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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Division of Professional Licensure  
BOARD OF STATE EXAMINERS OF PLUMBERS  
AND GAS FITTERS

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**APRIL 25, 2018 BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

MEMBERS	APPOINTMENT	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mr. Joseph McNamee	Chairman, Master Gas Fitter	X	
Mr. Wayne Thomas	Member, Journeyman Gasfitter	X	
Mr. Bahig A. Kaldas, P. E.	Member, Plumbing Engineer	X	
Ms. Sarah Badway	Consumer Member		X
Mr. Joseph Waskiewiez	Member, Master Plumber	X	
Ms. Ruth Alfasso	Member, Department of Public Health	X	
Mr. John Cruz	Member, LP Installer	X	
Mr. Harold Knight	Member, Journeyman Plumber	X	
Mr. Dan Kilburn	Member, Public Safety	X	

**9:00 A.M. AGENDA REVIEW:** By Chairman Joseph McNamee

**9:05 A.M.: APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:**

- The April 4, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

*A motion to approve by Mr. Harold Knight and seconded by Ms. Ruth Alfasso*

*Result: Unanimous*

- The April 4, 2018 Executive Session Minutes

*A motion to approve by Ms. Ruth Alfasso and seconded by Mr. Harold Knight*

*Result: Unanimous*

**DISCUSSION(S)**

**D1)** Board members visit to Mansfield hydrogen fuel station and its relation to the proposed station in Braintree  
*Meeting Notes: Board members Mr. Wayne Thomas, Mr. Daniel Kilburn and Mr. Bahig Kaldas went to see the facility to see how much plumbing is involved. The plant is open to the atmosphere. There is no roof on the walls. The Braintree site will have potable water which will go to an RO system which will connect to an ionizer which will turn it into hydrogen. There will be no drinking water at the facility. The Board decided not to issue a formal advisory, but at the request of the installers, it took two informal votes. An informal advisory vote was taken on which parts of the RO system are considered plumbing. The result of the vote was 5 to 3 in favor of the piping to the RO system up to the point of connection to the ionizer to be plumbing. A second informal vote was*



*taken on whether a bathroom would be required on the site, which contains a structure without a ceiling, but no buildings. The result of that vote was 7 to 1 against a bathroom being required.*

## **VARIANCE REQUESTS**

### **PV159 – MATT PALMER - WATERTOWN**

Matt Palmer is seeking a variance from 248 CMR 10.15 Table 2 to allow the installation of a 4<sup>th</sup> toilet on a 3” horizontal building drain. The Watertown Board of Health is not opposed to this variance request.

*Meeting Notes: This is a residential building.*

*A motion was made to approve with conditions by Mr. Harold Knight and seconded by Mr. John Cruz*

*Condition(s): Plumbing inspector to verify only low flow toilets are installed.*

*Result: unanimous*

### **PV-160 – TOWN OF ANDOVER – 36 NARTLET STREET - ANDOVER**

On behalf of the Town of Andover, the Town manager Andrew Flanagan is requesting a variance from 248 CMR, Section 10.09 (4) a. to allow the installation of cast in place concrete sumps with open grates and properly trapped and vented piping in lieu of conventional floor drains. All sumps will discharge into a sand/gas separator. The Andover Board of Health has been properly petitioned.

*Meeting Notes: It would have a greater capacity for sand and materials coming from vehicles. It is a cast in place trough.*

*A motion was made to approve by Mr. John Cruz and seconded by Mr. Wayne Thomas*

*Condition(s):*

*Result: unanimous*

### **PV-161: EMERY FLATS – 200 PRESIDENTIAL WAY - WOBURN**

Shane Wise from R.W. Sullivan Engineering is seeking a variance from 248 CMR 10.12, (1) (f) 3 to allow the discharge of pool water waste into the sanitary drainage system of the City of Woburn. The Woburn Board of Health takes no position on this variance request.

*Meeting Notes: The town wants the water to go to sanitary.*

*A motion was made to approve by Mr. Wayne Thomas and seconded by s. Ruth Alfasso.*

*Condition(s): A letter from the agency that the water discharges to verifying this is approved.*

*Note: Mr. Bahig Kaldas recused himself. During this discussion.*

*Result: unanimous*

### **PV-162: HOMEWOOD SUITES & HAMPTON INN – 371 WASHINGTON STREET - WOBURN**

Shane Wise from R.W. Sullivan Engineering is seeking a variance from 248 CMR for two items:

1. 10.12, (1) (f) 3 to allow the discharge of pool water waste into the sanitary drainage system of the City of Woburn.
2. 10.14, (2) (c) to allow use of the existing 4” water main stub in lieu of increasing to 6” as required by the Massachusetts Plumbing Code.

The Woburn Board of Health takes no position on either of these variance requests.

