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**STATE BOARD OF PLUMBING  
BUSINESS MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Date:** November 16, 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](https://meet.google.com/qks-niad-yfo)  
By Phone via Teleconference  
1-414-909-7588 (PIN: 385820141)

**Members Present:** Joseph Radtka, Chairman  
Keith Horton, Vice-Chairman, Industry Member  
Leif Hancock, Industry Member  
Hayward Hinkhaus, Industry Member

**Absent:** Gregory Schott, Industry Member  
Robert Parker, Consumer Member  
Richard Bowers, Consumer Member

**LABOR Officials & Staff Present:** John Bull, Executive Director, Mechanical Licensing Unit  
Sloane Fried Kinstler, Assistant Attorney General  
Sean Heeter, Administrative Officer, Board of HVACR Contractors  
Matthew McKinney, Director of Strategic Initiatives

**Absent:** LaKissha Thornton, Administrative Officer III

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Wayne Fishpaw, Pipe Trades Technology  
Dave Hahn, 2Day Waterworks

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Joseph Radtka called the Business Meeting of the Maryland State Board of Plumbing to order, virtually, at 10:43 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Hinkhaus to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2023 Plumbing Board meeting without amendment, seconded by Mr. Horton, 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 October 2023:

<b>Plumber</b>	<b>Candidates Tested</b>	<b>Passed</b>	<b>Failed</b>	<b>Pass %</b>
Journey Natural Gas Fitter	5	1	4	20%
Journey Plumber/Gas Fitter	42	9	33	21%
Master Natural Gas Fitter	0	0	0	-
Master Plumber/Gas Fitter	24	8	16	33%
<b>TOTAL</b>	71	18	53	25%

**CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence to be reviewed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Chairman Radtka stated the Board previously discussed adopting new 2021 plumbing and mechanical codes. He stated that the 2024 NFPA 58 is the plumbing and fuel gas code for 2021. Mr. Radtka stated Mr. Schott had raised including some changes to the fuel and gas codes; he asked that further discussion be deferred to the next meeting when Mr. Schott can be present.

Counsel Kinstler reminded the Board that there had been a discussion of the Board not including modifications to its adopted codes to avoid having to update the codes each cycle. She explained if the Board wishes to adopt a modification to a particular code, that code would be subject to a cyclical update with new edition published. Counsel reminded the Board Mr. Schott had raised a concern about a plumber working on a job site not referring to the gas code and only the plumbing code. Counsel further reminded the Board that Mr. Schott had mentioned adding something referenced in one code to another code to ensure it was observed. Counsel explained that a modification might not be required if the Board finds the matter sufficiently addressed in one of its adopted codes, but she intends to defer to Mr. Schott and the industry members of the Board on the matter. Chairman Radtka stated he agrees with Counsel and will address the discussion during the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Mr. Bull stated regulations proposing fee schedule updates were submitted to the Secretary’s Office and had been approved. They have been submitted for the required review by the AELR Committee, after which time it can be submitted for publication in the Maryland Register and the public may submit comments during a 30-day comment period. Any comments or concerns submitted will be presented to the Board for discussion before the Board can consider final action.

Mr. Bull asked Mr. McKinney if he had any information pertaining to Board appointments for the upcoming 2024 legislative session. Mr. McKinney stated he has no information regarding appointments at this time, but that a perspective member would need the recommendation from a current Board member. Mr. McKinney stated that to apply for a seat on the Board, prospective members must apply on the Governor’s Appointment Office website.

**COUNSEL’S REPORT**

Counsel did not offer a report.

**CHAIR’S REPORT**

Chairman Radtka wished the Board a happy Thanksgiving and reminded the Board to be safe.

He asked members of the public if they had anything for the Board. Mr. Day stated he is an instructor with Pipe Trades Technology and wondered if the proposal he submitted to the Board would be voted on today. Chairman Radtka stated the vote was not on the agenda, and Counsel Kinstler asked Mr. Hahn if he or Mr. Day had provided or can provide the additional materials that were requested. She asked Mr. Bull if he had received any additional materials. Mr. Bull stated that Mr. Day had submitted reference material, but other additional information requested had not been provided. Counsel advised that the Board could establish a committee to review such materials and recommend approval or denial of courses provider requests. Mr. Hahn was asked to follow up with Mr. Day to provide the additional information requested.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Board did not convene in closed session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Bull stated the next scheduled meeting is on December 21, 2023 and asked the Board if they wish to keep that date, reschedule, or cancel the meeting due to the holiday occurring around the currently scheduled meeting. Chairman Radtka, Mr. Hayward, and Mr. Horton all agreed the scheduled December 21, 2023 Board meeting should occur as scheduled.

Upon Mr. Hayward’s Motion, and Mr. Hinkhaus’ second, and the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

**Signature on File**

**December 21, 2023**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**John Bull**  
**Executive Director**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**Signed on behalf of the Board as voted and approved on December 21, 2023**