

MINUTES

FIRE PROTECTION SPRINKLER SYSTEMS WORK EXAMINING BOARD

DECEMBER 22, 2009

The meeting was called to order by David J. Waskowicz, Chairperson, at 10:00 a.m. in Room-117 of the State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut.

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

Members Absent: Anthony D. Moscato – Fire Marshal

Board Vacancies: One Public Member.

Board Counsel Present: None

DCP Staff Present: Nelson Leon
Linda Roberts

Public Present: Tammie Whiting
Paul Lunney
Jeffrey Dupont

Note: The administrative functions of the Boards, Commissions and Councils are carried out by the Department of Consumer Protection, Occupational and Professional Licensing Division. For information contact Richard M. Hurlburt, Director at (860) 713-6135 or Fax: (860) 706-1255.

Agency Website: www.ct.gov/dcp **Division E-Mail:** occprotrades@ct.gov

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Board voted unanimously to approve minutes of the December 22, 2009 Fire Protection Sprinkler Systems Work Examining Board meeting with amendments to page-3 under “New Business”, paragraph-1, correcting the word “Fie” to read “Fire”.

APPLICATIONS

Dean Allaire, Hampton, NH – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved

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

Gregg Ashford, Oxford, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Ashford’s application due to lack of required notarized statement from his occupational employer (Sprink-Tech Co. Inc.) attesting to his dates and duties of employment and lack of return address on the notarized statement from his occupational employer (Professional Fire Systems, Inc.).

James Bradford, Springfield, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Bradford’s application due to lack of required notarized statement from his occupational employer (HFP Corporation) attesting to his dates and duties of employment.

James Dunn, East Providence, RI – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved

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

Thomas F. Goldbach, IV, Meriden, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved

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

David Harbec, Windham, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved

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

George Kish, North Windham, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved

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

Bruce J. Lauzier, Plainville, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyman – Approved

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

Martin Roche, Natick, MA – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyperson – Denied

The Board voted unanimously to deny Mr. Roche's application due to lack completing the required on-the-job training hours (8,000). Notarized statement from his employer (Environmental Fire Protection, Inc.) is only attesting to (2) two years and (5) five months of on-the-job training experience with them.

Joseph Scott, Manchester, NH – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyperson – Approved

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

Raymond H. Scott, Manchester, NH – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyperson – Approved

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

David J. Smith, Waterford, CT – (F-2) Unlimited Journeyperson – Approved

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

John M. Smith, Tolland, CT – (F-1) Unlimited Contractor – Approved

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

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Office of the State Building Inspector 2009 Code Enforcement Bulletin.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mr. Miller said that only an (F-1) Unlimited Contractor is allowed to pull permits for fire sprinkler work and the Board suggested inviting Lisa Humble, State Building Inspector to their meeting in order to clarify her letter relating to permits.
2. The Board questioned is PSI Examination Services was being reconsidered as the vendor for the trade examinations.
3. The Board expressed a desire to bring back the old two-page trade application, requiring applicants to complete an outline of their occupational and school related work history and attest to it.
4. The Board requested follow-up to their participation in a PSI test review workshop, in which the Board expressed concern on the relevancy of some questions as it relates to fire protection, in addition to suggestions and recommendations. The Board wants to make certain that the fire sprinkler examination is specific to CT standards and adopted NFPA standard updates.

COMPLAINT STATUS REPORT

1. The Board is seeking a follow-up detailed report from trade enforcement concerning the complaint regarding Louis W. Ford, Jr., Docket Number 2008-48. The Board claims that Mr. Ford has been on probation within the last (3) three years and would like a copy of the probation report, in addition to a detailed report concerning any complaints within the last (3) three years.
2. The Board is seeking a narrative report from trade enforcement concerning the complaint regarding Roybal & Sons Fire Equipment, Docket Number 2009-5576. The Board is requesting a narrative outlining the investigation that took place and the finding of facts that support the decision on the complaint.

PRESS RELEASE

October 8, 2009

Department of Consumer Protection Inspectors, Local Officials Conduct Unannounced Night-time Construction Site Inspection

HARTFORD, October 8 – Department of Consumer Protection Occupational Enforcement Inspectors made unannounced, second and third-shift visits Monday night to a construction site in Wilton, Consumer Protection Commissioner Jerry Farrell, Jr. said today.

“After meeting with Wilton Building Official Bob Root, our inspectors joined Wilton Police officers Monday night to conduct an extensive site inspection of heating system renovations being made at Wilton High School,” Farrell said. “These onsite inspections, which ensure that properly licensed contractors are engaged in the work and that the building code and permitting requirements are met, will continue day and night.”

The Department licenses a wide variety of occupations and trades, particularly those involved in building construction, such as plumbers, electricians, and sheet metal workers. Applicants seeking a license must have the required educational and vocational training, undertake an extensive licensing exam to ensure competency, and complete periodic continuing education related to building and other construction codes.

“Occupational licensing laws are meant to ensure that any constructed space that people will occupy, whether it be their home, an office or a school, is built competently, correctly, and in accordance with state and local laws,” Farrell said. “The use of unlicensed workers may be a cheap way to do things, but it is clearly illegal because it puts public health and safety in jeopardy.”

Bantam Electric, Crest Mechanical, and Ferguson Mechanical each had employees working at the school site during Monday night’s inspection. All 14 employees were found to be in full compliance with the state’s occupational licensing requirements.

“We’ll be doing surprise inspections at all hours, with the goal of ensuring that contractors hold the proper credentials to do skilled work, that they are properly employing their staff, and that permits have been issued for the work that they are engaged in,” Farrell said.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nelson Leon
Board Secretary

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 3, 2010, at 9:30 a.m. in Room-126.