

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES

**FIRE PROTECTION SPRINKLER SYSTEMS WORK
EXAMINING BOARD**

MARCH 25, 2008

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

Members Present: David J. Waskowicz – Unlimited Journeyperson
Robert W. Hollis, III – Contractor
Kevin Wypychoski – Contractor
Thomas E. Booth – Unlimited Journeyperson
Anthony D. Moscato – Fire Marshal
Ralph Carl Miller – Fire Marshal
Luis A. Coreano – Public Member
James M. Barry – Public Member

Members Absent: None

Board Vacancies: Public Member

Board Counsel Present: None

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

Public Present: Paul Lunney
Jack Guerrero
John Viola
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

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Board voted unanimously to approve minutes of the November 27, 2007 Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Work Examining Board meeting.

BOARD MEMBER RE-APPOINTMENT LETTERS

Re-appointment letters dated December 14, 2007 and January 11, 2008 from the Honorable Governor M. Jodi Rell, concerning the re-appointment of Kevin M. Wypychoski, Anthony D. Moscato, Ralph Carl Miller, James Barry, Robert W. Hollis and Luis A. Coreano to the Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Work Examining Board.

BOARD MEMBER RE-APPOINTMENT / CHAIRPERSON APPOINTMENT LETTER

Re-appointment letter dated December 14, 2007 from the Honorable Governor M. Jodi Rell, concerning the re-appointment of David J. Waskowicz as Chairperson to the Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Work Examining Board.

APPLICATIONS

Joseph W. Bertrand, Deltona, FL – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyperson – Denied

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

Jeff Choiniere, Highgate Springs, VT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyperson – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Choiniere's application due to lack of a required "Letter of Apprenticeship Completion" certificate and that Mr. Choiniere's application be referred to Trade Enforcement for investigation of unregistered apprenticeship time.

Michael J. Frank, Holland, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyperson – Approved

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Frank's application, contingent upon receipt of a notarized application.

Bill B. Green, Jr., Hendersonville, TN – (F-1) Unlimited Contractor – Denied

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

Todd A. Haigh, Ormond Beach, FL – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved
The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Haigh's application.

Christopher L. Hendricks, Osteen, FL – (F-1) Unlimited Contractor – Denied
The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Hendricks' application due to lack of a required (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman license for a minimum of two years.

Tyler L. Hughes, Port Orange, FL – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Denied
The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Hughes' application due to lack of a required "Letter of Apprenticeship Completion" certificate.

Marc Lebel, St. Albans, VT – (F-1) Unlimited Contractor – Denied
The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Lebel's application due to lack of a required (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman license for a minimum of two years.

Marc Lebel, St. Albans, VT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Denied
The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Lebel's application due to lack of a required "Letter of Apprenticeship Completion" certificate.

Matthew J. Linfield, Worcester, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved
The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Linfield's application, contingent upon receipt of a notarized application.

Chris A. Martin, Webster, MA – (F-3) Limited Contractor – Approved
The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Martin's application.

Frank C. Mitarotonda, Mt. Kisco, NY – (F-3) Limited Contractor – Denied
The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Mitarotonda's application due to lack of a required (F-4) Limited Journeyman license for a minimum of two years.

Thomas W. Otto, Largo, FL, (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Denied
The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Otto's application due to lack of a required "Letter of Apprenticeship Completion" certificate.

Corey M. Robinson, Rutland, VT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved
The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Robinson's application, contingent upon receipt of a notarized application.

William R. Wilcox, Pittsburgh, PA – (F-1) Unlimited Contractor – Approved
The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Wilcox's application.

Justin G. Williams, Sr., Enfield, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Denied
The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Williams' application due to lack of a required "Letter of Apprenticeship Completion" certificate, and requested DCP Trade Enforcement Division investigate Crest Mechanical for not registering Mr. Williams as a Fire Protection apprentice.

William Wolodka, Glastonbury, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Denied

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

Michal Zementowski, Worcester, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved

The Board voted unanimously to approve Mr. Zementowski's application, contingent upon receipt of a notarized application.

LATE ARRIVING APPLICATIONS

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

Aaron J. Beaudry, Manchester, NH – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved

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

Steven M. Brotsche, Orange, CT – (F-1) Unlimited Contractor – Approved

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

Dustin L. Cavinder, Bronx, NY – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved

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

Joseph W. Colfer, Hamden, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved

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

Kevin G. Elliott, Jr., South Hadley, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Denied

The Board voted to deny Mr. Elliott's application due to lack of required documentation concerning his occupational school instructional related experience. Board member James M. Barry was opposed.

REQUESTING REINSTATEMENT OF LAPSED LICENSE

Peter Palmer, Fairfield, CT – (F-1) Unlimited Contractor.

Mr. Palmer is requesting reinstatement of his (F-1) Unlimited Contractor license which lapsed on 10/31/04.

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Palmer's request and are requiring him to re-apply test for his license.

Robert Palmer, New Milford, CT – (F-1) Unlimited Contractor.

Mr. Palmer is requesting reinstatement of his (F-1) Unlimited Contractor license which lapsed on 10/31/03.

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Palmer's request and are requiring him to re-apply and test for his license.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Waskowicz reported on a meeting held with DCP Commissioner on January 16, 2008, concerning PSI reviewing trade applications, with representatives of sixteen Boards in attendance, who were informed that PSI was only approving applications for Real Estate, with the Elevator Board Chairperson the only one not objecting to PSI reviewing all trade applications.

Mr. Waskowicz mentioned at this meeting that Connecticut General Statutes, Section 20-332 (8)(a)(e) stipulates that all applications shall be submitted to the Board for acceptance or rejection, and objected to any applications being reviewed by anyone other than the Board.

Mr. Waskowicz also reported at this meeting about PSI Examination Services as the trade examination testing vendor, while an employee of PSI Examination Services was found guilty of compromising the Fire Protection examination.

The Board discussed whether there is a shortage of work force in Connecticut. Mr. Waskowicz reported that within less than a year, there were 116 applicants approved to take the examination, with only 12 passing the examination, indicating that there are plenty of fire protection workers. However, the high failing rate is due to lack of registered apprentices who work without receiving the appropriate on-the-job training from their respective employers, in addition to their lack of required occupational school related instructional experience.

PRESS RELEASE

Press Release dated February 11, 2008 concerning James R. Lathrop, former owner of Independent Services of Coventry sentenced to prison for performing heating and piping work without a license.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. PSI examination results for month of January 2008.
2. Mr. Hurlburt reporting to the Board that the outside vendor (PSI Examination Services) will be performing application reviews, collection of fees, scanning of the application and related documents and limited approval of the vendor to enroll candidates to sit for the examination provided, only if such person has completed a bona fide apprenticeship program in the State of Connecticut, Department of Labor. Any applications with deficiencies will be referred to the Department of Consumer Protection or the appropriate Board as required.

Mr. Hurlburt reports to the Board that PSI will be approving applications that have completed bona fide apprenticeship completion certificates from the State of Connecticut and no felony convictions, via the PSI vendor contract with the State of Connecticut.

The Board voted unanimously in opposition to PSI reviewing and approving any Fire Protection licensing applications, and are strongly opposed to the implementation of this procedure, which is in direct conflict with Section 20-333 of the Connecticut Statutes and Section 20-332-8(e) of the Connecticut occupational regulations.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC PRESENT TODAY

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nelson Leon
Board Secretary

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22, 2008, at 9:30 a.m. in Room 117.