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LARRY S. FISHER
CHAIRMAN

BOARD OF FIRE PREVENTION REGULATIONS
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
DFS, Stow Campus, Link
September 4, 2025, 1:11 p.m.

The following Board Members were present:

Larry Fisher
Rachel Perlman
Alfonso Ibarreta
Paul Kennedy
Kenneth Smith
Paul Scheiner, Ph. D.
Chris Towski
Chief Arruda

Jonathan M. Eisenberg, P.E.
Chief Dyer

Keith Pogarian

Chair, BFPR
Fire Marshal Designee
Registered Professional Mechanical Engineer
Inspector of Wires (Interim Chair)
Blasting Association Member
Graduate Fire Chemist
FPAM Representative
Fire Chief from a community with a population of
less than 25,000
Registered Professional Fire Protection Engineer
Fire Chief from a community with a population of
more than 50,000
Registered Professional Electrical Engineer

The following Board Members were absent:

Jon Davine
Patty Sheehan
Colin Kelly
John Cox
Michael Newbury

Keith Pogarian
Vacant

Fire Marshal
Building Official
Boston Fire Department Commissioner (Designee)
Chemical Engineer
Fire Chief from a community with a population of
25,000 to 50,000
Registered Professional Electrical Engineer
Member of the Public

DFS Staffing were present:

Brian Ingram
Mary Ann Smith
Jake Nunnemacher
John Wood
Joe Townsend
Marc Oddo
Mike Reilly

Director of Fire Safety Division
Executive Director to the Board
Fire Protection Engineer
Code Compliance Officer
Code Compliance Officer
Code Compliance Officer
Code Compliance Officer

Guests were present:

1. Introductions, Mary Ann Smith called upon BFPR Members and DFS Staff to introduce themselves for the record.

The Board would like to welcome Chief Martin Dyer, Worcester Fire Department, as a new member. Chief Dyer will be representing the FCAM seat for Chiefs with a population of more than 50,000.

Monthly Board Meeting

1. Minutes from the August 7, 2025 meeting of BFPR submitted for approval.

Motion to approve August 7, 2025, meeting minutes made by Richard Arruda, seconded by Paul Scheiner. All in favor. Motion Carries.

New Business

1. Mary Ann Smith, DFS Staff, provided an update on the NEC 70, 2026 review. The Massachusetts Electrical Advisory Committee will be meeting during the month of September to start their review. The NEC 70, 2026 standard will be available the first week of October.
2. Brian Ingram is working with Tammy Gropman to create a joint meeting between the BBRS and BFPR to discuss any concerns the Board may have with the draft Amendment Package (Based off NFPA 1, 2024).
3. Mary Ann Smith provided an update on the Staff Work towards the NFPA 1, 2024 review process.
 - a. Draft amendment packages were passed out for Chapters 20 through 54.
 - b. Subcommittee reviews are expected to be completed prior to the next meeting.
4. Board Review
 - a. No vote will be taken today on Chapters 20-54
 - b. Chris Towski requested that staff change all code references to either Building Code or 780 CMR to create consistency.
 - c. Discussion
 - i. 20.1.4.1.1 Special Amusement requirements to ensure notification to the Fire Department for Building Permits
 - ii. Review the definition for AHJ and permit

Break: 2:13 – 2:27 p.m.

Richard Arruda motion to table review until all Board members had a chance to review the package (Chapters 20 through 54) until next meeting, seconded by Jon Eisenberg. All in favor. Motion Carries.

Old Business

Committee/ Reports

1. Administrative Code Committee

Meeting July 8, 2025

No Action

2. General Requirements Code Committee

Minutes, July 16, 2025

Motion to approve minutes from July 16, 2025 made by Richard Arruda, seconded by Paul Scheiner. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Occupancy Code Committee

Minutes July 17, 2025

Motion to approve minutes from July 17, 2025 made by Larry Fisher, seconded by Richard Arruda. All in favor. Motion carried.

4. Processing Code Committee

No Action

5. Equipment Code Committee

No Action

6. Hazardous Code Committee

Jon Eisenberg will reach out John Cox to schedule a meeting of the Hazardous Code Subcommittee for the month of September.

No Action

7. Electrical Code Committee

No Action

8. Massachusetts Electrical Advisory Committee

No Action

9. BSEE/BFPR Work Group

No Action

10. Hazmat Work Group

Minutes, June 27, 2025

Motion to approve minutes from June 27, 2025 made by Jon Eisenberg, seconded by Paul Kennedy. All in favor. Motion carried

Items not anticipated

Chris Towski provided an update on NFPA 800. This will be the new 'all inclusive' code on battery safety. Chris stated that a lot of work is currently being done and advised the Lithium Ion Battery Work Group to wait until the Standard is published to reduce duplicated efforts.

Adjournment

The next meeting will take place on October 2, 2025, at DFS, Stow in the Board and Commissions Room.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Paul Scheiner, seconded by Chris Towski. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting ended at 2:51 p.m.

Approved: Larry S. Fisher Date: 10/2/25