

MINUTES

FIRE PROTECTION SPRINKLER SYSTEMS WORK EXAMINING BOARD

NOVEMBER 28, 2006

The meeting was called to order by David J. Waskowicz, Acting Chairman, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 117 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Members Present: David J. Waskowicz, Acting Chairman - Unlimited Journeyperson
Robert W. Hollis, III – Contractor
George DeVincke - Unlimited Journeyperson
Anthony D. Moscato - Fire Marshal
Ralph Carl Miller - Fire Marshal
William Zisk, Sr. - Public Member
Luis A. Coreano - Public Member
James M. Barry, Public Member

Members Absent: Kevin Wypychoski – Contractor

Board Vacancies: None

Board Counsel Present: None

DCP Staff Present: Nelson Leon, Board Secretary
Richard M. Hurlburt, Director
Richard Maloney, Trade Enforcement Director

Public Present: Richard Connolly
Hal Charnley
Paul Lunney
Bill Rhodes
Michael Livingstone

Note: The administrative functions of this Commission are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division. For information, call Richard M. Hurlburt, Director, at (860) 713-6135.

Agency Web site: www.ct.gov/dcp

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Board voted unanimously to approve minutes of the September 26, 2006 Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Work Examining Board meeting, with amendments on page-4, to reflect meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m., under “Old Business”, to reflect Board member Ralph Carl Miller reporting on-going problems with improperly evaluated hydraulic calculations in which an engineer reviewed and approved the design, that the system calculations and installation was bad, and that the project was done by an outfit out of state for a TJ Max expansion in a shopping mall, Board Chairman David J. Waskowicz reporting on having a tentative meeting scheduled after the meeting concerning the appointment of James Barry to the Board, and under “New Business”, to reflect The Board requesting PSI examination test results from July 2006 to current date.

APPLICATIONS

Jeffrey A. Benoit, Coventry, RI – (F-) Unlimited Journeyperson Application – Approved

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Benoit’s application.

James V. Ferrara, North Attleboro, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyperson Application – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Ferrara’s application due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment.

Michael K. Gomes, Fall River, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyperson Application – Denied

The Board voted to deny Mr. Gomes’ application due to submittal of an incomplete application (page-2 not completed) and lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment. Board member James M. Barry was opposed.

Gary R. Haskell, Clinton, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyperson Application – Denied

The Board voted to deny Mr. Haskell’s application due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment. Board member James M. Barry and Anthony D. Moscato were opposed.

Sam P. Hoffman, Dalton, MA - (F-2) Unlimited Journeyperson Application – Denied

The Board voted to deny Mr. Hoffman’s application due to lack of required occupational school related instructional experience and required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment. Board member James M. Barry was opposed.

David G. Jones, Quincy, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Jones' application due to submittal of an incomplete application (page-2 not completed), lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment, and lack of occupational and school related instructional experience.

Robert Pereira, Fall River, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Denied

The Board voted to deny Mr. Pereira's application due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment. Board member James M. Barry and Anthony D. Moscato were opposed.

Richard S. Perkoski, Rehoboth, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Denied

The Board voted to deny Mr. Perkoski's application due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment. Board member James M. Barry and Anthony D. Moscato were opposed.

Michael P. Richard, Lunenburg, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Denied

The Board voted to deny Mr. Richard's application due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment. Board member James M. Barry and Anthony D. Moscato were opposed.

Michael Soares, Fall River, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Denied

The Board voted to deny Mr. Soares' application due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment. Board member James M. Barry and Anthony D. Moscato were opposed.

Raymond L. Underwood, Chicopee, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Approved

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Underwood's application.

LATE ARRIVING APPLICATIONS

The Board voted unanimously to review the following late arriving application:

Barry W. Costa, Taunton, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Denied

The Board voted to deny Mr. Costa's application due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment. Board member Anthony D. Moscato and James M. Barry were opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. November 8, 2005 opinion of the CT Attorney General, Richard Blumenthal, concerning issuance of apprenticeship registrations.
2. September 22, 2006 opinion of the CT Attorney General, Richard Blumenthal, concerning DCP's authority over apprentices.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Board member Ralph Carl Miller to have the State Fire Marshal's office give a presentation to the Board concerning "NFPA-13 STD".

