments made in the previous listening session held by the Board as well as incorporated certain, non-controversial changes, that were intended to meet the Executive Order's requirement with a focus on reformatting basic principles, expanding the use of gender neutral bathrooms, and minor changes to the apprenticeship regulations. The Board will address more controversial issues in future revisions. By unanimous consent, the Board reviewed the changes line by line and made minor amendments throughout. Thereafter, *a motion was made to accept the revisions with the changes made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Kilburn: Unanimous*

THE BOARD WILL CONSIDER ANY MATTERS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR

NONE

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Hanley.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS USED:

1. Meeting agenda
2. Minutes from prior meeting
3. Variance applications for above referenced agenda items
4. Draft of Amendments to 248 CMR 3.00, 10.00, and 11.00

Respectfully Submitted By;

Wayne E. Thomas

Wayne E. Thomas, Executive Director
Board of Examiners of Plumbers and Gasfitters

Respectfully Authorized by;

Paul Kennedy, Sr.

Paul Kennedy Sr., Chairman
Board of Examiners of Plumbers and Gasfitters