

Board of Boiler Rules Meeting Minutes
August 23, 2023
Department of Labor & Industries, Virtual Meeting

Board Members:

Tim Barker, Chair
Keith Black
Lisa Hawkins
Stephanie Gross
Mike Carlson, Secretary

Other Attendees:

Jamie Brown, State of Washington
Alicia Curry, State of Washington**
Meagan Edwards, State of Washington**
Don Sage, State of Washington
Terry Chapin, Retired
Jon Choitz, Hartford Steam Boiler
Ray Smith, Cincinnati Insurance
Stephen Lee, CNA Insurance
Steve Frazier, City of Seattle

- * Attended Study Session only
- ** Attended Board Meeting only
- *** Attended Public Hearing only

The Board of Boiler Rules study session was held from 10:05 a.m. to 10:46 a.m. Discussion summaries are incorporated in the meeting minutes.

The Board of Boiler Rules meeting was called to order by the Chair at 1:00 pm. Board member Steve Pacheco was not in attendance for study session or board meeting.

Agenda Item 1

Lisa motioned to approve agenda. Keith seconded. All voted aye, motion carried. Agenda approved.

Agenda Item 2

Stephanie motioned to approve minutes, Lisa seconded. All voted aye, motion carried. Minutes approved.

Agenda Item 3

WAC 296-104-700 – What are the inspection fees – Examination fees – Certificate fees – Expenses?

This was presented by Mike Carlson. The Boiler program did not request a fee increase for the last fiscal year. They are now starting the process for an increase, as allowed by the Office of Financial Management, for minimal impact to stakeholders of the state of Washington. Right

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now, the projected increase is 6.3%, but it could be a little more or less depending on OFM's decision. Lisa had a question regarding whether the boiler program is getting close to a point of "catching up" and getting to a place where they will not have to request continual fee increases? Mike said it may end up being a fee increase request every year to stay current with cost, income, and inflation. Tim is curious whether there was a major effort to send more than one invoice/re-invoice, etc., to try and increase revenue. Mike said that there has been no change to our process, but we have had some success getting people to pay their invoices on time recently. Keith motioned to approve, Lisa seconded.

Agenda Item 4

Approval of Preproposal CR101 filing to initiate rulemaking for the following WAC revisions:

- **WAC 296-104-020 – What are the filing requirements for boilers and unfired pressure vessels before their installation/reinstallation?**
 - Installer will pay any subsequent re-inspection fees.
- **WAC 296-104-102 – Inspection – What are the standards for in-service inspection?**
 - Supplement 3 is mandatory.
- **WAC 296-104-200 – Construction – What are the standards for new construction?**
 - Moved some requirements into section XIII to stay current with the standard.
- **WAC 296-104-255 – Installation – What are the required clearances for boilers?**
 - Moved section I verbiage into section V, and moved section V to section I to streamline and make it easier to understand.
- **WAC 296-104-260 – What are the required clearances for unfired pressure vessels?**
 - Clarification and verbiage updates to make easier to understand.
- **WAC 296-104-700 – What are the inspection fees – Examination fees- Certificate fees – Expenses?**
 - Fee increase, as allowed by the Office of Financial Management.

These WAC's have already been approved by the board, but not submitted by the department to go through the official rulemaking process. The board needs to vote to approve filing the CR101 to initiate the actual rule change process for the abovementioned changes. Lisa motioned to approve the CR101 of the 5 previously approved WAC's, with the addition of WAC 296-104-700 voted on and passed today. Stephanie seconded. All voted aye, motion approved.

Department Notes:

Terry's term expired in 2020 and a replacement has been found at last in Keith Black. Terry was presented with a certificate of appreciation and thanked for his time serving on the board, above and beyond his term limits. He thanked the board for all of their support and commented that if he could be of any further or future service, please call on him. He remarked that serving on the board was one of the highlights of his life and he is honored to have served and rather sorry to leave. He hopes to attend future meetings as a guest rather than as a board member.

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Lisa's term ended yesterday, and so did Steve's. Tim has technically not been renewed yet. Lisa did recommend somebody and she believes they have applied. Mike will look into that. Lisa has stated she will stay serving on the board until a replacement has been found.

It was agreed upon by board members and board secretary to move the November meeting date to 11/8/23 instead of the originally planned 11/15/23. It was also decided to separate the study session and board meetings by having a virtual only study session the day before the board meeting(s) in the future, and then having a hybrid virtual/in person meeting the next day.

Potential revision to RCW 70.79-120 in the future. Would mean more of an education and experience combination for inspector requirements, but nothing concrete or in the works yet.

State exam discussion – Terry, Tim, and Lisa have submitted their questions and revisions to Jamie. Still waiting for Stephanie and Steve's revisions/updates.

Andy Worline was introduced as the new Inspector Supervisor for the Boiler program. Alicia Curry also introduced Meagan Edwards as the new Management Analyst in the division. Meagan will take over Alicia's previous position while she's in the new role. She will also take the lead on most boiler rulemaking and will be giving updates to the board.

Mike Carlson presented information regarding current workload and overdue inspections in the Boiler program. Data was collected 8/21/2023.

Inspections completed May 1, 2023 – July 31, 2023, for 132 commissioned inspectors:

432 Internal boiler inspections
+ 1,925 External boiler inspections
+ 11,363 Pressure vessel inspections
= 13,720 Total inspections

As of 8/21/2023, there have been 3,175 new objects added this year, and 1,434 installation permits submitted.

Current total of objects is 116,880.

Statewide overdue rate is 11.9%, with about 13,951 objects (60 days or more overdue) without a valid certificate.

Violations:

There were 568 violations opened, 199 violations closed last quarter.

301 boiler and 1,013 pressure vessels with open violations for a total of 1,314.

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2 red tag violations opened.

Keith motioned to adjourn the meeting. Lisa seconded. All voted aye, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.