



MAURA HEALEY
GOVERNOR

KIM DRISCOLL
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

YVONNE HAO
SECRETARY, EXECUTIVE OFFICE
OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Occupational Licensure
Office of Public Safety and Inspections

1000 Washington Street, Suite 710
Boston, Massachusetts 02118

LAYLA R. D'EMILIA
UNDERSECRETARY, CONSUMER
AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS
REGULATION

SARAH R. WILKINSON
COMMISSIONER, DIVISION OF
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE

Minutes

Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinkler Fitters
Division of Occupational Licensure
Video Conference Call Meeting

October 18, 2023, 10:00 AM

1. Meeting called to order by the Chair at 10:00 AM, followed by roll call, the Chair asked that members identify themselves and whom they represent:

Bureau Members Present:

- Grace Poirier, Chair
- Dan Dumont, NE Mechanical Contractors (Absent)
- Justin Fishlin, Sprinkler Fitter Member (Absent)
- Dennis Allen, Pipefitter Member
- Pauline Lally, User Member
- VACANT, Public Member
- Sharon Orr, Mechanical Engineer
- John Viola, Sprinkler Contractor Member
- Brian Kelly, Mass. Building/Construction Trades
- Mark Fortune, Sprinkler Fitter Member

Pursuant to St. 2021, c. 20, § 20, An Act Relative to Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures, all Bureau members and staff appeared by videoconference. Public access was provided via videoconference or telephone connection. The Chair informed all attendees that the Bureau meeting was being recorded via Microsoft Teams and that by remaining in the meeting they are consenting on being recorded. The Chair informed all attendees of the following meeting protocols in order to comply with the Open Meeting Laws:

- Meeting will be conducted by the Chair and speakers must be recognized in order to address the Bureau.
- Meeting is a public meeting, not a public hearing.
- Anyone not speaking is to be kept on mute.
- All votes require a roll call by the Bureau members.
- All speakers must identify themselves by name.



2. **Minutes:** The draft minutes from the September 20, 2023, meeting were reviewed. **MOTION** to approve the minutes made by John Viola, **SECOND** by Brian Kelly; motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier in favor).
3. **Bureau Applications for Examination to review.**
MOTION: Sharon Orr **SECOND** by Brian Kelly, to table applicants who are not present for the first time at this meeting. Motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier in favor).

Xabdiel Santiago PUJ (Denied)

Mr. Santiago was not present at today's meeting. This is his 2nd absence.

Lynn Read mentioned that applicants Xabdiel Santiago, Victor Brownwell and Andy Harilall received denial letters and therefore won't be present and Bureau does not need to vote.

Victor Brownwell RT (Denied)

Mr. Brownwell was not present at today's meeting because he received correspondence informing him of his denial per Lynn Read.

Andy Harilall RT- (Denied)

Mr. Harilall was not present at today's meeting because he received correspondence informing him of his denial per Lynn Read.

Nicholas Fiore RC- (approved to take ref tech exam)

Mr. Fiore was present for today's meeting. Grace Poirier stated Mr. Fiore was applying for a refrigeration contractor license in Massachusetts. Mr. Fiore mentioned he was a master refrigeration 1 in Rhode Island with an unrestricted contractor license in Massachusetts. Mr. Fiore indicated that he has a business in Rhode Island for over 15 years and wants to be licensed in the state of Massachusetts, where his residence is located. Sharon Orr received confirmation from the Bureau that under the regulations, to become a contractor the applicant must be a technician for one year first. Mr. Fiore stated he does not hold a refrigeration technician license. Sharon Orr stated because of that the Bureau can approve him to sit for the refrigeration technician exam pending proof from out of state and have him hold that license for a year then sit for the contractor exam. Brian Kelly confirmed that is the process and provided guidance on how to proceed. A **MOTION** was made by John Viola to approve Mr. Fiore to sit for the Refrigeration Technician exam, **SECOND** by Brian Kelly; motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier in favor).

Charles Kujala RT - (Tabled) absent 1st time

Mr. Kujala was not present for today's meeting. This is his first absence, according to the previous vote this applicant is tabled for the next meeting.

