

**FIRE PROTECTION SPRINKLER SYSTEMS WORK
EXAMINING BOARD**

MINUTES

MARCH 5, 2020

The meeting was called to order by David Waskowicz, Chairperson, on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 10:03 a.m. at 450 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT, 06103, Hearing Room J.

Members Present: David J. Waskowicz - Unlimited Journeyman,
Chairperson
Robert W. Hollis, III – Unlimited Contractor
Kevin Wypychoski – Unlimited Contractor
Anthony D. Moscato – Public Member
Kevin Griffith – State Fire Marshal

Members Absent: Keith Flood – Local Fire Marshal

Board Vacancies: One Unlimited Journeyman Member
Two Public Members

DCP Board Staff: Karen Layman, License and Application Analyst
Richard M. Hurlburt, Director, Occupational and Professional
Licensing

Others Present: Pamela Brown, Director, Investigations Division
Janita Hamel, Supervising Special Investigator
Julianne Avallone, Director, Legal Division
Bill Abbott, Office of the State Fire Marshall

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division, Richard M. Hurlburt, Director. For more information, refer to DCP Agency website: www.ct.gov/dcp
Division E-Mail: dcp.occupationalprofessional@ct.gov

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The Board reviewed the draft minutes from the December 5, 2019 Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Work Examining Board meeting and voted unanimously to approve as written.

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY:

None

DCP INVESTIGATION DIVISION COMPLAINT STATUS REPORT:

1. The Board reviewed two complaint reports dated 11-01-19 to 12-31-19 and 01-01-20 to 2-29-20. Pamela Brown and Janita Hamel were in attendance for the review of these reports and discussion.

APPLICATIONS:

1. Application report

The Board reviewed a report including a roster of applications approved from November 28, 2019 to present.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Backflow Prevention Device

At the December 5, 2019 meeting, John Abbate, NFSA requested clarification regarding the testing of backflow on a fire prevention system, specifically, is a backflow prevention certification adequate, or is an "F" license required in addition to the backflow prevention certification? The Board requested clarification from the Department for today's meeting.

At today's meeting, the Board reviewed documentation, which was provided by the Department and states that an F-1 holder cannot install the backflow prevention device associated with a fire sprinkler system; it must be installed by a P-1 holder. The Board expressed their concerns about the F-1 holder not being able to do this work and stated that they would like a legislative change to clarify such.

This topic will be carried over to the next meeting's agenda, at which time the Board will review the scope of work for P-2 and F-2 and continue to discuss this matter. Richard M. Hurlburt is to provide statutes pertaining to such work at the next meeting.

2. Limited Multipurpose Residential Sprinkler License (F-5, F-6 License Types) – AFSA Training Class

It was noted that 24 people are currently enrolled for the class with NFSA to be held April 6 – 8, 2020.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion regarding application review and credit for licensure from other jurisdictions

An Application Review Working Group has been established. The first Application Review Working Group meeting took place on February 26, 2020. Robert Hollis attended this meeting on behalf of this Board. An F-2 Unlimited Journeyperson application was reviewed and the applicant was notified subsequent to this meeting that additional documentation is required for further processing.

Julianne Avallone informed the Board that the Department is requesting that the Board decide which applications they would like to have reviewed at the Working Group going forward. It was determined that all applications with the Connecticut Department of Labor seal, as well as those with the required documentation from Local 669 and AFSA, will continue to be processed by the Department. All others will come before the Working Group.

2. Proposed Legislation

A. Senate Bill No. 297 – An Act Concerning the Use of Perfluoroalkyl or Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Class B Firefighting Foam

The Board discussed this bill and how it relates to the fire protection trade. The Board will monitor and follow the progress of this bill as it moves through the legislative process.

B. Senate Bill No. 13 – An Act Expanding Economic Opportunity in Licensed Occupations

Julianne Avallone provided an overview of the aspects of this bill that relate to the Department and occupational trade licensing, such as a proposed change in apprentice ratios. Julianne informed that Board that there is a public hearing taking place today at 12:30 at the Legislative Office Building, and suggested that the Board monitor and follow the progress of the bill. This is not a DCP proposed regulation.

3. Decrease in number of licensees in the fire protection trade

Robert Hollis expressed his concern over this decrease in number of current F-1 and F-2 licensees, and discussion took place as to the various reasons for this decrease.

Richard Hurlburt will provide information regarding the number of licensees, as compared to previous years, at the next meeting.

Robert Hollis informed the Board that there is a Construction Career Day taking place on May 6 and 7, 2020 by ABC Connecticut and CEC (Construction Education Center).

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

COMMENTS OR CONCERNS OF ANY PERSON PRESENT TODAY:

None

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Layman,
License & Application Analyst

2020 MEETING SCHEDULE:

- June 11
- September 10
- December 3

All meetings will take place at 450 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford, CT at 10:00 a.m.