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LARRY S. FISHER
CHAIRMAN

BOARD OF FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
December 5, 2024 1:00 p.m.

The following Board Members were present:

Larry Fisher
Jon Davine
Chief Arruda

Alfonso Ibarreta

Paul Scheiner, Ph. D.
Paul Kennedy
Jonathan M. Eisenberg, P.E.
(Left the BFPR Meeting at 2:00 p.m.)

Colin Kelly
Patty Sheehan
Keith Pogarian

Chair, BFPR
Fire Marshal
Fire Chief from a community with a population of
less than 25,000
Registered Professional Mechanical Engineer

Graduate Fire Chemist
Inspector of Wires
Registered Professional Fire Protection Engineer

Boston Fire Department Commissioner (Designee)
Building Official
Registered Professional Electrical Engineer

The following Board Members were absent:

Joseph Jackson

Michael Newbury

John Cox
Kenneth Smith
Vacant
Vacant

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
Chemical Engineer
Blasting Association Member
Member of the Public
FPAM Representative

DFS Staffing were present:

Maribel Fornier
Mary Ann Smith
Brian Ingram
Glenn Rooney

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

Matt Murray
Jake Nunnemacher
Rachel Perlman

Code Compliance Officer
Fire Protection Engineer
Deputy General Counsel

Guests were present:

Peter Diamond MEAC
Jen Hoyt, Code Red Con
Bill Reilly
Ralph Mele
Chris Towski
Timothy Reardon, EOHLC
Cathline Neill
Peter Ostroskey

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 November 7, 2024 meeting of BFPR submitted for approval.

Motion to approve the November 7, 2024, meeting minutes made by Paul Kennedy seconded by Paul Scheiner. All in favor. Motion Carries.

New Business

2. Discussion on Accessory Dwelling Units and fire codes, received from Timothy Reardon, Chief of Data and Research, Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities.

The EOHLC intends to issue the final regulations with an effective date of February 2, 2025.

Chairman Fisher requested that a small group to look at our possible concerns associated with these units. This way we will be prepared when the draft document comes out to react and respond appropriately.

Interested Parties: Larry Fisher, Paul Kennedy, Deputy Chief Kelly, Chief Arruda, Patty Sheehan

3. Session Law – Acts of 2024 Chapter 239, signed by Governor Healy on November 20, 2024 [**Note: section 122 (page 142).**] Glenn Rooney, General Counsel went over the section and BFPR member questions.

Legal has reached out to the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Energy Resources to establish points of contact for the BFPR.

Mary Ann Smith, DFS staff stated that this would be a good item for the Lithium-Ion Work Group to review.

Interested Parties: Alfonso Ibarreta, Chris Towski, Paul Kennedy, Jon Eisenberg, Deputy Chief Kelly, Jen Hoyt, Larry Fisher

Old Business

Committee/ Reports

1. *Administrative Code Committee*

Minutes October 31, 2024

Motion to approve minutes from October 31, 2024 made by Paul Scheiner seconded by Marshal Davine. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion to approve response to Question 2 from Ralph Mele made by Paul Scheiner seconded by Richard Arruda. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. *General Requirements Code Committee*

No Action

Meeting October 30, 2024

No Action

3. *Occupancy Code Committee*

No Action

4. *Processing Code Committee*

No Action

5. *Equipment Code Committee*

No Action

6. *Hazardous Code Committee*

- i. Meeting October 15, 2024
- ii. **NFPA 30 Work Group, TBA**
- iii. **NFPA 495 Work Group, TBA**

No Action

7. *Electrical Code Committee*

Motion to accept minutes from October 15, 2024 made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carried.

- i. Request for Interpretation Relative to 527 CMR 12.00, NEC 445.19(A) submitted by John Perry on March 27, 2024.

Question 1: The last section of the section listed above states “The provisions to shut down the prime mover shall be permitted to satisfy the requirements of 445.18(A) where it is capable of being locked in the open position...” If I satisfy the requirements of 445.18(A)

(1) & (2) the Emergency Shutdown of the Prime Mover does not need to be “lockable open” also?

Response: No

Motion Made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion Carries.

- ii. Request for Interpretation Relative 527 CMR 12.00, NEC 110.22A submitted by Brendan Driscoll on October 17, 2024.

Question 1: Where duplex receptacle(s) are installed above a ceiling adjacent to an access panel in a commercial setting, is the junction box required to be labeled to satisfy the requirements of Article 110.22A? For reference, the receptacle(s) in question serve cord and plug connected low voltage power supplies.

Response: No

Motion Made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion Carries.

- iii. Request for Interpretation Relative 527 CMR 12.00, NEC 110.22A submitted by Brendan Driscoll on October 17, 2024.

Question 1: When a corporation with an A1 business license applies for an electrical permit, should the permit be issued to the corporation or the Master licensee of record?

Response: No Response, none specified

No Action

- iv. Request for Interpretation Relative 527 CMR 12.00, 250 (A)(1) received from Stephen Greany on November 1, 2024.

Question 1: If the grounding electrode conductor is connected to the meter socket/emergency disconnect as allowed per 250.24(A)(1), does that require the emergency disconnect to now be considered the service disconnect?

Response: Yes

Motion Made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion Carries.

- v. 527 CMR 12.00, Rule 7 received from Andrew Sheaffer, LeCesse Development Corp. on November 4, 2024.

Question 1: Rule 7. 527 CMR 12.00 shall be effective on all installations for which a permit has been granted subsequent to February 28, 2023: Is this only in reference to “electrical permits” pulled subsequent to February 28, 2023?

Response: Yes

Motion Made by Leo Martin, seconded by Paul Kennedy, all in favor. Motion Carries.

Question 2: Does the issuance of a building permit prior to this date hold any bearing on the governing electrical code if the electrical permit was not issued till after February 28, 2023?
Ex: Building permit issued August 2022, Electrical permit issued July 2023.

Response: No

Motion Made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion Carries.

Question 3: Does any local AHJ have the ability to determine which code iteration applies?

Response: No

Motion Made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion Carries.

- vi. 527 CMR 12.00, 215.18, 230.67 received from Andrew Sheaffer, LeCesse Development Corp. on November 4, 2024.

Question 1: 215.18 Requires Surge-Protective Devices on the load side of all: (1) Dwelling units. Is this interpreted to mean there is (1) SPD per each dwelling unit? Ex: a multi-family apartment building has (80) units. An SPD will be required adjacent to the load center in each dwelling unit (80) total, correct?

Response: Yes

Motion Made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion Carries.

Question 2: 230.67 is an existing section in the 2020 NEC which requires surge protective at all service entrances. In 2023 an exception was added indicating “The SPD shall not be required to be located at the service equipment as required in 230.67(B) if located at each next level.

Response: No

Motion Made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion Carries.

- vii. 527 CMR 12.00 received from Stephen Racette, S.G. Racette Plumbing & Heating on November 14, 2024.

What is the required separation, if any between underground electrical conduit serving a pool heater or a generator, from underground gas piping?

Response: No Response, none specified.

No Action

8. *Massachusetts Electrical Advisory Committee*

No Action

9. Flame Effects Work Group

Motion to approve minutes from August 20, 2024 made by Paul Scheiner seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carried.

10. NFPA 45 Work Group

No Action

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Paul Scheiner, seconded by Paul Kennedy. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 2:24 p.m.

Approved: Larry S. Fisher Date: 1/2/25