

MINUTES

FIRE PROTECTION SPRINKLER SYSTEMS WORK EXAMINING BOARD

MARCH 27, 2007

The meeting was called to order by David J. Waskowicz, Acting Chairman, at 9:35 a.m. in Room 117 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

Members Present: David J. Waskowicz, Acting Chairman - Unlimited Journeyman
Robert W. Hollis, III – Contractor
Kevin Wypychoski – Contractor
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: George DeVincke - Unlimited Journeyman (Deceased)

Board Vacancies: One Sprinkler Fitter Journeyman

Board Counsel Present: None

DCP Staff Present: Nelson Leon, Board Secretary
Richard M. Hurlburt, Director
Linda Roberts, Executive Assistant
Anthony Santoro, Administrative Hearings Attorney
Jim McCann, Administrative Hearings Attorney
Helen Hillman, Consumer Information Representative
Jack Korduner, Consumer Protection Inspector

Public Present: Richard Connolly
Paul Guggina
Hal Charnley
Mike Livingstone
Bill Rhodes

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR DECEASED MEMBER GEORGE DEVINCKE

The Board had a moment of silence for George DeVincke, Sprinkler Fitter Journeyman member, who recently passed away. The Board suggested a letter be sent to Mr. DeVincke's family offering their condolences and thanks for Mr. DeVincke's years of service on the Board.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Board voted unanimously to approve minutes of the January 23, 2007 Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Work Examining Board meeting with amendments to page-6, to reflect Mr. Livingstone's report regarding the state apprenticeship council meeting with apprentices who fail their trade examination three times for review of their strengths and weaknesses, and affording them the opportunity to stay registered in the apprenticeship program in order to give them an opportunity to be re-trained and exposed in the identified areas of weakness.

APPLICATIONS

Richard S. Crowley, Jr., Cranston, RI – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Crowley's application due to lack of a required "Letter of Apprenticeship Completion" certificate.

Charlie J. Johnson, Cincinnati, OH – (F-3) Limited Contractor Application – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Johnson's application due to lack of a required (F-4) Limited Journeyman license for a minimum of two years.

Marc C. McCullagh, Whitman, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. McCullagh's application due to lack of required occupational related experience.

Norman G. Otto, Jr., Hampstead, MD – (F-1) Unlimited Contractor Application – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Otto's application due to lack of a required (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman license for a minimum of two years.

Norman G. Otto, Jr., Hampstead, MD – (F-3) Limited Contractor Application – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Otto's application due to lack of a required (F-4) Limited Journeyman license for a minimum of two years.

Scott E. Palmer, Wallingford, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Approved
The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Palmer’s application.

Peter R. Voorvaart, Windsor Locks, CT – (F-4) Limited Journeyman Application – Denied
The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Voorvaart’s application due to lack of required occupational school related experience since the expiration of his previously held (F-4) Limited Journeyman license, which expired in 1995. The Board is requiring Mr. Voorvaart to provide evidence that he has completed a bona fide apprenticeship program for consideration to sit for the (F-4) Limited Journeyman examination.

APPLICANTS APPEARING IN PERSON

Anthony F Arnone, Jr., Hamden, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Denied
The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Arnone’s application due to lack of a required “Letter of Apprentice Completion” certificate.

Jason T. Charles, Danielson, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – No Action
Mr. Charles was not present at today’s meeting. Therefore, the Board took no action.

PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS

Barry W. Costa, Taunton, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Approved
The Board denied Mr. Costa’s application at their 11/28/06 meeting due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment.

After further review of Mr. Costa’s application at today’s meeting, the Board voted unanimously to approve his application.

Michael K. Gomes, Fall River, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Approved
The Board denied Mr. Gomes’ application at their 11/28/06 meeting due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment.

After further review of Mr. Gomes’ application at today’s meeting, the Board voted unanimously to approve his application.

Roberto Pereira, Fall River, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application.
The Board denied Mr. Pereira’s application at their 11/28/06 meeting due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment.

After further review of Mr. Pereira’s application at today’s meeting, the Board voted unanimously to approve his application.

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

The Board denied Mr. Perkoski's application at their 11/28/06 meeting due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment.

After further review of Mr. Perkoski's application at today's meeting, the Board voted unanimously to approve his application.

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

The Board denied Mr. Richard's application at their 11/28/06 meeting due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment.

After further review of Mr. Richard's application at today's meeting, the Board voted unanimously to approve his application.

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

The Board denied Mr. Soares' application at their 11/28/06 meeting due to lack of required notarized statements from occupational related employers as to dates and duties of employment.

After further review of Mr. Soares' application at today's meeting, the Board voted unanimously to approve his application.

Dennis Welch, Nashua, NH – (F-4) Limited Journeyman Application – Denied

The Board denied Mr. Welch's application at their 5/23/06 meeting due to lack of occupational and school related instructional experience, and again at their 6/27/06 meeting due to lack of a required "Letter of Apprenticeship Completion" certificate.

