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LARRY S. FISHER
CHAIRMAN

BOARD OF FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
October 3, 2024 1:00 p.m.

The following Board Members were present:

Larry Fisher
Jon Davine
Chief Arruda

Alfonso Ibarreta
Keith Pogarian
Paul Scheiner, Ph. D.
Paul Kennedy
Edward Williams
Colin Kelly
Kenneth Smith
Patty Sheehan
John Cox

Chair, BFPR
Fire Marshal
Fire Chief from a community with a population of
less than 25,000
Registered Professional Mechanical Engineer
Registered Professional Electrical Engineer
Graduate Fire Chemist
Inspector of Wires
FPAM Representative
Boston Fire Department Commissioner (Designee)
Blasting Association Member
Building Official
Chemical Engineer

The following Board Members were absent:

Joseph Jackson
Michael Newbury
John Correia
Johnathan M. Eisenberg, P.E.

Fire Chief from a community with a population of
more than 50,000
Fire Chief from a community with a population of
25,000 to 50,000
Member of the Public
Registered Professional Fire Protection Engineer

DFS Staffing were present:

Mary Ann Smith
Brian Ingram
Glenn Rooney
Matt Murray

Code Administrator, Fire Safety Division
Director, Division of Fire Safety
General Counsel
Code Compliance Officers

Guests were present:

Peter Diamond MEAC
Michael Pang
Sam Pillsbury
Rae Moore

1. Meeting was opened at 1:03 p.m. by Larry Fisher, Chair.
2. Introductions, Mary Ann Smith called upon BFPR Members and DFS Staff to introduce themselves for the record.

Monthly Board Meeting

1. Minutes from the October 3, 2024 meeting of BFPR submitted for approval.

Motion to approve the October 3, 2024, meeting minutes made by Deputy Chief Williams seconded by Paul Scheiner. All in favor. Motion Carries.

New Business

2. Discussion on 527 CMR 12.00, 230.85 Emergency Disconnects.

Staff to work on drafting an Advisory providing guidance to Electrical Inspectors and Electricians. Draft language to be reviewed by BFPR during the November meeting.

Motion Made by Chief Arruda, seconded by Paul Scheiner. All in favor. Motion carried.

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Old Business

Committee/ Reports

1. *Administrative Code Committee*

No Action

2. *General Requirements Code Committee*

Motion to approve minutes from September 5, 2024 with the correction of Paul Scheiner as guest made by Richard Arruda seconded by Paul Scheiner. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. *Occupancy Code Committee*

No Action

4. *Processing Code Committee*

No Action

5. *Equipment Code Committee*

No Action

6. *Hazardous Code Committee*

No Action

7. Electrical Code Committee

Motion to accept minutes from June 18, 2024 made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carried.

- a. 527 CMR 12.00, Rule 5 received from Paul Raposo on April 11, 2024.

Question 1: Rule 5# states References are made in this code to other standards. Those standards, where duly adopted by law or regulation, may be enforced by the appropriate official. They are not considered part of this Code and they are not enforceable under M.G.L. c. 143, Section 3L. For Massachusetts Building Code references, see Appendix A.

Response: No Response.

Question 2: Since the building code is less stringent, does this mean it is not enforceable under M.G.L. c. 141 and 143, Section 3L, and thus electrical installations are still governed by the electrical code?

Response: No Response.

Question 3: (Rule 5#) Since Note 4: references Minimum flood provisions are provided in Building Construction and Safety Code, the international Building Code (IBC), and the International Residential Code for One and Two-Family Dwellings (IRC).) does this mean the code refers to flood provisions, including FEMA regulations, through these building codes?

Response: No Response.

Question 4: (Rule 5#) Since Note 4: references Minimum flood provisions are provided in Building Construction and Safety Code, the international Building Code (IBC), and the International Residential Code for One and Two-Family Dwellings (IRC).) Does this suggest that 527 CMR 12.00, which adopted the NEC and its amendments, no longer applies in a situation where the building code's flood provisions in Appendix A take precedence over electrical code requirements?

Response: No Response.

Question 5: Is 682.5(3) of the NEC more restrictive than the Building Code in flood-related situations, specifically in areas subject to storm-driven flooding, compared to 110.11 (Deteriorating Agents, Informational Note No. 4, Minimum Flood Provisions)?

Response: No Response.

Question 6: (Rule 5#) Do electricians need to comply with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Environmental Protection (MA DEP) regulations 90.2(D)(5)(c), specifically MGL 310.10, which zones areas subject to flooding, when installing generators and other electrical equipment.

Response: No Response.

Question 7: (Rule 5#) If an electrician uses MA DEP regulations (MGL 310.10) and FEMA flood maps for installations is it standard practice to use these flood-related data historically for electrical equipment installations as well?

Response: No Response.

Question 8: Is the electrical datum plane established in areas that do not fall within tidal zones (1) and (2) based on an equivalent benchmark, such as one determined by seasonal or storm-driven flooding, set by the authority having jurisdiction?

Response: No Response.

Question 9: Who is the authority having jurisdiction under 682.5(3)? Does it default to the most stringent Massachusetts law applicable to flood provisions?

Response: No Response.

No Action

8. *Massachusetts Electrical Advisory Committee*

No Action

9. Flame Effects Work Group

No Action

10. NFPA 45 Work Group

No Action

Adjournment

Chairman Larry Fisher would like to publicly thank Deputy Chief Edward Williams who will be retiring from the BFPR, after serving as the Member for the Brockton Fire Department, Fire Prevention Association of Massachusetts.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Paul Kennedy, seconded by Paul Scheiner. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 1:44 p.m.

Approved: Larry S. Fisher Date: 11/7/24