



**STATE BOARD OF PLUMBING
BUSINESS MEETING
MINUTES**

Date: December 21, 2023

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Location: 1100 N. Eutaw Street
Fifth Floor Conference Room
Baltimore, MD 21201
(In person for Board Members and Staff only)
Held via Video Conference
meet.google.com/qks-niad-yfo
By Phone via Teleconference
1-414-909-7588 (PIN: 385820141)

Members Present: Joseph Radtka, Chairman
Robert Parker, Consumer Member
Leif Hancock, Industry Member
Hayward Hinkhaus, Industry Member

Absent: Keith Horton, Vice-Chairman, Industry Member
Gregory Schott, Industry Member
Richard Bowers, Consumer Member

LABOR Officials & Staff Present: John Bull, Executive Director, Mechanical Licensing Unit
Sloane Fried Kinstler, Assistant Attorney General
LaKissha Thornton, Administrative Officer III

OTHERS PRESENT: Wayne Fishpaw, Pipe Trades Technology
Derrick Day, 2Day Waterworks

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Joseph Radtka called the Business Meeting of the Maryland State Board of Plumbing to order, virtually, at 10:31 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Parker to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2023 Plumbing Board meeting without amendment, seconded by Mr. Hinkhaus, and, by a roll call vote, unanimously approved by the Board.

PLUMBING COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

There were no complaints reviewed this month; no Committee report was offered.

REVIEW OF EXAMINATION STATISTICS AND LICENSE TOTALS

PSI Exams submitted the following statistical summaries for November 2023:

Plumber	Candidates Tested	Passed	Failed	Pass %
Journey Natural Gas Fitter	5	2	3	40%
Journey Plumber/Gas Fitter	39	14	25	36%
Master Natural Gas Fitter	0	0	0	-
Master Plumber/Gas Fitter	18	5	13	28%
TOTAL	62	21	41	34%

Chairman Radtka reported that since January 2023, 731 candidates were tested, 273 candidates passed, 458 failed, for a pass rate of 37%. Since the inception of the test, 11,115 candidates were tested, 4,022 candidates passed, 7,093 failed, for a pass rate of 36%. There are currently 13,541 active licensees.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to be reviewed.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board was scheduled to discuss the application to become an approved backflow instruction providers submitted by Derrick Day on behalf of 2Day Waterworks. The application was not discussed however, as the members of the Board were not able to review the application before the meeting. Chairman Radtka apologized to Mr. Day for the inconvenience and informed him that the application would be reviewed by the Board before the January 2024 meeting and that a decision would be made at that meeting. Counsel requested that staff send a reminder email to the Board before the next meeting to ensure their preparedness.

Derrick Day left the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Chairman Radtka reported that Carroll County would begin using the following New Codes effective Jan. 1, 2024:

- The International Building Code (IBC) 2021 Edition, as published by the International Code Council, Inc. (ICC), as amended by the Maryland Building Performance Standards
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Fire Prevention Code, as adopted by the Maryland State Fire Code
- International Mechanical Code, 2021 Edition
- International Energy Conservation Code, 2021 Edition, as amended by the Maryland Building Performance Standards
- International Residential Code, One and Two Family Dwelling Code, 2021 Edition, as amended by the Maryland Building Performance Standards
- NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, as adopted by the Maryland State Fire Code
- International Plumbing Code, 2021 Edition

- NFPA 70 National Electrical Code, 2023 Edition (replaces ICC, International Electrical Code
- International Existing Building Code, 2021 Edition, as amended by the Maryland Building Performance Standards
- International Fuel Gas Code, 2021 Edition
- Maryland Accessibility Code, COMAR 09.12.53
- Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code, NFPA 58, 2020 Edition
- International Swimming Pool and Spa Code, 2021 Edition

There was no other Old Business

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

The Executive Director did not offer a report.

COUNSEL’S REPORT

Counsel did not offer a report for the Board. Counsel did remind the Board that the proposed provision to amend the current Board fees was published on December 15, 2023. She stated that the public comment period would end on January 16, 2024, and that after date, the Board could decided to take final action on the provision. Counsel added that if the Board wished to take final action on the proposed regulation at the January meeting, the topic must be added to the January agenda. Chairman Radtka requested that staff place the item on the Agenda for the January 18, 2024 meeting.

CHAIR’S REPORT

The Chairman did not offer a report but wished the Board and staff a happy holiday.

Wayne Fishpaw left the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into closed session at 10:46 am. The Board returned to the open session of the meeting at 11:23 am. Director Bull joined the meeting during the Closed Session. A motion to approve the findings of the closed session was made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Hinkhaus and, by a roll call vote, unanimously approved by the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon Mr. Hinkhaus’ Motion, and Mr. Paker’s second, and the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:24 a.m.

Signature on File

01/18/2024

John Bull
Executive Director

Date

Signed on behalf of the Board as voted and approved on 01/18/2024