After further review of Mr. Welch's application at today's meeting, the Board voted unanimously to deny his application due to lack of a required "Letter of Apprenticeship Completion" certificate.

LATE ARRIVING APPLICATIONS

(The Board voted unanimously to review the following late arriving applications)

Edward R. Cloutier, W. Yarmouth, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Withdrawn

Mr. Cloutier's application was withdrawn by his representative, Attorney Paul Guggina.

Philip N. Cocivi, Newtown, CT – (F-1) Unlimited Contractor Application – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Cocivi's application due to lack of a required (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman license for a minimum of two years and lack of a required "Letter of Apprenticeship Completion" certificate.

Sam P. Hoffman, Dalton, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Approved

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Hoffman's application. Board member Luis A. Coreano was not present regarding this matter.

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

The Board voted to deny Mr. Jones' application due to submittal of an incomplete application (felony question not answered on the application). Board member Luis A. Coreano was not present regarding this matter.

Kevin T. Keeler, West Haven, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Keeler's application due to lack of a required "Letter of Apprenticeship Completion" certificate.

Justin M. Kopacz, South Hadley, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Approved

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

Michael C. Poirier, Douglas, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Approved

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

Thomas W. Ray, Springfield, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Approved

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

Edward J. Sawicki, N. Attleboro, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Approved

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Sawicki's application. Board member Luis A. Coreano was not present regarding this matter.

Raymond H. Scott, Manchester, NH – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Withdrawn

Mr. Scott's application was withdrawn by his representative, Attorney Paul Guggina.

Anthony J. Silva, Taunton, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Approved

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Silva's application. Board member Luis A. Coreano was not present regarding this matter.

Randal R. Wilcox, Hubbard, OH – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman Application – Approved

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

CORRESPONDENCE

1. List of registered apprentices as of January 23, 2007.
2. Correspondence dated 12/8/06 from Jerry P. Padula, Esq., DCP Legislative & Administrative Advisor, addressed to Jack M. Guerrero, Apprenticeship Program Manager, regarding a change in the Department of Labor policy that would shorten the period of time, known as the "Pending Period," that an apprentice will be allowed to prepare for and successfully pass the licensing examination.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The Board voted to have DCP inspection division contact the employers reflected on an application submitted on behalf of Anthon F. Arnone, Jr. for an (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman license, reflecting occupational related employers for which he has performed Fire Protection Sprinkler work without a required Fire Protection Sprinkler work license. The employers in question are Whitney Mechanical in Milford, CT, JU Ursini Co. in North Haven, CT and Yale New Haven Hospital in New Haven CT. Board member Luis A. Coreano was not present regarding this matter.
2. The Board voted to obtain from DCP Trade Enforcement Division, a current report of pending Fire Protection investigations to be presented at their next meeting scheduled May 22, 2007, and reports thereafter at their regularly scheduled meetings concerning all pending Fire Protection investigations. Board member Luis A. Coreano was not present regarding this matter.
3. The Board inquired as to the status of the PSI trade testing contract which is expiring 6/30/07. Mr. Hurlburt informed the Board that the final decision on awarding the contract has not been made yet, and that the RFP will be going out within a few weeks for bidding.
4. Linda Roberts, Executive Assistant to DCP Commissioner Jerry Farrell, Jr. was introduced to the Board as a liaison for logistics purposes. Board Acting Chairman, David J. Waskowicz expressed an interest in meeting with DCP Commissioner Farrell to discuss the Board's opposition to the 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 expressed concern regarding lack of established criteria for the proposed (F-7) & (F-8) license category. The Board and Mr. Livingstone further expressed concern that in attendance at the public hearing concerning this proposed regulation, ten speakers were in attendance, of which 2 were in favor and 8 were opposed to the proposed regulation. Mr. Waskowicz said he testified as a Board member and as an individual in opposing the proposed regulation, and that Kevin Kowalski, Simsbury Fire Marshal, stated at this public hearing that he represents 600-plus Fire Marshals from the CT Fire Marshal Association. Mr. Waskowicz is attempting to seek clarification of Mr. Kowalski's statement via a transcript of the hearing, because he feels Mr. Kowalski's statement may have been a misstatement.
5. Mr. Waskowicz is also requested an investigation update concerning a letter discussed at their 1/23/07 meeting from Barrieau Oil Company, Inc. dated 12/6/06, endorsing the proposed new limited residential sprinkler contractor license. Mr. Waskowicz would like to know why this letter was made part of the agenda.

FORMAL ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

In the Matter of Thomas Charles Docket No. 06-1942

The Board granted a continuance at their 1/23/07 meeting, to be continued to their 3/27/07 meeting.

A Formal Administrative hearing was held today and the hearing was concluded. After further review and discussion, the Board voted unanimously to dismiss the matter “Without Prejudice” due to lack of evidence substantiating any alleged Fire Protection Sprinkler work violations. Thomas Charles was not present at today’s meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nelson Leon
Board Secretary

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 22, 2007, at 9:30 A.M. in Room 117.