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Governor

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Safety

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## Minutes

**Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians and Sprinklerfitters  
Department of Public Safety, Bldg B, 1380 Bay St., Taunton, MA 02780  
September 17, 2014, 9:30 a.m.**

1. Meeting called to order by the Chairman at 9:34 a.m., followed by roll call:

Board Members Present:

Edward Kawa, Chairman  
William Gallagher  
Pauline Lally  
John Viola  
Jennifer Revill (arrived at 9:51 a.m.)  
Frank Norton (arrived at 9:36 a.m.)  
Dan Dumont (arrived at 9:36 a.m.)  
Brian Kelly (arrived at 10:15 a.m.)  
Mark Fortune  
Leo Fahey  
Michael Torchio

Board Members Not Present:

None

Guests Present:

Doug Neveu, Notch Mechanical  
Chuck Borstel, ABC  
Barbara Lagergren, Gould Construction  
William Lynch, RC Applicant  
Jonah Israelit, RT Applicant  
Emre Yetistirici, RT Applicant  
Caukwuebuka Nwafor, RT Applicant  
Robert Markowitz, PJ Applicant  
Patrick McGonagle, RT Applicant  
Henry Geryk, DPS  
Allen Boston, DPS  
Carrie Torrisi, DPS  
Cesar Lastra, DPS  
Holly Bartlett, DPS

2. The Chairman asked for a vote to adopt the agenda for today's meeting. **Motion made by Leo Fahey to adopt the agenda, seconded by John Viola; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
3. The Chairman asked that the Bureau consider for approval minutes from the Bureau meeting on June 18, 2014, and July 18, 2014. **Motion to approve the minutes from the meeting on June 18, 2014, made by Leo Fahey, seconded by Mark Fortune; motion passed by unanimous vote. Motion to approve the minutes from the meeting on July 18, 2014, made by Mark Fortune, seconded by Bill Gallagher; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
4. 528 CMR: Public Hearing and Procedure for Approving Grandfathering Applications: The Chairman addressed the Bureau, informing them that the regulation has been passed by emergency provisions; they are effective on September 15, 2014. There are two proposed dates for public hearing regarding the regulation, November 10 and November 14. **Motion to approve November 10 as the date for the public hearing made by John Viola, seconded by Mark Fortune; motion passed by unanimous vote.** The Chairman announced that the public hearing will be held in Boston, and that the members would receive notice of the hearing from the Department shortly.

The Chairman went on to inform the Bureau members that the Department is developing an internal procedure to process the grandfathering provision, which is open for 180 days, the applications are posted on the website and are now being accepted by the Department. John Viola asked if the applications being presented to the Bureau today are being held to the new regulations, even if the public hearing has not taken place. The Chairman reiterated that the new regulations are in effect. John Viola also asked if there might be additional changes to the regulation following the public hearing. The Chairman said yes, that the purpose of the public hearing is to take comment from the public, and then make changes based on these comments as the Bureau decides. The Chairman went on to explain that applications that come in to the Department for grandfathering provisions will fall into one of two categories: applicants who currently hold a pipefitting or plumbing license, and who show proof of that will be issued a license; applications from individuals who have work experience, but do not currently hold a license, must be reviewed by the Bureau, and, if approved, will be issued a license. The third group of applications will come from individuals without four years of experience, and will be processed for examination like all other engineering license applications. Dan Dumont asked about an administrative review by the Department of applications before they come before the Bureau; the Chairman said that the Department will be conducting such an administrative review, and a coversheet will be prepared for each application. This coversheet will be used by the Bureau members to indicate whether or not each member approves the application for grandfathering; if a majority approves the application, then the Chairman will indicate that on the coversheet, and sign final approval. Leo Fahey asked if the process pipefitter will be a separate license; the Chairman asked that Cesar Lastra address this question. Cesar Lastra explained that a new license with the existing number and the updated restrictions will be issued to those licenseholders who apply for the grandfathering provision. Frank Norton asked how the Department has prepared to process these applications; the Chairman explained that there will be temporary employees on hand to assist with processing these applications, and that applicants should expect applications to take 2-3 weeks to process.

