

MINUTES OF A REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

This regular meeting of the Alarm, Locksmith and Fire Sprinkler Industry Committee scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. on December 6, 2023, was convened in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act [25 O.S. §§ 301-314.]. Advance public notice was sent to the Secretary of State's Office by electronic transmission specifying the time and place of the meeting. Notice was also prominently posted at the Oklahoma Department of Labor's website at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting.

PUBLIC BODY: Alarm, Locksmith, and Fire Sprinkler Industry Committee

DATE: Wednesday, December 6, 2023

ADDRESS: Oklahoma Department of Labor
409 NE 28th Street, 3rd Fl.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

CONTACT PERSON: Janet Edwards

TELEPHONE: (405) 521-2612

Agenda Item 1:

Call to order:

Kris Pettigrew, Vice-Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Agenda Item 2:

Roll Call:

ALFS Committee members present at roll call: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

Absent: Clint Morrison and Patrick Ivey

A quorum was present.

ODOL staff present: Bernita Hart, Cindi Buettner, Don Schooler, Daniel Mares, Gary Pitts, Gordon Meisinger, Derrek Lewis, and Janet Edwards

Agenda Item 3:

Statement of Compliance with the Open Meeting Act

Janet Edwards read aloud the Statement of Compliance with the Open Meeting Act.

Agenda Item 4:

Review & Approve/Amend November 1, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Nathan Patrick made a motion to approve the November 1, 2023 minutes. Adam Winbury seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: Steven Brekel

Motion approved.

Agenda Item 5:

LIMITED public comments regarding only those companies and/or individuals seeking licensure, as listed in this agenda

No public comments.

Agenda Item 6:

Review of company applications

Quality Service Installation

Thor Sanchez was not present at the meeting. The committee reviewed the application and voted. Steven Brekel made a motion to approve the company license application for Quality Service Installation. Gary Holmes seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved.

Alpha Locksmith, LLC

Mohammed Aleem was present to represent the company. Mr. Aleem gave a background of himself and answered questions from the committee. Duane Dyson made a motion to approve the company application for Alpha Locksmith, LLC. Gary Holmes seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved.

Giga Systems, LLC

Pat Brown was present to represent the company. Mr. Brown gave a background of himself and answered questions from the committee. Steven Brekel made a motion to approve the company license application for Giga Systems, LLC. Adam Winbury seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved.

AGNI, LLC

Ethan Ruan was not present during viewing the application. He entered the meeting at a later time. Steven Brekel made a motion to approve the company license application for AGNI, LLC. Adam Winbury seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved.

Bill's Electric Inc.

Richie Lyons and John Cramer were present to represent the company. They gave a background of themselves and answered questions from the committee. Duane Dyson made a motion to approve the company license application for Bill's Electric Inc. Gary Holmes seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved.

Novalco Inc.

Tracy Hemphill, Eddie Reed, and Chris Walker were present to represent the company. They gave a background of themselves and answered questions from the committee. Adam Winbury made a motion to approve the company application for Novalco Inc. Steven Brekel seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved.

Vision Home Innovations

Matthew Petker was not present at the meeting. The committee reviewed the application and voted. Duane Dyson made a motion to approve the company license application for Vision Home Innovations. Gary Holmes seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved.

Agenda Item 7:

Alarm, Locksmith & Fire Sprinkler (ALFS) License approval

Bernita Hart stated that they issued 431 licenses in November. They continue to be on schedule and processing within 2-3 days. Steven Brekel made a motion to approve licenses for November 2023. Adam Winbury seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved

Agenda Item 8:

Update regarding the creation of an ad hoc committee to review the CareerTech tests for all disciplines to confirm the questions are still current and coded correctly.

Steven Brekel stated that he has five (5) licensed managers on the committee. He has a conference call this month with the committee to set up a meeting schedule. He is hoping to be able to accomplish the reviewing with three (3) meetings once a month with Jennifer at CareerTech. If they need to add more, they will. They hope to have completed by April.

