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ANTHONY P. CAPUTO
CHAIRMAN

BOARD OF FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
August 3, 2023 1:00 p.m.
Microsoft Teams Meeting

The following Board members were present:

Anthony Caputo
Alfonso Ibarreta
John Cox
Kenneth Smith
Larry S. Fisher
Paul Scheiner
Peter Ostroskey
Patrick Ellis
Paul Kennedy
Patty Sheehan
Edward Williams

BFPR Chair, Fire Protection Engineer
Registered Professional Mechanical Engineer
Registered Professional Chemical Engineer
Blasting Association Member
Electrical Contractor
Chemist
State Fire Marshal
Boston Fire Marshal
Wiring Inspector
Inspector of Buildings
Deputy Chief Brockton Fire Department

DFS Staffing were present:

Jon Davine
Maribel Fournier
David Clemons
Brian Ingram
Mary Ann Smith
Glenn Rooney
Rachel Perlman

State Fire Marshal
Deputy State Fire Marshal
David Clemons
Director, Fire Safety Division
Code Administrator, Fire Safety Division
General Counsel
Deputy General Counsel

Mary Ann Smith called roll and asked members to introduce themselves for the record.

Chairman Caputo called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.

Monthly Board Meeting

1. Minutes from the June 1, 2023 meeting of BFPR submitted for approval.

Motion to approve the June 1, 2023 meeting minutes made by Paul Scheiner seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carries.

New Business

State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey expressed his thanks to the Board of Fire Prevention Regulation members for their hard work and dedication. Marshal Ostroskey announced Jon Davine as the new acting State Fire Marshal.

Old Business

1. *Committee/ Reports*

- a. *Administrative Code Committee*
- b. *General Requirements Code Committee*
- c. *Occupancy Code Committee*
- d. *Processing Code Committee*
- e. *Equipment Code Committee*
- f. *Hazardous Code Committee*
- g. *Electrical Code Committee*

(1) Minutes, May 8, 2023

- i. Response to 527 CMR 12.00, 110, 300.4(4), as received from Donald Fess, Harvard University on May 31, 2023.

- 1. **Question # 1:** When conductors over 1000 volts are in a manhole with conductors under 1000 volts does permanently separated have any connection to article 110 (clearances) other than Part V (Manholes and Other Electrical Enclosures Intended for Personnel Entry).

Response: No

Motion to accept response made by Paul Kenndy, seconded by Larry Fisher. All in favor. Motion carries.

- 2. **Question #2:** When conductors over 1000 volts are in a manhole with conductors under 1000 volts do they both need to be shielded. Per 300.4(4) end note.

Response: No

Motion to accept response made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carries.

- ii. Response to 527 CMR 12.00, 210.52(C) as received from Joseph McElhinney, on June 16, 2023.

- 1. **Question # 1:** We need an interpretation of 527CMR 12:00 210.52 (C) calls for counter top 12 Inches or more to require a receptacle outlet, Does this mean the 24" rule has been removed intentionally because of current wording in revised sections.

Response: No

Motion to accept response made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carries.

- iii. Response to 527 CMR 12.00, 110.26 as received from Matthew Tilden, on June 20, 2023.

Question #1: Per NEC 2023, section 110.26 code on clearances, does the doors of non-electrical panels or cabinets be considered as the equipment.

Response: Yes

Motion to accept response made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carries.

Question #2: Per NEC 2023, section 110.26 code on clearances, would the attached equipment layout for a telecommunication equipment on an outdoor concrete pad be in compliance with the code?

Response: No

Motion to accept response made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carries.

Question #3: Per NEC 2023, section 110.26 code on clearances, can the 24" egress clearance be in either direction, if the door is blocking one direction, if there is 24" clearance?

Response: No

Motion to accept response made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carries.

- (2) Minutes, July 26, 2023

- iv. Response to 527 CMR 12.00, 230.85 as received from Steven Scliopou, on June 21, 2023.

