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COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF  
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

**Minutes**

**Meeting of the  
Board of Elevator Regulations  
October 5, 2022 at 12:30 p.m.**

**1000 Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02118  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor – Room 1D**

**Board Members Present:**

Eric Morse, Acting Chair  
David Gaudet  
David Morgan  
Thomas McDermott  
Christopher Towski

**Board Members Absent:**

Neil Mullane  
Brian Ronan

**Guest Present:**

David Griefenhagen

**Division of Occupational Licensure Staff:**

Peter Kelley  
Joe Janis  
Ruthy Barros

**Call to Order 12:31 pm:**

**1. Continued discussion regarding the operation of the in-car stop switch during  
Firefighters Emergency Operation [Exhibits 1 through 6]:**

Mr. Towski updates the Board of his communications with authorities having jurisdiction on how they teach in-car stop switch and the AHJ's response is that they do not teach this subject matter and it is not apart of the curriculum. Mr. Morse mentioned the stop switch being in active mode as long as the Phase I key switch is in the on position. The Board expressed concern of the stop switch effecting the operation of the doors when on

Firefighters Emergency Operation (FEO). Mr. Towski asked if OPSI knows how many registered equipment in the Commonwealth have push versus pull and Mr. Morse responded, no. Mr. Morse also stated that in A17.1, emergency stop switch is different than an in-car stop switch and the difference is defined in code. Mr. Griefenhagen commented on the matter and requested for clarification of FS90 stop switch SOP. Inspector Janis commented that approximately 20% of stop switches are manual, not keyed, in Western Mass. Mr. Morse expressed that he would like to continue this discussion when all Board members are present and available to participate. A motion was made by Christopher Towski to place the discussion on hold until there is a full board present. The motion was seconded by Thomas McDermott.

**Motion: Christopher Towski**  
**Seconded: Thomas McDermott**  
**Vote: 5-0; Discussion placed on hold.**

2. Discussion on Open Meeting comments [**Exhibit 7**]:

Next, the Board briefly discussed an issue presented to the Board at the Public Hearing. The issue was brought to the attention of the Board by Mr. Griefenhagen and it is in regards to the enforcement of ASME A17.1-2013/CSA B44-13 Section 2.7.5.1. Mr. Griefenhagen stated he has received numerous calls from both, elevator mechanics and inspectors within OPSI's jurisdiction regarding an Elevator Contractor no longer installing what the elevator industry calls a "Car Blocking Device" or "Lock-n-Block". This is a safety device that has been installed by all manufacturers since it became a code required item in the adopted ASME A17.1S-2005 supplemental edition. This safety device is used to provide a safe walking and working surface for elevator mechanics and inspectors when they are performing maintenance and inspection tasks on equipment that is now located in the overhead of the elevator hoistway (other than traditional locations) on Machine Room Less elevators (MRL's). Mr. Gaudet suggested that Mr. McDermott add this matter to the agenda for the next all inspector's meeting. Mr. McDermott confirmed that the submitted material will be shared with the Supervisors to be passed along to the inspectors. A motion was made by Christopher Towski to place the discussion on hold until there is a full board present. The motion was seconded by David Morgan.

**Motion: Christopher Towski**  
**Seconded: David Morgan**  
**Vote: 5-0; Discussion placed on hold.**

3. **Approval of meeting minutes from July 26, 2022 [Exhibit 8]**

A motion was put forth by Christopher Towski to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Thomas McDermott. **Vote: 4-0; Granted.** David Morgan abstained.

**Motion: Christopher Towski**

**Seconded: Thomas McDermott**

**Vote: 4-0; Granted.**

4. **Matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting:**

Mr. Towski stated that Dragon Rescue Management reached out to him with educational materials and training procedures for the Fire Department. Mr. Morgan expressed concern stating that not all firefighters will be trained to act as a licensed Massachusetts elevator mechanic. Mr. Kelley advised the Board not to review training material on emergency extrication.

**Motion to Adjourn: Christopher Towski**

**Seconded: Brian Ronan**

**Vote: 7-0; Adjourned.**

Hearing concluded at 2:09 p.m.

Prepared by: Ruthy Barros

**Exhibit List:**

- Exhibit 1: FEO A17.1-1996, 2000 and 2004
- Exhibit 2: FEO instructions 1996, 2000, 2004 and 2013
- Exhibit 3: FEO code backup documents
- Exhibit 4: Excerpts from "Elevator and Escalator Rescue: A Comprehensive Guide" 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition
- Exhibit 5: Excel Phase II Emergency Operations C. Towski 10/4/22
- Exhibit 6: Use of Elevators during a building fire
- Exhibit 7: Public Hearing Comments from David Griefenhagen 10/5/22
- Exhibit 8: Meeting minutes from July 26, 2022

