

MINUTES

UTAH PLUMBER'S LICENSING BOARD MEETING

March 5, 2008

Room 474 – 4th Floor – 9:00 a.m.
Heber Wells Building
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, Utah

CONVENED

9:02 a.m.

ADJOURNED

11:05 a.m.

DOPL STAFF

F. David Stanley, *Director*
Ross Ford, *Associate Director*
Dennis Meservy, *Bureau Manager*
Dan S. Jones, *Bureau Manager (Bureau 4)*
Wayne Holman, *Investigation Supervisor*
Yvonne King, *Board Secretary*

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

David Told, *Chairman*
Gloria Miley
Travis Dalley
Ed Gongaware
David Halverson

VISITORS

Corey Christensen, *State Fire Marshal's Office*
Trina Hansen, *Ogden Weber Applied Tech College*
Brent Halladay, *State Fire Marshal's Office*
Doug Leon, *Davis County Applied Tech College*
Oliver Moore, *State Fire Marshal's Office*
Brian Moritsch, *PSI*
Cutis Nielsen, *Ogden Weber Applied Tech College*
Dale Olson, *Utah Valley State College*
Jeff Pedersen, *Utah Plumbing & Heating Contractor Assoc*
Will Pierce, *Salt Lake Community College*
Lori Stewart, *Mountainland Applied Tech College*
John Walker, *Utah Plumbing & Heating Contractor Assoc*

MINUTES

Ed Gongaware made a motion to approve the February Minutes. Gloria Miley seconded the motion upon the correction of a single grammatical error. All members voted in favor of approving the minutes with this correction.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

LIQUID PROPANE GAS

Brent Halladay is the Chief Deputy Fire Marshal for the state. He reviewed with the board the administrative rules for liquefied petroleum gas. The rule allowed a journeyman plumber and those with a Rocky Mountain Gas certification to waive the HVAC/Plumber (interior) certification test. To obtain the LP Gas certification, an application and fees still had to be paid to the State Fire Marshall's Office.

The present rule indicates a test waiver can be given to an applicant that successfully completed an apprenticeship program approved by the Federal Bureau of Apprenticeship Training. According to Halladay, this was the terminology used to refer to a journeyman plumber. The concern with this terminology is that an individual could complete the training, but not have passed the required tests to be a journeyman. The testing contains LP Gas questions. It was the boards' position that the language in this section of the rule should be changed to a licensed journeyman plumber. Also, the state legislator just passed the master plumber license classification. The expectation was that the governor would sign this piece of legislation. If this occurred, then the wording a licensed master plumber should also be added to the rule. According to the board, the test waiver for LP Gas should "not" be extended to the residential plumbing license classification(s).

LEGISLATION Master Plumber

David Told indicated it was his understanding the master plumber license classification, as recently passed by the state legislator, provided grandfathering for those holding a valid journeyman license for four years or was a qualifier on a valid contractor's license prior to May 5, 2008. The board discussed preparation for the new master license classifications that included administrative rules, testing and revamping of the application.

Handyman Exemption

The state legislator passed the handyman exemption. This exemption would not include plumbing, electrical, HVAC, burglar alarms and liquid based fire suppression systems. The limit on the bill for work not requiring licensure as a contractor has increased for those that have insurance and register with DOPL from one thousand to three thousand dollars.

OGDEN WEBER APPLIED TECHNICAL COLLEGE WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

According to Curtis Nielsen, of Ogden Weber Applied Tech College, their students can now obtain an associate degree from Weber State University in Ogden. In order for students to receive forty hours of credit towards an associate degree from Weber State, they would have to

provide one of the following three items: (1) a Utah journeyman license or (2) a certificate of completion of apprenticeship training from the U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship or (3) a certificate of proficiency from a post secondary institution. The board asked Nielsen with associate degrees now being available to plumbers would this mean the tech instructors would now be required to have the degree. Nielsen said this would not be the case. He, however, would encourage the faculty to pursue a degree.

NEW MEXICO RECIPROCITY REVIEW

Dennis Meservy explained New Mexico's requirements to be a journeyman plumber are not equivalent to our state. Their journeyman plumber is not allowed to handle natural gas without a natural gas fitters license. Even licensed as a combination journeyman/gas fitter, New Mexico only requires two years of work experience. The board reviewed the testing information for the New Mexico practical hands-on test and determined it was not equivalent to the Utah test.

PSI REVIEW EXAM SCORES

Members of the board and other that represented the plumbing industry assisted the day before in a review of the state written test for plumbers. The review was conducted by Brian Moritsch of PSI and the review was to be concluded on March 6, 2008. According to Moritsch, the written test PSI provided covered the same subject area, but was a different test than what Thomson Prometric offered. The test questions were reviewed and rated according to relevance and difficulty. PSI was willing to administer the practical hands-on test in Saint George.

Moritsch was informed by the board that it was very likely that the legislation for the master plumber would be approved by the governor and if this was the case, then there would be a need for new tests to cover the master and residential master plumber license classifications.

The PSI test score results were reviewed by the board. Also, the board reviewed competency exams scores from the various trade schools.

APPLICATIONS/DISCIPLINARY REVIEW

Board reviewed out of state applications and applications with special concerns.

All business concluded meeting adjourned

Note: This report is not intended to be a verbatim transcript, but is intended to record the significant features of what was discussed in the meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily arranged in chronological order.

(ss) David Told
David Told, Board Chairperson Signature

Date: April 2, 2008

(ss) Dennis Meservy
Dennis Meservy, Bureau Manager Signature

Date: April 2, 2008