5. Inspector Henry Geryk was present at this meeting to present the pending applications with recommendations to the Bureau. The following applications for licensure were considered by the Bureau:
  - a. Application from Jonah Israelit to sit for the Refrigeration Contractor exam was considered, Mr. Israelit was present at this meeting. Mr. Israelit addressed the Bureau, stating that he is the president of Coldmasters Temperature Controls in RI and that he holds a refrigeration contractors license in RI. Mr. Israelit said that in addition to his own application, he was hoping to represent his employees at this meeting who also have applications pending before the bureau. Inspector Geryk informed him that the other six applicants would have to provide missing documentation for their applications individually. Frank Norton asked Mr. Israelit if he holds a Massachusetts engineering stamp, to which Mr. Israelit replied that he does. **Motion to approve Jonah Israelit to sit for Refrigeration Technician made by Leo Fahey, seconded by Bill Gallagher; motion passed by unanimous vote.** Mr. Israelit said that in addition to his own application, he was hoping to represent his employees at this meeting who also have applications pending before the bureau. Inspector Geryk informed him that the other six applicants would have to provide missing documentation for their applications individually, and that they would have to each come before the Bureau if their respective applications cannot be approved by a district engineering inspector. **Motion made by Leo Fahey to accept Inspector Geryk's recommendation that he be allowed to review the other six applications and approve those that provide required documentation, and forward the others to the Bureau as necessary, motion seconded by Frank Norton; motion passed by unanimous vote.** The Chairman asked Inspector Geryk to read the names of the six applicants:

Louis Mathews  
Antonion Grillo  
George Boucher

Andrew Baum  
Jose Reyes  
Gregory Laskowski

- b. Application from Emre Yetistirici to sit for the Refrigeration Technician exam was considered, Mr. Yetistirici was present at this meeting. Mr. Yetistirici had taken the RT exam once before on May 31, 2013. **Motion to approve this application made by John Viola, seconded by Dan Dumont; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
  - c. Application from Michael Brandano to sit for Sprinkler Contractor exam was considered, Mr. Brandano was present at this meeting. John Viola pointed out that under the new regulation, there is an additional requirement for 300 hours of additional related instruction; Mr. Viola asked Mr. Brandano if he had such additional training, to which he replied that he did. **Motion made by John Viola to approved this application upon receipt of documentation of said additional training from the applicant, motion seconded by Mark Fortune; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
  - d. Application from Chaukwuebuka Nwafor to sit for Refrigeration Technician exam was considered, Mr. Nwafor was present at this meeting. **Motion made by John Viola to consider this application approved contingent upon the applicant's submission to the of a valid CFC certificate to the Department, seconded by Frank Norton; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
  - e. Application from Patrick McGonagle to sit for Refrigeration Technician exam was considered, Mr. McGonagle was present at this meeting. **Motion made by Leo Fahey to approve this application, seconded by Frank Norton; motion approved by unanimous vote.**
  - f. Application from Robert Markowitz to sit for Journeyman Pipefitter exam was considered, Mr. Markowitz was present at this meeting. **Motion made by Frank Norton to table this application until additional information regarding the applicant's experience and education is received by the Department, motion seconded by Mark Fortune; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
  - g. Application from William Lynch to sit for Refrigeration Contractor exam was considered, Mr. Lynch was present at this meeting. **Motion to approve this applicant to examine for Refrigeration Contractor made by Frank Norton, seconded by Brian Kelly; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
  - h. Application from Jeffrey Strube to sit for Refrigeration Technician exam was considered, Mr. Strube was not present at this meeting. **Motion to table consideration of this application until the applicant can appear before the Bureau made by Leo Fahey; motion passed by unanimous vote.**
6. Dan Dumont addressed the Bureau, asking if there might be a way to streamline the process for reviewing grandfathering applications, perhaps assigning someone to review and possibly approve those applications which are complete and without any discretionary issues. The Chairman replied that the Bureau has no authority to delegate the review process to anyone other than the Bureau. He went on to explain that the Department will be preparing the applications for the Bureau to simplify the process. Supervisor Kilburn said that several district engineering inspectors will be available to assist the Bureau as they get started, and the Chairman added that Inspector Geryk has prepared a checklist to use to assist, as well.
  7. The Chairman informed the Bureau the the Department will be relocating from the space in Taunton to a new space in Milford in January, where the Bureau meetings will be held, as well.

8. The Chairman informed the Bureau members that, in order to simplify compliance with Open Meeting Law, members will be assigned a state e-mail address. More information on this will be presented at a later date.
9. **Motion to adjourn made by Mark Fortune, seconded by Jennifer Revill; motion passed by unanimous vote, meeting adjourned at 10:53 AM.**

**The next meeting of the Bureau of Pipefitters, Refrigeration Technicians, and Sprinklerfitters will be on Wednesday, October 15, 2014.**

List of Documents/Exhibits Used at this Meeting

- a. Draft agenda for today's meeting
- b. Minutes from meeting on June 18, 2014
- c. Minutes from meeting on July 18, 2014
- d. RC Application, Jonah Israelit
- e. RT Application, Emre Yetistirici
- f. SC Application, Michael Brandano
- g. RT Application, Caukwuebuka Nwafor
- h. RT Application, Patrick McGonagle
- i. PJ Application, Robert Markowitz
- j. RC Application, Michael Lynch
- k. RT Application, Jeffrey Strube