
**Maryland Home Improvement Commission
Public Business Meeting Minutes**

DATE: August 6, 2020

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Teleconference through Google Meet

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Altieri
Lawrence Helminiak
Lauren Lake
Michael A. Newton
Joseph Tunney, Chair
I Jean White

MEMBERS ABSENT: James Berndt
Wm. Bruce Quackenbush
Michael Shilling

DLLR OFFICIALS AND
STAFF PRESENT: David Finneran, Executive Director
Deborah Irvin-Cromwell, Assistant Executive Director
Kimberly Rosenthal, Administrative Officer
Kenneth Sigman, Assistant Attorney General
Tenaea A. Thomas, Panel Secretary

Call to Order

Chair Tunney called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Welcome New Commissioner Michael A. Newton

The Commission welcomed Michael A. Newton as a new Consumer member. Mr. Newton has been married for twenty five years and has three children. He resides in the Lutherville area. He owns a small franchise called Cookie Cutters Haircuts for Kids, located in Lutherville, Perry Hall and Ellicott City. He looks forward to working with the Commission. The Commissioners and staff of MHIC all look forward to working with Mr. Newton.

Approval of the June 4, 2020 Minutes

Ms. White made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2020 Commission meeting. Ms. Lake seconded the motion and all approved the minutes.

Guaranty Fund Activity Report

The MHIC Guaranty Fund Activity Report dated July 17, 2020 is as follows:

Balance as of July 1, 2019	\$ 3,366,195.42
Receipts	\$ 1,170,790.01
Interest	-0-
Disbursements	
Claims	(\$796,666.33)
Refunds	(\$6,736.00)
Balance as of June 30, 2020	<u>\$3,733,583.10</u>
Reserve	
Anticipated Large Claims	\$ 700,000.00
FMIS Balance	\$3,733,583.00
Difference	\$ 0

Mr. Finneran informed the Commissioners that the Anticipated Large Claims should be \$800,000.

**Prorated Claims Report - MHIC Business Meeting
8/6/2020**

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Suspended date</u>
Contractor A Payout completed on March 27, 2018	June 9, 2015
Contractor B Payout completed on December 6, 2018	June 16, 2016
Contractor C Payout completed on October 4, 2018	February 1, 2017
Contractor D Payout completed on January 1, 2019	June 29, 2017
Contractor E 24 – Complaints Claims date closed as of January 1, 2019	June 29, 2017 (Emergency Suspended) Latest complaint opened May, 2018
Contractor F Payout completed on September 3, 2019	December 21, 2017
Contractor G 9 – Complaints Claims date to close November 20, 2020	May 8, 2019 (voluntary termination) Latest one opened May 20, 2019 One complaint reopened Nov. 4, 2019
Contractor H 7 – Complaints 1- Criminal Complaint Criminal Charges filed	June 24, 2019 (Emergency Suspension) Latest one opened October 29, 2019
Contractor I 5 – Complaints	March 8, 2019 (license expired) Latest one opened May 20, 2019
Contractor J 12 – Complaints	Dec. 16, 2019 (Emergency Suspension) Latest complaint opened January 6, 2020
Contractor K 5 – Complaints	Jan. 16, 2020 (show cause suspension) Latest complaint opened Jan. 22, 2020
Contractor L 6--Complaints	March 12, 2020 (Emergency Suspension) Emergency Suspension Appeal hearing May 7, 2020

Contractor M
11-Complaints

**December 5, 2019 (Show Cause
Suspension) Latest complaint
opened May 29, 2020**

Mr. Finneran informed the Commissioners that the Commission has not made any payouts on claims due to appeals period being stayed.

Review of Exam Results

Below is the examination statistics summary for the month of June 2020 and July 2020

June 2020

Home Improvement	Candidates Tested	Passed	Failed	Pass %
Contractor	65	50	15	77%
Contractor Spanish	22	5	17	23%
Salesperson	30	21	9	70%
Salesperson Spanish	0	0	0	
TOTAL	117	76	41	65%

July 2020

Contractor	132	100	32	76%
Contractor Spanish	98	51	47	52%
Salesperson	58	36	22	62%
Salesperson Spanish	0	0	0	
TOTAL	288	187	101	65%

Mr Finneran stated that PSI exams were limited in June, 2020 due to the Pandemic. Ms. White noted the percentages of passing scores are improving.

Maryland Home Improvement Stats

MAY 2020	
LICENSING ACTIVITY	
Current Licenses Total	34,000
<i>Contractor/Salesperson</i>	17,903
<i>Salesperson</i>	3,031
<i>Contractor/Salesperson (Corp/Part)</i>	12,043
<i>Applications Approved</i>	55
COMPLAINTS RECEIVED	
Complaints Received	66
<i>Licensed</i>	58
<i>Unlicensed</i>	8
Pending Show Cause Hearings	5
Waiting to be sent to OAH	109
Pending Hearing/Decision at OAH	132
Mediation	30
CLAIMS	
Total Open Claims	540

JUNE 2020	
LICENSING ACTIVITY	
Current Licenses Total	34,187
<i>Contractor/Salesperson</i>	17,990
<i>Salesperson</i>	3,035
<i>Contractor/Salesperson (Corp/Part)</i>	12,132
<i>Applications Approved</i>	82
COMPLAINTS RECEIVED	
Complaints Received	82
<i>Licensed</i>	58
<i>Unlicensed</i>	24
Pending Show Cause Hearings	25
Waiting to be sent to OAH	109
Pending Hearing/Decision at OAH	122
Mediation	25
CLAIMS	
Total Open Claims	545

Mr. Tunney asked about the citation report. Mr. Finneran said that there are a few being reviewed but there is no Citation report at this time.

Comments from the Chairman

Mr. Tunney thanked everyone for stepping up during this Pandemic by continuing to make things run smoothly. He again welcomed Mr. Newton to the Commission. Mr. Tunney asked the other Commissioners if they had any comments. Ms. White thanked Teneaa Thomas for sending out hearing agendas by mail. The Commissioners are very pleased with Teneaa Thomas and thanked her for all she does to make everything run smoothly.

Comments from the Executive Director


Mr. Finneran thanked the staff for stepping up during this time of the Pandemic. He said that some staff members are working from home and others are coming in the office a few days a week. He said the office is working at a 100 percent capacity. He also stated that at this time the courts are starting to reopen.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.



Joseph Tunney Chairman



David Finneran, Executive Director

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