

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

September 7, 2023

10:00 am

CALL TO ORDER:

At approximately 11:07 a.m., immediately following Plumbing hearings (if any), Vice-Chairman Ronnie Smith 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: 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; Dannette Yousey, Plumbing Division Secretary; Stephanie Brown, Board Secretary/Executive Assistant; Debra Wojtek, Public Relations and Outreach Officer; Stan Scheilz, Plumbing Field Investigator; Gary Kirk Mechanical Supervisor.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jon Dutton, Assistant Attorney General; David Weitzl, Oklahoma Technical College; Christina Jones, Oklahoma Technical College; Darlynn Cast, Kiamichi Technology Center; April Williams, Kiamichi Technology – Stigler Campus; Matt Goff, Kiamichi Technology – Stigler Campus; Shane Kirby, Mid-America Career Tech; Brian Dearman, Local 344 JATC; David Hames, PHCC & SMACUA.

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 7th day of September 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 7th day of September 2023.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

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 July 2023. Mr. Hager informed the Committee that Kenny Whitson had turned in his resignation effective immediately. Mr. Whitson (not present) was thanked for his years of service on the Committee, including as chairperson. Mr. Hager visited with Mid-America’s plumbing class in Wayne Oklahoma, spoke with both morning and afternoon students. He attended the Canadian Valley advisory meeting, their advisory board. Mr. Hager also advised the committee that CIB filled the open plumbing investigator position resulting in plumbing investigator positions being fully staffed.

ACTION ITEMS:

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE VOTE ON THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF PLUMBING EXAMINERS HELD ON JULY 6TH, 2023.

The Committee was provided a draft of the Minutes for the July 6th, 2023, regular meeting of the Committee of Plumbing Examiners.

MOTION MADE BY STACY COE WITH A SECOND BY JASON BEMENT TO ACCEPT THE JULY 6th, 2023, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE VOTE ON PROPOSED PERMANENT AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 30 OF TITLE 158 OF THE OKLAHOMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE AS LISTED BELOW TITLE 158.

TITLE 158. CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES BOARD
CHAPTER 30. PLUMBING INDUSTRY REGULATIONS

Janis Hubbard provided the following background: At the July 1, 2021, meeting the Committee was updated on House Bill 1150 and voted to appoint a subcommittee to review the residential plumbing journeyman exam. Then, at the September 2, 2021, meeting the Committee was updated and voted to approve the new residential plumbing journeyman exam with current requirements, limited to residential only for this exam. There are no residential plumbing journeyman rules because they were not required. There was no board action required for House Bill 1150 legislation to be effective. The intent of House Bill 1150 was made clear by the requestor, legislators, and

others prior to and during the 2021 Legislative Session, that it was for establishing a residential plumbing journeyman license. It was stated in both the House Committee and on the Senate Floor that House Bill 1150 was a Home Builders Association request Bill, and the intent was for a residential plumbing category like HVAC.

The Committee of Plumbing Examiners, as is the Committee's duty under Title 59 Section 1004, is formulating these administrative rules, and if approved today, would be proposing them to the Construction Industries Board for consideration and possible publication for public comment, pursuant to the administrative rulemaking process under the Oklahoma Administrative Procedures Act, Title 75, Chapter 8, for the 2024 Legislative Session.

What these rules do is describe the current residential plumbing journeyman category, create a resulting needed pathway to a contractor license, and clarify license limits and enforcement as to the residential category.

The Committee of Plumbing Examiners had received no request from industry during that time on the requirements for a residential plumbing journeyman license. House Bill 1150 did not change any existing licensing requirements. The residential plumbing journeyman license was based on existing standards based on the licensing law and rules. House Bill 1150 only allowed the agency four to five months to accomplish the required changes to the application process, licensing software, and to develop, review and approval of the exam by the November 1st deadline.

Staff immediately began working with the Committee and PSI on developing a residential journeyman exam for Committee approval, under Title 59 Section 1004(B) and Section 1005, so that everything would be ready by the November 1st effective date.

With clear legislative intent of the statutory language and the impending deadline, staff consulted with our legal advisor in the Attorney General's office and the Office of Administrative Rules and were advised that CIB did not have to propose new administrative rules unless the licensing requirements were changing. Since the licensing and exam requirement were staying the same, except the exam was to be over the state adopted International Residential Code instead of the International Plumbing Code and the International Fuel Gas Code, with everything else remaining the same, we were clear to proceed with the exam and license without any delay that could have been caused by the Committee working to try to get a consensus on different requirements and then formulating administrative rules on any proposed different or new requirements.

If these proposed rules that describe the current residential plumbing journeyman category, create a resulting needed pathway to a contractor license, and clarify license limits and enforcement as to the residential category are the rules the Committee is formulating, then motions, any discussions, changes, and votes need to be made for each subchapter listed on the agenda.

The committee was provided a copy of the proposed permanent amendments to Chapter 30 of Title 158 of the Oklahoma Administrative Code for Subchapters 1, 5, and 11.

SUBCHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

MOTION MADE BY RONNIE SMITH WITH A SECOND BY JASON BEMENT TO ACCEPT PROPOSED PERMANENT AMENDMENTS TO THE OKLAHOMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TITLE 158, CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES BOARD, CHAPTER 30, PLUMBING INDUSTRY REGULATIONS, SUBCHAPTER 1.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

SUBCHAPTER 5. LICENSE TYPES, BOND REQUIREMENTS, AND DISPLAY OF LICENSE NUMBER AND FIRM NAME

MOTION MADE BY STACY COE WITH A SECOND BY RONNIE SMITH TO ACCEPT PROPOSED PERMANENT AMENDMENTS TO THE OKLAHOMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TITLE 158, CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES BOARD, CHAPTER 30, PLUMBING INDUSTRY REGULATIONS, SUBCHAPTER 5.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

SUBCHAPTER 11. LICENSE REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION AND PROHIBITED ACTS

MOTION MADE BY STACY COE WITH A SECOND BY JASON BEMENT TO ACCEPT PROPOSED PERMANENT AMENDMENTS TO THE OKLAHOMA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TITLE 158, CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRIES BOARD, CHAPTER 30, PLUMBING INDUSTRY REGULATIONS, SUBCHAPTER 11.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

Mr. Smith stated the changes were mainly additions moving a little bit by deletion that just went in and put the new stuff since the residential had been added. The wording looks good to him.

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE VOTE ON FORMAL PLUMBING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM SUBMITTED BY OKLAHOMA TECHNICAL COLLEGE FOR 1,000

HOURS PLUMBING PROGRAM MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR TWO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSING, DAVID WEITL, INSTRUCTOR.

The Committee was provided a copy of the Oklahoma Technical College for 1,000 hours plumbing program may be substituted for two years of experience requirement for licensing, David Weitl, Instructor.

MOTION MADE BY STACY COE WITH A SECOND BY GLEN CATES TO ACCEPT THE FORMAL PLUMBING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM SUBMITTED BY OKLAHOMA TECHNICAL COLLEGE FOR 1,000 HOURS PLUMBING PROGRAM MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR TWO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSING, DAVID WEITL, INSTRUCTOR, AS SUBMITTED.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE VOTE ON FORMAL PLUMBING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM SUBMITTED BY MID-AMERICA TECHNOLOGY CENTER FOR 1,000 HOURS PLUMBING PROGRAM MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR TWO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSING, THOMAS SHANE KIRBY, INSTRUCTOR.

The Committee was provided a copy of the Mid-America Technology Center for 1,000 hours plumbing program may be substituted for two years of experience requirement for licensing, Thomas Shane Kirby, Instructor.

MOTION MADE BY JASON BEMENT WITH A SECOND BY GLEN CATES TO ACCEPT THE FORMAL PLUMBING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM SUBMITTED BY MID-AMERICA TECHNOLOGY CENTER FOR 1,000 HOURS PLUMBING PROGRAM MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR TWO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSING, THOMAS SHANE KIRBY, INSTRUCTOR AS SUBMITTED.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE VOTE ON FORMAL PLUMBING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM SUBMITTED BY KIAMICHI TECHNOLOGY CENTER-STIGLER FOR 1,000 HOURS PLUMBING PROGRAM MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR TWO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSING, MATTHEW GOFF, INSTRUCTOR

The Committee was provided a copy of the Kiamichi Technology Center-Stigler for 1,000 hours plumbing program may be substituted for two years of experience requirement for licensing, Matthew Goff, Instructor.

MOTION MADE BY JASON BEMENT WITH A SECOND BY GLEN CATES TO ACCEPT THE FORMAL PLUMBING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM SUBMITTED BY KIAMICHI TECHNOLOGY CENTER-STIGLER FOR 1,000 HOURS PLUMBING PROGRAM MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR TWO YEARS OF EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT FOR LICENSING, MATTHEW GOFF, INSTRUCTOR AS SUBMITTED.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

Discussion with possible vote on CEU Request:

The Committee reviewed the material submitted OPIA, Fuel Gas Venting Fundamentals, October 26, 2023, John McLaughlin, Instructor, for 2-credit hours.

MOTION MADE BY STACY COE WITH A SECOND BY GLEN CATES TO APPROVE OPIA, FUEL GAS VENTING FUNDAMENTALS, OCTOBER 26, 2023, JOHN MCLAUGHLIN, INSTRUCTOR, FOR 2-CREDIT HOURS.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE CHAIR

MOTION MADE BY GLEN CATES WITH A SECOND BY JASON BEMENT TO ELECT RONNIE SMITH AS CHAIRMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE OF PLUMBING EXAMINERS.

MOTION PASSED

Voting aye: Ronnie Smith
Jason Bement
Glen Cates
Stacy Coe

MOTION MADE BY GLEN CATES WITH A SECOND BY JASON BEMENT TO ELECT STACY COE AS VICE-CHAIR FOR THE COMMITTEE OF PLUMBING EXAMINERS.

MOTION PASSED

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

Minutes approved in Regular Session on the 2nd day of November 2023.

/s/ Ronnie Smith
Ronnie Smith, Vice-Chairman

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