The Board voted unanimously to table this matter to their next meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 23, 2007.

2. Michael Livingstone, Local Union 676 representative, mentioned that PSI was caught compromising the Fire Protection Sprinkler Work examination, and that no one seems to want to discuss it. Mr. Livingstone expressed concern that while PSI was caught compromising the examination, their contract with DCP was extended for another year, and that DCP is contemplating contracting with PSI to have them do the review and approval of Fire Protection Sprinkler Work applications as well. The Board indicated that they received verbal information concerning this matter and that the matter is under investigation.
3. Board Chairman David J. Waskowicz informed the Board that he has met with DCP Commissioner Edwin R. Rodriguez concerning the status of James M. Barry appointment to the Board as a Public Member, and that Commissioner Rodriguez said he would take his concern under advisement and that Board appointments come under the Governor of Connecticut and not DCP Commissioner.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Richard Hurlburt suggested the Board review the PSI website to affirm referenced books and "NFPA-13 STD" standards being used for the examination. Board member Ralph Carl Miller stated that new building and fire code changes went into effect December 31, 2005, which in effect changed all the referenced "NFPA-13 STD" standards. Mr. Miller suggested arranging for a representative to appear before the Board to expand on the current "NFPA-13 STD" standards. Mr. Hurlburt suggested holding a workshop to review current "NFPA-13 STD" standards.
2. Michael Livingstone, Local Union 676 representative, informed the Board of a proposed regulation by DCP establishing an (F-7) & (F-8) Fire Protection Sprinkler Work license category for the installation of a fire protection sprinkler system in a residential home. Mr. Livingstone expressed concern that the Fire Protection Sprinkler Work Board was not notified of such proposal. The Board voted unanimously in opposition to a proposed regulation establishing an

(F-7) and/or (F-8) license category and fragmentation of the existing (F-1) & (F-2) license category. The Board also expressed concern regarding lack of established criteria for the proposed (F-7) & (F-8) license category. A representative of the Board will be attending the 12/7/06 public hearing concerning this matter.

3. Board member Ralph Carl Miller reports on a Bio-Diesel plant in Bethlehem, CT, which is producing a soy base fuel as an alternative fuel of the future.

MISCELLANEOUS

Board Chairman David J. Waskowicz informed Richard Hurlburt that the Board's badges are expiring December 2006 and need replacements. Mr. Hurlburt suggested the Board members report to security for updating their badges.

DCP TRADE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION REPORT

Richard Maloney, DCP Trade Enforcement Director reported on fourteen pending investigations that are being worked on, with several on-going compliance inspections, all assurance of voluntary compliances complete and anything unresolved will be coming before the respective Boards, inspectors speaking with building officials concerning permits pulled with complaints and/or issues in order to begin working on them, one investigation closed in 2006, several assurances of voluntary compliances sent to a couple of respondents, 2001 unlicensed entity mailed an assurance of voluntary compliance, 2005 investigation concerning licensee in East Hampton sent assurance of voluntary compliance for \$500.00 with no response and case to come before the Board. Mr. Maloney also reported on proposed legislation to give DCP additional enforcement powers concerning unlicensed individuals practicing, making it a class B misdemeanor, and if the legislation passes before the legislature, it will give DCP an added criminal component that will help clean-up the industry violators. Board member Ralph Carl Miller extends the invitation to Mr. Maloney to speak on this issue before the CT Fire Marshal Association. Mr. Maloney further reported on a newly hired trade inspector (Ray Fuoco), who has been administratively trained and is out in the field, and that DCP will be meeting with the Connecticut Building Officials Association in an attempt to working closely with them on enforcement issues, with an emphasis on reviewing building permits and performing sting operations. Board Chairman inquired on the collection of fines and penalties, in addition to who enforces any compliance of stipulated conditions concerning settlement agreements. Mr. Maloney indicated he would have to look into the matters and provide the Board with a response at their next meeting. Board member Ralph Carl Miller asked if complaints are filed with DCP concerning fraudulent Engineer stamp on a fire protection drawing. Mr. Maloney informed the Board that DCP does handle this type of complaint and investigation.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:55 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nelson Leon
Board Secretary

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 23, 2007, at 9:30 A.M. in Room 117.