*Meeting Notes: The site utilities have been installed several months ago. A booster is being installed to increase the pressure. The plumbing after the meter will be properly sized.*

*A motion was made to approve the variance by Mr. John Cruz and seconded by Ms. Ruth Alfasso.*

*Condition(s):*

*Result: Mr. Bahig Kaldas recused himself.*

**PV-163: CAVA MEZZA GRILL – 669 BOYLSTON STREET - BOSTON**

Anthony Petrillo from Cosentini Associates is requesting a variance from 248 CMR, Section 10.06 to allow the continued use of an existing sanitary waste line which discharges into an 18: x 24” combined sewer in Public Alley 440. If allowed, the building sewer will drain by gravity to the street and overflow into a sewer ejector pump during times of surcharge protecting the building from backups. Boston Inspectional Services has been properly petitioned.

*Meeting Notes: There will be a ten foot head.*

*A motion was made to deny the pump but leave the backwater valve by Mr. Harry Knight and seconded by Mr. John Cruz.*

*Condition(s): No pump is to be installed, backwater valve is allowed.*

*Result: unanimous*

**PV-164: MONOGRAM FOOD SOLUTIONS – 330 BALLARDVALE STREET - WILMINGTON**

Paul Simpson from Monogram Food Solutions is seeking a variance from 248 CMR 10.06 to allow the installation of AWWA C151 ductile iron pipe with AWWA C153 mechanical joint fittings below ground and AWWA C110 flanged fittings above ground for the new forced main. The Wilmington Board of Health has been properly notified of this variance request.

*Meeting Notes:*

*A motion was made to approve by Mr. Wayne Thomas and seconded by Mr. John Cruz*

*Condition(s):*

*Result: unanimous*

**GV-165: JOSHUA FINK – 94 SHAW ROAD - BROOKLINE**

Joshua Fink is seeking a variance from 248 CMR 3.04 to allow the installation of a Maurice Grand Veneur range with five gas top burners and an electric oven. The range is built in France and does not appear on the Board’s “Product Accepted” list. The appliance is ETL listed. As this is a gas variance, no Board of Health petition is required.

*Meeting Notes: This is a handmade stove. It is 12,500 BTU’s. There will be a custom hood for the appliance. The ovens are electric. It appears to have an ETL listing.*

*A motion was made to approve by Mr. Joseph Waskiewicz and seconded by Mr. John Cruz.*

*Condition(s):*

*Result: unanimous*

**PV-166: CHRISTOPHER MORA – 5 ROCK LANE - WALTHAM**

Christopher Mora is seeking a variance from 248 CMR 3.04 to allow the installation of a steam shower unit in his basement which is not listed on the Board’s website as “Product Accepted”. The manufacturer stated that similar units have been approved by the Board in the past through the variance process. The Waltham Board of Health supports this variance request.

*Meeting Notes:*

*A motion was made to approve with conditions by Mr. Joseph Waskiewicz and seconded by Mr. John Cruz.*

*Condition(s): A pressure balanced shower valve with a temperature limiting devise must be installed.*

*Result: unanimous*

**PV-167: COLDWELL BANKER – 112 MAIN STREET - NORTHAMPTON**

Brian Megliols from Coldwell Banker is requesting a variance from 248 CMR, Section 10.10 (18) to allow the elimination of a second mop sink. The petitioner proposes to install a mop sink on the lower level but would like to eliminate the mop sink on the first floor as they will have hardwood floors. The Northampton Board of Health has no objection to this variance request.

**Meeting Notes:**

*A motion was made to table by Ms. Ruth Alfasso and seconded by Mr. John Cruz.*

**Condition(s):**

**Result: unanimous**

**PV-168: MATTHEW GINSBURG – 975 MEMORIAL DRIVE - CAMBRIDGE**

Garrett Flynn from Forest Hill Builders is seeking a variance from 248 CMR 10.08, Table 1 to allow the re-use of two existing 1-1/2” drains while changing from bathtubs to showers during the remodeling process. The existing drains are encased in a suspended slab on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor and are not accessible. The Cambridge Board of Health has been properly petitioned regarding this variance request.

**Meeting Notes:** *There will be a 6” lip on the shower.*

*A motion was made to approve by Mr. Wayne Thomas and seconded by Mr. Harold Knight.*

**Condition(s):**

**Result: unanimous**

**PV-169: WELLESLEY SPORTS CENTER – 900 WORCESTER ROAD - WELLESLEY**

Kevin Provencher from PDA Incorporated is seeking a variance from 248 CMR, section 10.09 to waive the requirement for floor drains and a gas/oil separator. The building houses two ice rinks and has an overhead door in the area where the Zambonis are located. The Zambonis are electric and contain no gasoline or motor oil. The Town of Wellesley Board of Health has been properly petitioned.

