

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COMMITTEE OF PLUMBING EXAMINERS**

**July 6th, 2023
10:00 am**

CALL TO ORDER:

At approximately 10:40 a.m., Chairman Kenny Whitson called the meeting of the Committee of Plumbing Examiners to order in the CIB Conference Room, 2401 NW 23rd Street, Suite 2F, Oklahoma City, OK 73107.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Kenny Whitson, Ronnie Smith, Jason Bement, Glen Cates and Stacy Coe

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

PRESENT FROM THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES BOARD:

Jan Hubbard, Administrator; Richard Hager, Plumbing Supervisor; Brittany Haywood, Electrical Division Secretary.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jon Dutton, Assistant Attorney General; Brandon Stanley, Stanley Plumbing Services; Jamey Mullin, Zachary Tippet, Plumbing Solutions Inc.; Kent Tippet, Plumbing Solutions Inc.; Matt Wamsley, MCA Oklahoma; David Hames, PHCC of OKC.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETING ACT

This regular meeting of the State Committee of Plumbing Examiners, scheduled to begin at 10:00 a.m. on this 6th day of July 2023, has been convened in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, Oklahoma Statutes Title 25, §§ 301 through 314.

Further, this meeting was preceded by advance public notice filed electronically with the Secretary of State specifying the time and place of the meeting here convened. The Agenda was posted and displayed in public view on the office site of the Construction Industries Board and notice of this meeting was given at least twenty-four (24) hours prior hereto.

18 people have filed a written request for notice of meetings of this public body to date.

Read aloud this 6th day of July 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Stanley stated he assumes we are here to talk about the new licensing regulations, he is against it. He doesn't feel that after one-year guys are ready to do plumbing by themselves. He believes the three years is adequate to become a good plumber and do it safely. He cannot imagine an apprentice, for the gas especially, that has only one year experience, pass the test or not, turn them loose to run gas lines in a house. He doesn't think this is good for the trade, feels the test is a lot easier than it used to be. Before they had to take a shop test and thread pipe, sweat copper in

addition to the code test. He understands the other side's position, it is hard to find licensed guys, and get guys who can pass the test. It is hard to find guys to work and are committed to this trade. At the end of the day if they are not committed to the trade then they don't need to be here. This is his opinion, even if they can pass the test after one year, they are not qualified to be able to do the work safely. We need qualified people that can do the work and do it safely.

UPDATE ON PLUMBING ACTIVITY

Mr. Hager discussed the plumbing activity and provided statistical updates, field contacts, contractor and journeyman counts, and "pass/fail" rates for May 2023. Mr. Hager reported that at the last CIB Board meeting, the CIB hired Johnny Miller for the Southeast Oklahoma area. Mr. Hager believes he will be a good asset to the CIB. Mr. Hager reported on a trade fair event he attended at OSU, OKC.

Ms. Stacy Coe invited Mr. Hager to a similar event of "Construct my Future" held at OSU Technology for middle school students that she also attended. Ms. Coe stated it was a camp held at OSU Technology for 7th grade through 9th grade. They have different blocks where they do plumbing, heating and air, electrical and masonry. For the plumbing, they soldered pipe and learned the element of soldering. There was an entire class of girls, who she thought were by far the best. It was a lot of fun and they got to keep what they soldered.

Mr. Whitson stated OSU has for many years had a job fair with OG&E, ODOT and different contractors. It is a good center for the industry to get the message out.

ACTION ITEMS:

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE VOTE ON THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF PLUMBING EXAMINERS HELD ON MAY 4, 2023.

The Committee was provided a draft of the Minutes for the May 4, 2023, regular meeting of the Committee of Plumbing Examiners.

MOTION MADE BY RONNIE SMITH WITH A SECOND BY JASON BEMENT TO ACCEPT THE MAY 4, 2023, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Kenny Whitson
Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE TASKFORCE APPOINTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF PLUMBING EXAMINERS TO CONSIDER THE OKLAHOMA HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION LETTER REQUESTING CHANGES TO THE PLUMBING INDUSTRY REGULATIONS SENT BY THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES BOARD FOR REVIEW WITH DIRECTION TO INVOLVE A BROAD SPECTRUM OF THE PLUMBING INDUSTRY PRIOR TO TAKING ACTION, IF ANY, ON ANY SUGGESTION DESCRIBED IN THE LETTER.

Mr. Smith stated as the process went for the Taskforce, there was a good diverse crowd with about forty people. The meeting went further than the scheduled time limit. The Taskforce made sure everyone had their opportunity for input, trying to hear from industry and do what we need to do. He feels like it all went well and smooth.

The Committee was provided a copy of the report and recommendation of the Taskforce.

MOTION MADE BY RONNIE SMITH WITH A SECOND BY STACY COE TO ACCEPT THE REPORT AS WRITTEN.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Kenny Whitson
Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE ON ACTION, IF ANY, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE TASKFORCE, INCLUDING SENDING A RESPONSE OR UPDATE LETTER TO THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES BOARD TO BE PREPARED BY CIB STAFF WITH CONTENT AS DIRECTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND FINAL APPROVAL BY THE CHAIR.

MOTION MADE BY RONNIE SMITH WITH A SECOND BY JASON BEMENT TO SEND A LETTER TO THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES BOARD.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Kenny Whitson
Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

Discussion with possible vote on CEU Request:

The Committee reviewed the material submitted by Tulsa Pipe Trades Training School, Tulsa, OK to add additional Instructor, Brandon Chaney on all approved Plumbing CEU Classes.

MOTION MADE BY JASON BEMENT WITH A SECOND BY GLEN CATES TO APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTOR, BRANDON CHANEY FOR ALL TULSA PIPE TRADES TRAINING SCHOOL APPROVED PLUMBING CEU CLASSES.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Kenny Whitson
Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION MADE BY JASON BEMENT WITH A SECOND BY STACY COE TO ADJOURN.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Kenny Whitson
Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

Minutes approved in Regular Session on the 7th day of September 2023.

/s/ Ronnie Smith
Ronnie Smith, Vice-Chairman

PREPARED BY: /s/ Dannette Yousey
Dannette Yousey, Secretary to the Plumbing Examining Committee