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*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
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LARRY S. FISHER  
CHAIRMAN

**BOARD OF FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS**  
**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**  
**March 6, 2025 1:00 p.m.**

**The following Board Members were present:**

Larry Fisher  
Chair Arruda

Alfonso Ibarreta  
Glenn Rooney  
Kenneth Smith  
Paul Scheiner, Ph. D.  
Jonathan M. Eisenberg, P.E.  
Colin Kelly  
Patty Sheehan  
Keith Pogarian  
Chris Towski  
John Cox

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

**The following Board Members were absent:**

Joseph Jackson  
Michael Newbury  
Jon Davine  
Paul Kennedy  
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  
Fire Marshal  
Inspector of Wires  
Member of the Public

**DFS Staffing were present:**

Rachel Perlman  
Mary Ann Smith  
Matt Murray

Counsel for the Board, Deputy General Counsel  
Code Administrator, Fire Safety Division  
Code Compliance Supervisor

John Wood  
Jake Nunnemacher  
Kristen McDonough

Code Compliance Officer  
Fire Protection Engineer  
Fire Protection Engineer

**Guests were present:**

1. Meeting was opened at 1:05 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 February 6, 2025 meeting of BFPR submitted for approval.

**Motion to approve February 6, 2025, meeting minutes as written made by Paul Scheiner seconded by Chris Towski All in favor. Motion Carries.**

**New Business**

1. Mary Ann Smith provided an update on the Staff Work towards the NFPA 1, 2024 review process.

**Old Business**

*Committee/ Reports*

*1. Administrative Code Committee*

*Minutes January 29, 2025*

**Motion to approve minutes from January 29, 2025 made by Paul Scheiner seconded by Glenn Rooney. All in favor. Motion carried.**

*Minutes February 3, 2025*

**Motion to approve minutes from February 3, 2025 made by Paul Scheiner seconded by Glenn Rooney. All in favor. Motion carried.**

*Minutes February 20, 2025*

**Motion to approve minutes from February 20, 2025 made by Paul Scheiner seconded by Chris Towski. All in favor. Motion carried.**

*2. General Requirements Code Committee*

***No Action***

*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*

*Minutes January 13, 2025*

**Motion to accept minutes from January 13, 2025 made by Richard Arruda, seconded by Chris Towski. All in favor. Motion carried.**

- i. 527 CMR 12.00, 410.2, 410.6 submitted by Southborough Historical Society, received on December 26, 2024.

**Question 1:** Is simply replacing a missing copy ground wire considered a “retrofit?”

**Response:** No, it is not a retrofit as the work being done is not using a recognized listed retrofit kit.

**Motion to approve response ‘No’ made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Glenn Rooney. All in favor. Motion Carries.**

**Question #2:** Is simply replacing a missing copper ground wire considered a “field modification?”

**Response:** No response, the submitted will need to resubmit this question and define what they are trying to do. What type of fixtures are they and if the field modification is code compliant.

***No Action***

**Question #3:** If the answer to either of these questions is ‘no’, is a licensed electrician legally able to replace the missing grounding wire and rehang our fixtures?

**Response:** No response, unable to be answered collectively. This will be sent back to the requestor due to lack of specificity.

***No Action***

**Question #4:** Does the fixture pictured in the first illustration, with UL stickers and original grounding mechanism attached meet code?

**Response:** No response, unable to be answered collectively. This will be sent back to the requestor due to lack of specificity.

***No Action***

**Question #5:** If the answer to question three or four is no, are you able to direct us to an approved resource who can help us?

**Response:** No response, not within the realm of the committee to answer this.

***No Action***

ii. 527 CMR 12.00, 250.50 submitted by Drew Jacques, received January 16, 2025.

Question #1 On a new construction single family residence where the steel reinforcing bars or rods were not left accessible for use without disturbing the concrete, will a concrete encased electrode be required to be apart of the grounding electrode system?

**Response:** No

**Motion to approve response ‘No’ made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Glenn Rooney. All in favor. Motion Carries.**

iii. 527 CMR 12.00, 110.26(C)(3) submitted by Walter “Ted” Dow received January 18, 2025.

Question #1 An electrical room contains multiple pieces of equipment, each rated less than 800-amperes. The room additionally contains a 2,500-ampere bus duct riser, with no connections in the room. The room entrance/egress door is located within 25-feet of the nearest edge of the equipment working space. As all equipment in the room is less than 800-amperes and the bus duct does not serve the room, does 527 CMR 12, 110.26(c)(3) permit the entrance/egress door to swing into the room, without panic (fire exit hardware)?

**Response:** Yes

**Motion to approve response ‘Yes’ made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Scheiner. All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Question #2 An electrical room contains multiple pieces of equipment, each rated less than 800 amperes. The room additionally contains a 2,500-ampere bus duct riser, with multiple plug-in disconnects, each rated less than 800 amperes. The room entrance/egress door is located within 25-feet of the nearest edge of the equipment working space. As all equipment in the room is less than 800-amperes and the plug-in disconnects on the bus duct are each rated less than 800-amperes does 527 CMR 12, 110.26(c)(3) permit the entrance/egress door to swing into the room, without panic (fire exit hardware)?

**Response:** Yes, 110.26(c)(3) is not applicable.

**Motion to not approve and send this question back to the committee for further review made by Keith Pogarian, seconded by Larry Fisher. All in favor. Motion Carries.**

iv. 527 CMR 12.00, 210.12 submitted by George T. Nunn, received January 27, 2025.

Question 1# Article 210.12(E) The exception that AFCI protection shall not be required when the WIRING modification is less than 6’ and no additional outlets. Does this exception also cover one for one receptacle replacement?

**Response:** No

**Motion to approve response ‘No’ made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Scheiner. All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Question #2 Article 406.4(D) receptacle replacements shall comply with 406.4(D)(1) through (D)(8) Article 406.4(D)(4) states that any receptacle replaced in 210.12(A)(B) or (C) it would need to be AFCI protected. Article 210.12(D)(1) Hotels and motels would not require AFCI protection correct?

**Response:** Yes

**Motion to approve response ‘Yes’ made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Scheiner. All in favor. Motion Carries.**

Question #3 Article 406.4(D)(4) AFCI Protection Exception section seems to correct the omission of receptacle replacement not shown in the exceptions in article 210.12(E) do not require AFCI protection. Is it required on a receptacle replacement code Article 210.12(D)(1) to be AFCI protected?

**Response:** No

**Motion to approve response ‘No’ made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Scheiner. All in favor. Motion Carries.**

8. *Massachusetts Electrical Advisory Committee*

**No Action**

9. Flame Effects Work Group

**No Action**

10. BSEE/BFPR Work Group

Minutes February 22, 2025

**Motion to accept Minutes made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Paul Scheiner, all in favor, Motion Carries.**

### **Adjournment**

**A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Paul Scheiner, seconded by Chris Towski. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 2:21 p.m.**

Approved: Larry S. Fisher Date: 4/3/25