

Board of Boiler Rules Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2023
Department of Labor & Industries, Hybrid Meeting

Board Members:

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

Other Attendees:

Alicia Curry, State of Washington **
Meagan Edwards, State of Washington **
Don Sage, State of Washington
Steve Frazier, City of Seattle **
Becky Lee Zamora, State of Washington **

* Attended Study Session only
** Attended Board Meeting only

The Board of Boiler Rules meeting began at 10:05 a.m. Discussion summaries are incorporated in the meeting minutes.

Agenda Item 1 – Approval of Agenda

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

Agenda Item 2 – Review and approve minutes from August 23, 2023, meeting

The August 23, 2023, Meeting Minutes were amended to include Steve Frazier. Lisa motioned to approve minutes, Stephanie seconded. All voted aye, motion carried. Minutes approved.

Agenda Item 3 – Authorize CR-102 to propose rule changes

Mike Carlson and Alicia Curry provided an update on the status of rulemaking and shared the draft rule language with the board. The board reviewed each draft change, which includes:

- **WAC 296-104-020, Administration – What are the filing requirements for boilers and unfired pressure vessels before their installation/reinstallation?** This a new change that would make installers responsible for correcting deficiencies found during installation inspections and paying any subsequent inspection fees.
- **WAC 296-104-296-104-102, Inspection – What are the standards for in-service inspection?** Removes the National Board Inspection Code (NBIC), current edition Part 4, Section 6, and Supplement 3 from the non-mandatory guidelines for pressure relief devices. Supplement 3 is mandatory.
- **WAC 296-104-200, 200 – Construction – What are the standards for new construction?** Adds new Section XIII from the 2023 edition of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME). Section XIII has been updated to show that pressure devices must be mentioned. The current rule indicates 12 months; however, the mandatory period is only 6 months. If that needed to be amended, Alicia Curry said it could be done.

- **WAC 296-104-255 – Installation – What are the required clearances for boilers?**
Allows for clearances less than eighteen inches for boilers when recommended by the manufacturer’s instructions. The rule language as rearranged for boilers only.

WAC 296-104-260, what are the required clearances for unfired pressure vessels?
Adds a new exception that allows for side clearances less than eight inches for pressure vessels when recommended by the manufacturer’s instructions. This deals with pressure vessels only. A lot of language was added, with the exception of unfired pressure vessels, that one has been changed.

WAC 296-104-700, – What are the inspection fees – Examination fees- Certificate fees – Expenses. Increases fees by the preliminary fiscal growth factor of 6.3%. This is the maximum allowable fiscal growth factor rate by the Office of Financial Management for fiscal year 2025. The rate is preliminary and subject to change. The rate is expected to be adopted in November 2023. The fees are rounded down to the nearest tenth to make it easier for staff and customers.

The next step is to file the CR102 proposal, accept public comments and hold a public hearing. If adopted, the new rules would take effect on July 1, 2024.

Timothy motioned to approve and Stephanie seconded to move forward with CR-102 proposal. All voted aye, motion approved

Department Notes

Mike Carlson presented quarterly boiler program inspection information to the board.

The following information is regarding current workload and overdue inspections in the Boiler program. Data collected 11/6/2023. Currently, there are:

137 State Commissioned Inspectors
Inspections in the last quarter- August 1, - October 31, 2023
414 Internal boiler inspections. (432)
1,927 External boiler inspections. (1,925)
11,547 Pressure vessel inspections. (11,547)

Total inspections = 13,888. (13,720)
The Statewide overdue rate average is 10.8%, (11.9) with 12,617 (13,951) (60 days or more overdue) without a valid certificate.
As of 11/6/2023, 4,585 new objects have been added this year. (1,410 added this quarter)
1,930 Installation permits submitted to date (495 new permit this quarter)
Current total of objects is 117,098. (116,880)
There were 502 violations opened, 169 were closed last quarter. (568,199)
One red tag violation opened last quarter. (2)

Currently there are 271-boiler, and 996-pressure vessel violations open which totals 1,267.
(301, 1013, 1,314)

Board Members Lisa Hawkins and Steve Pacheco's term expired August 22, 2023. They will continue to serve until replacement is appointed. The next meeting will be virtual the first day and hybrid the second day. Alicia confirmed the public hearing would be a hybrid meeting on the day of the board meeting. The hearing will be held in-person at L&I headquarters and via Zoom or Microsoft Teams. When the hearings are taking place Alicia and Meagan will assist.

Adjourned 10:53 a.m. All voted Aye and adjourned.