

Board of Boiler Rules Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2022
Department of Labor & Industries, Virtual Meeting

Board Members:

Tim Barker, Chair
Terry Chapin
Lisa Hawkins
Stephanie Gross
Steve Pacheco
Mike Carlson, Secretary

Other Attendees:

Jamie Brown, State of Washington
Alicia Curry, State of Washington
Steve Reinmuth, State of Washington*
Don Sage, State of Washington
Steve Frazier, City of Seattle
Stephen Lee, CNA Insurance
John Handley, Facility Partners
Erin Frasier, WA State Building Council
Kurt Schmeusser, Tapinek Plumbing
Jon Choitz, Hartford Steam Boiler

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

The Board of Boiler Rules study session was held from 9:16 a.m. to 10:03 a.m. Discussion summaries are incorporated in the meeting minutes.

The Board of Boiler Rules meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:11 am.

Agenda Item 1.

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

Agenda Item 2.

Steve motioned to approve minutes as written. Terry seconded. Lisa abstained from voting due to absence from previous meeting. Motion carried, minutes approved.

Agenda Item 3

WAC 296-104-260 – What are the required clearances for unfired pressure vessels?

This was presented by Mike Carlson and was previously presented in August but it was determined that the request needed to be looked at again and possibly re-worded. This request is being submitted to provide clarification on required clearances for newly installed pressure vessels. Part 4 of the WAC was added to make the intention clearer. Board members had several questions regarding variances, exemptions, and requirements for water heaters and expansion

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tanks. Kurt Schmeusser stated that he would prefer set parameters and not leave things up to inspector judgement, as to avoid any issues with errors in judgement. Terry motioned to table this agenda item until the next meeting. Steve seconded. Tim would like it on record that one of the concerns is whether they could choose certain objects like water heaters or expansion tanks from being exempt from actual variance process. All voted aye, motion passes, item tabled.

Department Notes:

Stipends were discussed and several board members have started receiving past due payments.

Terry will continue to serve on the board as long as is necessary, until his position has been filled.

Alicia Curry shared some guidance she has received regarding in person meetings, and that OPMA encourages virtual options as well. Some more guidance should be coming from the agency, but everyone should look to the AAG regarding the current policy with in person and virtual meetings.

In person meeting locations were discussed. Tukwila is a good location for most people, as well the Tacoma office. The Tukwila office may be preferred due to the fact the Tacoma meeting room is a little small.

The board has agreed that most of the time a one day meeting would be sufficient. If there is a larger agenda, they can discuss the possibility of holding a longer meeting or a two day session.

Inspections completed August 1, 2022 – October 31, 2022, for 131 commissioned inspectors:

363 Internal boiler inspections
+ 1,559 External boiler inspections
+ 9,901 Pressure vessel inspections
= 11,824 Total inspections

New objects:

519 Boilers
+ 3,426 Pressure Vessels
= 3,945 New objects

Current total of objects is 116,859.

Statewide overdue rate is 12.4%, with about 14,504 objects (60 days or more overdue) without a valid certificate.

Violations:

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There were 363 violations opened, 113 violations closed.

258 boiler and 886 pressure vessels with open violations for a total of 1,144.

3 red tag violations opened.

Lisa motioned to adjourn the meeting. Terry seconded. All voted aye, motion carried and meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.