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**BOARD OF STATE EXAMINERS OF
PLUMBERS AND GAS FITTERS**

December 10, 2020 11:00 a.m. BOARD MEETING

OPEN SESSION

In accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 30A § 20, notice is hereby given that the Board of State Examiners of Plumbers and Gas Fitters convened a regular monthly meeting via Gotomeeting conference on Wednesday, December 10, 2020 pursuant to an Executive Order issued by the Governor of Massachusetts dated March 12, 2020 suspending certain provisions of the open meeting law.

The topics shown below were discussed at the aforementioned meeting.

NOTE: All votes were taken by roll call, where a vote is reported as unanimous, each member voted yes.

Member and Staff Attendance

MEMBERS	APPOINTMENT	PRESENT	ABSENT
Mr. Joseph McNamee	Member, Master Gas Fitter	X	
Mr. Dan Kilburn	Member, DPL Designee	X	
Mr. Harold Knight	Member, Journeyman Plumber	X	
Mr. John Cruz	Member, LP Installer	X	
Mr. Bahig A. Kaldas, P. E.	Member, Plumbing Engineer	X	
Mr. Joseph V. Waskiewicz	Member, Master Plumber	X	
Mr. Wayne Thomas	Member Journeyman Gasfitter	X	
Ms. Ruth Alfasso	Member, Dept. of Public Health	X	



BOARD OF STATE EXAMINERS OF PLUMBERS AND GASFITTERS DECEMBER 10, 2020

Ms. Sarah Badway	Public Member	X	
STAFF			
Mr. Charles Kilb	Board Legal Counsel	X	
Ms. Karen Brann	Board Executive Director	X	
Ms. Mary Collins-McCarthy	Associate Executive Director	X	
Mr. Taylor Roth	State Plumbing Investigator	X	
Mr. Scott Padden	State Plumbing Investigator		
Mr. Fredrick Lima	State Plumbing Investigator	X	
Mr. James O'Reilly	State Plumbing Investigator	X	
Mr. Joseph Peluso	Board Consultant	X	

11:00 A.M. AGENDA REVIEW: By Chairman Joseph McNamee**DISCUSSION**

D1 – Discuss/Vote - Possible variances from additional fixture requirements imposed by 248 CMR 10.10 for the change of use of existing buildings/spaces otherwise in compliance with 248 CMR to be used as temporary emergency housing due to COVID-19.

Discussion: *During the State of Emergency, some community colleges and other buildings will be used as temporary homeless shelters. There are issues when the fixture requirements are not met. The Board needs to determine what is appropriate on an emergency basis. The members indicated concern with ensuring homeless populations are given full access to sanitary facilities and that, despite an emergency, access to toilets, showers, and laundry facilities must be prioritized.*

Motion: *a motion was made by TW and seconded by HK, to grant delegated authority to the Board's staff for in-house approval on variance requests from facilities that have adequate fixture components, within a reasonable distance, to be used as temporary homeless shelters through April. If the facility requesting the variance does not have adequate fixture components, the Board's staff can approve the request until the next Board meeting. At which time the variance request will be presented to the Board to vote on.*

Result: *Motion passed with 1 member voting against (JM), all other members voted yes*

D2 - Discuss/Vote - Possible variances from fixture requirements imposed by 248 CMR 10.10 for newly erected temporary small buildings, to be used exclusively for COVID-19 testing and vaccinations.

Discussion: **A number of companies are setting up COVID-19 testing and vaccination sites. They are usually small kiosks that do not have bathrooms, built near an existing building.**

Representatives from CVS attended the meeting and presented to the Board. The members noted that the bigger issue with the kiosks was a lack of handwashing stations. As presented, hand sanitizers will be provided. Legal Counsel noted that, though CVS presented, the request was for general board approval to ensure during the COVID-19 emergency that any similar setup be subjected to the same sets of rules.

Motion: *a motion was made to allow these types of installations, as long as restrooms and handwashing facilities are within 150 feet from the structure, and seconded by HK.*

Result: *Motion passed with one member voting against (JM), all other members voted yes.*

Motion: *A motion was made by DK and seconded by JC to adjourn the meeting.*

Result: *Unanimous*

**BOARD WILL CONSIDER ANY MATTERS NOT REASONABLY
ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR:**

None

ADJOURNMENT

Note:

Reasonable accommodations or modifications will be provided to enable individuals with disabilities to participate in this Plumbing Board meeting. **All requests should be submitted to Cheryl Yebba at (617)-727-4992 no later than one (1) week prior to the scheduled Board Meeting.** While the Board of Examiners of Plumbers & Gas Fitters will attempt to honor all requests, those requests received after that date may not be provided due to feasibility.

Respectfully Submitted By;

Karen R. Brann

Karen Brann, Executive Director
Board of Examiners of Plumbers and Gasfitters

Respectfully Authorized by;

Joseph McNamee

Joseph McNamee., Chairman
Board of Examiners of Plumbers and Gasfitters