Question # 1: When the Meter main listed as serviced equipment only this means the breaker that is in the meter enclosure is now the Main Breaker. Everything After that main breaker is a Sub Panel. This requires a 4 wire going into the house, all grounds and neutrals are separated, any existing circuits must be changed to a 4 wire for example: Electric Dryer would be 10/3 NM cable 4 wire outlet. Your assessment on these please, and the range would be a 4 wire cable and the wall outlet. Am I correct?

Response: Yes

Motion to accept response made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carries.

Question # 2: When the new Meter Socket is Labeled from the Mfg. and UL Listed as Emergency Disconnect/ Service Disconnect, you cannot re-label a UL

listed product. Then that is the Main Breaker then the load side is a Sub Panel and must follow the requirements. A 4 wire is now required to go into the Dwelling.

Response: No Response. Question will not be answered until after proposed emergency amendment language is reviewed by MEAC and BFPR.

- v. Response to 527 CMR 12.00, 555.36(C) as received from Chip Servant, on June 21, 2023.

Question # 1: Is Article 555.36(C) asking for all seven circuits to be de-energized from each individual E-stop located at the docking areas?

Response: No

Motion to accept response made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carries.

- vi. Response to 527 CMR 12.00, Rule 3 as received from John Hathaway, on June 27, 2023.

Question #1: When adding a PV system to an existing service that has knob and tube circuits, does Rule 3 allow an electrician to install said PV system without replacing the knob and tube circuits?

Response: Yes, Rule 3 does stand.

Question #2: When replacing a service that has knob and tube circuits, does Rule 3 allow an electrician to install said service without replacing the knob and tube circuits?

Response: Yes, Rule 3 does stand.

Motion to accept response made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carries.

Question #3: Does adding a PV system to a home that has knob and tube in poor condition (Anything in need of repair/replacement) fall under a part of Rule 3 that states, The install shall not increase the magnitude of an existing violation? (Note: The knob and tube circuits are not directly attached to the PV circuit(s) and are protected by circuit breakers.)

Response: Yes, Rule 3 does stand.

Motion to accept response made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carries.

- vii. Response to MGL CMR 12.00, Rule 1 & 2, Chapter 9 as received from Chris Polny, Rodenhiser on June 30, 2023.

Question # 1: Table 1 Percent to Cross Section of Conduit & Tubing for Conductors and Cables Notes to Tables (4). Do conduit bodies count as connectors when applying Chapter 9 Notes to tables item #4 *“Where conduit or tubing nipples, not including connectors, having a maximum length of 24 in...”*

Response: No, the raceway is not considered extended by a conduit body.

Question #2: Would the installation of the following cord and plug connected equipment, with no other associated electrical wiring installed or existing premises wiring used require a license or permit per Rules 1 & 2

- a. Sump Pump
- b. Electric Range
- c. Electric Clothes Dryer
- d. Gas Clothes Dryer
- e. Fixed in Place Microwave
- f. Refrigerator
- g. Condensate pump for AC system where drainage from unit is hard piped into it
- h. Wall mounted TV
- i. Dishwashers

Response: No Response, Committee referred submitter to bring this to the BSEE.

Update: After review from the BFPR, a motion was made by Larry Fisher to bring Question #2 back to the committee for further review.

Motion to accept response made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carries.

- viii. Response to 527 CMR 12.00, 230.2 as received from Michael Trickett, on July 3, 2023.

Question #1: Attached is a one-line diagram depicting an electrical distribution system. This shows a utility pad mounted transformer with four sets of underground service conductors terminating in four service equipment enclosures and installed at separate locations. Separate loads are supplied by each service. One service is for the 1600A main switchboard that will control the “house” panels, one is for the 500A fire pump, one is for the 1000A commercial meters, and the last is for the 1200A residential meters. These services are all located outside with the exception of the 1600A house main switchboard which is located inside the building. Article 230.2 indicates that a building or other structure served shall be provided by one service unless permitted in 230.2(A) through (D). Do you consider this design as containing multiple services?

Response: Yes

Motion to accept response made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carries.

h. Massachusetts Electrical Advisory Committee

Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Paul Scheiner, seconded by Larry Fisher. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 1:57 p.m.

Approved:  Date: 9/7/23