**Meeting Notes:** *The Zamboni is electric. There are two overhead doors. One of the doors is to remove the Zamboni. It is not possible for a vehicle to enter into the building from the other door because of the refrigeration equipment. There is hydraulic oil in the Zamboni. It was noted that the installation of the floor drains and gas/oil separator are not desired but wouldn't be a hardship.*

*A motion was made to deny by Mr. Harold Knight and seconded by Mr. Joseph Waskiewicz.*

**Condition(s):**

**Result: unanimous**

**PV-170: BUGLE BOY TRUCKING – 10 PULLMAN STREET - WORCESTER**

Douglas Scott from Grove Street Properties, LLC is seeking a variance from 248 CMR 10.10, Table 1 for two items:

1. to allow the installation of one unisex rest room for staff in lieu of the required two due to the low number of employees. The facility is approximately 110,000 sq. ft. and the tenant wishes to take only 4,000 sq. ft. of space.
2. To eliminate the requirement of showers for a warehouse facility.

The Worcester Board of Health has been properly petitioned.

**Meeting Notes:** *There will only be one employee in the space. It is only for the 4,000 foot space. There are bollards to prevent vehicles from entering the space.*

*A motion was made to approve with conditions by Mr. Harold Knight and seconded by Mr. Joseph Waskiewicz.*

**Condition(s):** *One gender neutral bathroom with a shower.*

**Result: unanimous**

**FYI – Board Delegated Staff Approvals – Board Vote Not Required**

**Full operation of unlisted gas equipment**

DAGV131 – Second Wind Brewing Co. – 7 Howland Street - Plymouth

DAGV191 – Benvenuto Companies – 900 Salem Street - Wilmington

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*The Character review is tabled until the next meeting.*

*At approximately 10:15 am the chairman asked for a fifteen minute recess.*

*At 10:30 a.m., the Board came back into open session.*

## **PUBLIC LISTENING SESSION**

Opportunity for the general public to present proposed revisions regarding 248 CMR 3.00 – 11:00

*Board Counsel Charles Kilb informed all in attendance that the Board staff was working on several different issues including gas venting, apprentice time requirements, reclaimed water and over 65 license requirements.*

- *Eric Defour - Wanted to know the status of the gas venting, supported a code change.*
- *Colby Perkins – Supported expanding the use of PEX piping.*
- *Edward Forsberg addressed the board that a dishwasher should not go through grease trap when an external grease trap is installed. He would also like the word “residential” removed in describing hot water temp. He also stated there is nothing in the code preventing installing a smaller fixture trap when the pipe size is increased to meet the fixture to vent requirements. He would also like to see a diagram for multiple floor drains in a commercial garage. Mr. Forsberg stated two inch drain should be allowed on a 3 bay sink with 8 gallons or less. He would also like to see an expanded definition on gender neutral, and there is no language on mega press. He feels the kitchen and laundry should drain into a main drain separately and increase the shower temperature to between 115 to 118 degrees. He feels a mixing valve should be installed on all hot water storage tanks. He is in favor of the apprenticeship requirements going from a 5 year to a 4 year program. He stated something needs to be done with the website. He would like to have 2-1hour continuing education classes at the same time, more interpretations online and Hot water temperature limit on a hair washing sinks.*
- *Barry Katy, business agent for the Plumbing Union. Feels the plumbing code should include medical gas. He distributed an IAPMO medical gas code section. He also feels the code should add fire stop requirements for all penetrations. He is against a national code. He also feels there needs to be more restrictions on unlicensed people. He is against continuing education requirements but is in favor of the 2” pipe size for 3 bay sinks.*
- *Hugh Kelleher IAPMO Board of Directors feels the state does not have the resources to keep up on the codes. He feels the IAPMO Code would benefit the commonwealth. The difference between the two national codes is that IAPMO Code is done by people in the trade. He also spoke about Gordon McEwan retiring at the end of the month, and his replacement is Mr. Greg Hanley.*
- *Greg Hanley along with the IAPMO rep Mr. Ron Lord addressed the board on a recent proposal sent to the Board for policy. They are a testing organization. Mr. Lord would like to clarify the definition of air gap.*

- *Robert Torbin, director of standards for Omega flex would like to see the working pressure on gas systems raised to 5 psi for all piping. He states all pressure up to 5 psi is safe. He claims all other states allow 5 psi. He also feels it is time to review the CSST modifications for possible elimination.*
- *Glen Schlager asked if the Board was considering reducing the school hours. He would like to see the classroom requirement cut by 1 year.*
- *Bill Lane - change the code to use residential materials in residential buildings and commercial materials in commercial buildings. He also does not want to reduce the height for PVC installations, and is in favor of PEX use expanding.*
- *Marc Zade would like to see the Board address the lead issue and eliminate it. He is also in favor of temperature limits in hair salons. He would like to see a better definition of public and private, and water and drain pipe sizing should be addressed to follow water conservation changes.*
- *Marc Lamare would like to the Board continue to allow schedule 80 PVC in commercial applications, unlimited height restrictions for PVC.*
- *Kevin Lahey, is a teacher at Minuteman. He is for the 4 year apprentice requirement. He is also in favor of continuing education and the current educational hours required for apprentices. He would like to see Master plumbers be able to supervise two apprentices.*

*At 11:20 a motion was made to adjourn by Mr. Harold Knight and seconded by Mr. Wayne Thomas and seconded by Mr. Harold Knight.*