

**BOARD OF FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS  
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
September 4, 2014**

The Board of Fire Prevention Regulations held a Board meeting on Thursday, September 4, 2014 at the Department of Fire Services, Boards and Commissions Room, Stow, Massachusetts.

The following Board members were present at this meeting:

Stephen S. Burkott	Chief, Chicopee Fire Department
Anthony Caputo	Registered Professional Fire Protection Engineer
John J. Clancy	Inspector of Buildings in a City/Town
Jeffrey Cox	Registered Professional Electrical Engineer
Larry S. Fisher	Electrical Contractor
Alfonso F. Ibarreta	Registered Professional Mechanical Engineer
Gary S. Keith	Representative of the Public
Robert MacKendrick	FPAM Representative
Eric H. Madison	Chief, Longmeadow Fire Department
Peter J. Ostroskey	Designee of the State Fire Marshal
Kevin C. Robinson	Chairman/Chief, Marshfield Fire Department
Paul C. Scheiner	Chemist
Kenneth A. Smith	Blasting Association Member

The following Board members were absent from this meeting:

John D. Cox	Registered Professional Chemical Engineer
William Laidler	Hanover Wiring Inspector
Bart Shea	Designee of the Commissioner, Boston Fire Department

DFS/BFPR staffing present at this meeting:

Timothee Rodrigue	Division of Fire Safety
Richard Fredette	Fire Code Administrator/Executor Director
Peter Senopoulos, Esq.	Board Counsel
Barbara DiGregorio	Division of Fire Safety

Also present were the following interested individuals (and their affiliations):

David A. Duval	Massachusetts Systems Contractors Association
Peter Diamond	Inspector of Wires, Town of Norfolk

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and asked the members of the Board and staff to introduce themselves for the record.

**Advertised Regulatory Public Hearing held in accordance with M.G.L. C.30A**

The Chairman opened the M.G.L. c. 30A regulatory public hearing at 1:00 p.m. and read the regulatory notice for the public hearing relative to the two proposed amendments to the Massachusetts Electrical Code (527 CMR 12.00). The 1<sup>st</sup> amendment, s. 445.20, filed on an emergency basis, extends the time (to 1-1-15) within which to comply with a GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) requirement for

certain emergency generators. The 2nd amendment, s. 690.12(5), extends the eff. date to 1-1-17 of a current code requirement relating to a listed and identified rapid shutdown system for photovoltaic systems.

The Chairman asked if staff received any written public comments regarding the proposed amendment as invited by the notice.

Mr. Fredette informed the Board that he received one comment of support this morning from Jack Hickman, SMA America on 690.12(5). Copies of the comment from Jack Hickman, SMA America have been distributed to the Board.

The Chairman stated that anyone in the audience who seeks to present comments to the Board on the proposed amendments should complete the public testimony sign in sheet in addition to the regular sign in sheet.

The Chairman asked if there were any public comments relative to the proposed amendments for 527 CMR 12. Hearing none, the Chairman asked the Board for a motion to close the hearing on 527 CMR 12. A motion was made by Dr. Scheiner, seconded by Chief Madison, and unanimously voted by the Board to close the public hearing.

#### **Monthly Board Meeting New Business**

- 1. Minutes from the August 7, 2014 meeting submitted for approval.*

Upon a motion made by Chief Madison, seconded by Mr. MacKendrick, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2014 meeting with the following modification: Include a note that the State Fire Marshal Coan attended the meeting.

- 2. Possible vote to approve for final promulgation the proposed regulation that was the subject of today's public hearing.*

Upon a motion made by Mr. Jeff Cox and seconded by Mr. Fisher, the Board unanimously voted to approve for final promulgation the proposed regulation s. 445.20, filed on an emergency basis, which extends the time (to 1-1-15) within which to comply with a GFCI (ground fault circuit interrupter) requirement for certain emergency generators.

A motion was made by Mr. Jeff Cox and seconded by Mr. Fisher and the Board unanimously voted to approve for final promulgation the proposed regulation s. 690.12(5), which extends the eff. date to 1-1-17 of a current code requirement relating to a listed and identified rapid shutdown system for photovoltaic systems.

#### **Monthly Board Meeting Old Business**

- 1. Request for an amendment regarding 527 CMR 12.00 Article 690 Section 11 "Arc-Fault Circuit Protection (Direct Current)" from Glenn McGillicuddy, Innovative Engineering Solutions, Inc.*

The Board, by unanimous consent tabled this matter until the October meeting.

- 2. Request for clarification from Thomas Sullivan, Inspector of Wires, Town of Holyoke, on NEC 2014 210.11(C) 1 – Small Appliance branch circuits*

The Board, by unanimous consent tabled this matter until the October meeting.

3. *Request for an interpretation from Louis A. Travaglini, Inspector of Wires, Town of Ashland, regarding a A/C ductless unit and whether the air handler on the inside of the home needs a service switch.*

The Board, by unanimous consent tabled this matter until the October meeting.

#### **Monthly Board Meeting – Regulatory Activity: Reports, Status, and Process**

1. *527 CMR 1.00 – Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Code*

Board Counsel Senopoulos informed the Board that draft document was filed with the Secretary of State last Friday with anticipation that it will be published in the Massachusetts Register in two weeks or within four weeks with an effective date of 1/1/2015.

#### **Monthly Board Meeting – Promulgation: Status Updates**


1. *See attached spreadsheet from legal.*

Board Counsel reviewed the BFPR Promulgation Status Tracking Sheet that was distributed.

#### **Board Input**

Chairman Robinson advised the Board that he attended a Ethics Commission update on conflict of interest. In the event that a board member thinks they may have an conflict of interest, we will record for the minutes the time that you left the room and the time that you came back into the room so that it will be documented in our records that the board member was not present during that discussion or vote.

A motion was made by Dr. Scheiner and seconded by Mr. MacKendrick to adjourn the meeting at 2:14 pm. The Board voted unanimously on this motion.

Submitted by: Executive Director   
Date: 9/5/2014