Shawn Podziewsky RC – (approved to take ref tech exam)

Mr. Podziewsky was present for today's meeting. Mr. Podziewsky stated he works for a company located in Connecticut and Massachusetts. He is licensed as a refrigeration contractor in Rhode Island and Connecticut. Brian Kelly asked Mr. Podziewsky if he holds a Mass. refrigeration technician license and he said he does not. Brian Kelly noted the previous applicant's case has the same situation so therefore the same requirements apply: Mr. Podziewsky must sit for the refrigeration technician exam first. A **MOTION** was made by Brian Kelly to approve **SECOND** by Sharon Orr; motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier).

Lucas Wooley RT - (Tabled) absent 1st time

Mr. Wooley was not present for today's meeting. This is his first absence, per chair according to the previous vote this applicant is tabled for the next meeting.

Kevin Keeler SJ (approved pending documents sent to Grace Poirier)

Mr. Keeler was present for today's meeting. Mr. Keeler stated he held a sprinkler journeyman license in Connecticut since 2007. He is trying to take the sprinkler journeyman exam in Massachusetts but was previously denied, that's why he is in front of the Bureau. John Viola asked if Mr. Keeler has a Division of Apprenticeship training letter of completion from the state of Connecticut and holds an F2 license and must provide proof to the Chair Grace Poirier.

MOTION was made by John Viola to approve pending this proof, **SECOND** by Mark Fortune; motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier).

Joshua Lipton SJ (approved to take sprinkler fitters exam)

Mr. Lipton was present for today's meeting. Mr. Lipton started his apprenticeship in Florida and was able to transfer from local 821 to local 550 and finish the apprenticeship in Massachusetts. Mr. Vandal told him he would have to go in front of the board due to his out-of-state hours. John Viola asked Mr. Lipton what type of schooling he completed. Mr. Lipton stated he went to Atlantic Technical Center and did 2 years in local 550 and graduated with a total of 8,000 hours. Brian Kelly asked if he received a completion certificate from local 550. Mr. Lipton confirmed he did. 5000 hours from Florida and over 3,000 hours in Massachusetts. A **MOTION** was made by John Viola to approve **SECOND** by Sharon Orr; motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune (abstains), and Grace Poirier).

Alyssa Ady RT (approved to take refrigeration technician exam)

Ms. Ady was present for today's meeting. Ms. Ady explained that she moved from Oregon and wanted to sit for the refrigeration technician exam and was unaware of this type of license because it does not exist on the west coast. She has been doing HVAC for the past 20 years. Brian Kelly confirmed her education and experience, Lynn Read confirmed it was ok. **MOTION** was made by Brian Kelly to approve, **SECOND** by Mark Fortune; motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier).

4. Review of Bureau Apprentice License Renewals

MOTION to table apprentices who are not present for the first time at this meeting was made by Brian Kelly, **SECOND** by Dennis Allen. Motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier).

Roger Blood – SA (approved to renew one last time)

Mr. Blood was present for today's meeting. Mr. Blood stated he has had issues in his personal life and has delayed him in his training to obtain a sprinkler journeyman license. John Viola asked Mr. Blood if he plans on completing his program within the next 2 years. Mr. Blood said yes. Mark Fortune asked how long Mr. Blood did sprinkler work. Mr. Blood stated the last 4 years and before that it was 3 years. **MOTION** was made by Sharon Orr to approve, **SECOND** by Brian Kelly, motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier).

Steven Olenjnikow – PA (Denied)

Mr. Olenjnikow was present for today's meeting. Mr. Olenjnikow stated that he has renewed his license for 35 years and received a letter to attend the meeting. Dennis Allen asked why 35 years without completing the schooling and work hours. Mr. Olenjnikow said he was not aware that he needed to. Sharon Orr says the bureau's goal is not to have lifelong apprentices but to get journeyman status. Sharon Orr asked Mr. Olenjnikow to explain his intentions on renewing the license. Mr. Olenjnikow stated he is retired and wants to keep it just in case work comes up. **MOTION** was made by Sharon Orr to deny, **SECOND** by Mark Fortune; motion

passed by a majority roll call vote. (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier)

Brian Novak SA- (Denied)

Mr. Novak was not present for today's meeting. This is the 2nd time. **MOTION** was made by Brian Kelly to deny, **SECOND** by John Viola, motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier).

Daniel Lagasse – SA (Denied)

Mr. Lagasse was tabled in the last meeting as not present and was not present for today's meeting. **MOTION** was made by Pauline Lally to deny, **SECOND** by Dennis Allen, motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier).

Matthew Cabral – SA (Denied)

Mr. Cabral was not present for today's meeting. This is the 2nd time. **MOTION** was made by Dennis Allen to deny, **SECOND** by Brian Kelly; motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier).

Michael Pacheco – SA (Tabled) Lynn Read will review regulations.

Mr. Pacheco was present for today's meeting. Mr. Pacheco stated he would like to request an educational waiver for the journeyman exam. He was in the Navy as a pipefitter and a master plumber and has been doing sprinkler work for 30 years. He would like to become a journeyman. John Viola asked if he is involved any sprinkler apprenticeship program he can continue and finish. Sharon Orr asked while in the Navy, did he do sprinkler fitter work. He replied yes for 6 years. Ms. Orr said the Bureau would give credit for experience with the military. Brian Kelly asked if the military transcript show the experience, Mr. Pacheco said he could not because it was so long ago. John Viola questioned the route the board can go with his situation. Lynn Read says she will investigate the best way to move forward. Mr. Pacheco was tabled for the next meeting.

Robert Martel SA- (Denied)

Mr. Martel was not present for today's meeting. This is the 2nd time. **MOTION** was made by Brian Kelly to deny, **SECOND** by Pauline Lally; motion passed by a majority roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier).

Lee Wilmar SA (Tabled) absent 1st time

Mr. Wilmar was not present for today's meeting. This is his first absence, per chair according to the previous vote this applicant is tabled for the next meeting.

Shane M. Adams SA (Tabled) absent 1st time

Mr. Adams was not present for today's meeting. This is his first absence, per chair according to the previous vote this applicant is tabled for the next meeting.

Christopher Allen PA (Tabled) absent 1st time

Mr. Allen was not present for today's meeting. This is his first absence, per chair according to the previous vote this applicant is tabled for the next meeting.

The following licensees were not present and tabled for the next meeting:

- **Charles Kujala- RT**
- **Lucas Wooley -RT**
- **Lee Wilmar -SA**
- **Shane M. Adams – SA**
- **Christopher Allen - PA**

5. Chair Report

- Reminder that since August of 2023, DOL is no longer printing hard copy licenses.

6. Jurisdictional report by the Office of Public Safety and Inspections

Mr. Kilburn reported that in the month of September there were a total of seven (7) inspections: six (6) pipefitting and one (1) refrigeration. These inspections resulted in 3 violations. Total of \$1,500 in fines all pipefitting violations.

7. Bureau Counsel

Lynn Read did not have anything to report separate from the agenda items.

Sharon Orr asked about the process of changing email and personal information for OPSI applicants. Grace Poirier explained the process to Sharon Orr and will send the information to her.

8. Adjournment made at 10:55 am:

MOTION to adjourn made by Brian Kelly, **SECOND** by Dennis Allen; motion passed by unanimous roll call vote (Pauline Lally, Sharon Orr, John Viola, Brian Kelly, Dennis Allen, Mark Fortune, and Grace Poirier).

The next meeting of the Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinkler Fitters will be on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at 10:00 AM.

List of Documents/Exhibits Used at this Meeting.

- a. Xabdiel Santiago – Pipefitter Journeyman
- b. Victor Brownwell – Refrigeration Technician
- c. Andy Harilall - Refrigeration Technician
- d. Nicholas Fiore – Refrigeration Contractor
- e. Charles Kujala – Refrigeration Technician
- f. Shawn Podziewsky – Refrigeration Contractor
- g. Lucas Wooley – Refrigeration Technician
- h. Kevin Keeler – Sprinkler Journeyman
- i. Joshua Lipton – Sprinkler Apprentice
- j. Alyssa Ady- Refrigeration technician
- k. Roger Blood Jr - Sprinkler Apprentice
- l. Steven Olenjnikow - Pipefitter Apprentice
- m. Brian Novak - Sprinkler Apprentice
- n. Daniel Lagasse - Sprinkler Apprentice
- o. Matthew Cabral - Sprinkler Apprentice
- p. Michael Pacheco - Sprinkler Apprentice
- q. Robert Martel - Sprinkler Apprentice
- r. Lee Wilmar – Sprinkler Apprentice
- s. Shane M Adams Sprinkler Apprentice
- t. Christopher Allen – Pipefitter Apprentice