Kris Pettigrew stated he has a committee of 6 people to review the Fire Sprinkler Technician and Inspector test. They will be meeting at the Department of Labor on January 23, 2024, along with Jennifer from CareerTech. He hopes to have feedback by February or March.

Agenda Item 9:

Discussion of procedure to notify company managers of potential disciplinary action due to ODOL's receipt of an OSBI Rap Back report.

The committee discussed the need to notify the company manager if there is a rap back on an employee. Discussion was that at a minimum contact could be an email or phone call to the manager. Members of the committee feel that the manager is responsible for the employee, and they may not know if an employee's license is suspended. A statement was made that being accused of something does not mean they will be charged. Other discussion was as a manager they would like to know if their employee's license is in jeopardy. Daniel stated that we cannot share OSBI information to the public, but we can let a company know if someone has been suspended. Public comment from the audience stated other states do notify the manager if there has been a suspension. This is typically managed through email. Overall, the public stated they would like to be notified.

Steven Brekel made a motion to recommend to the Commissioner that if at any time there is a final action on suspension or revocation of a license the manager of record for that employee is notified. Duane Dyson seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved

Agenda Item 10:

Discussion of the current statutory exemption that allows a property owner to perform their own ALFS work on their own property without being a licensed company.

Adam Winbury discussed with the committee the statutory change from around 2015-2016. Example is the public school district that are not a licensed company can hire licensed alarm technicians and perform their own alarm work which can be a conflict of interest. Training could be a concern and as an alarm company you make sure there is proper training. As a technician you are required ethically to report to the fire marshal when there something of concern. This may not be happening when a technician is employed directly. Daniel Mares stated that this would require a statutory change. Kris Pettigrew suggested getting the fire marshal group to come to a meeting. Adam Winbury made a motion to put together an ad hoc committee to review and research the current exemptions for property owners using non licensed technicians performing ALFS work on their property. Suggestion was made to bring the fire marshal to the next committee meeting. Gary Holmes seconded the motion.

More discussion continued to have the committee research and see if it is a problem. This could be something that the fire marshal could help with. Public comment was most states are exempt to allow for their employees to do the work on property they own.

Roll Call:

Yes: Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, and Gary Holmes,

No: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, and Duane Dyson

Abstain: None

Motion approved

Agenda Item #11

Discussion regarding proposed changes to Commercial Fire Sprinkler License experience and qualification requirements.

Kris Pettigrew discussed a motion that was made in last month's meeting. There is verbiage with the word "and" and he would like to have "or" on the motion instead. This would make the qualifications another option and not have both. Don Schooler read the motions from last month's meeting to the committee. He also read the current qualification requirements. Kris stated that there was something in the standards and the application that brought this forward. There was more discussion on qualifications and knowing if they are legit. Daniel Mares stated that when a applicant applies for a manager license, it is looked over thoroughly at ODOL. Daniel stated that he works close with Cyndi if they see something suspicious, they verify and make calls if there are any questions. There was more discussion regarding the "or equivalent" phrase. Discussion was there are several things that could equal or be equivalent to NICET certification. Committee discussed that this could be something that would come before the committee. Also discussed was the need to make sure the committee is not making it harder to get a manager license. Kris would like to dig deeper as far as the experience sheet and why it has not been enforced. He has knowledge of people receiving licenses that does not have the required experience. He would like more discussion.

Adam Winbury made a motion to temporarily withdraw the motion for the Commercial Fire Sprinkler Manager License from the November meeting. Nathan Patrick seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved

Agenda Item #12

Proposed Executive Session pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(4) for confidential communications pursuant to § 307(B)(7) for discussing any matter where disclosure of information would violate confidentiality requirements of State or Federal Law.

Nathan Patrick made a motion to move to executive session. Adam Winbury seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved

The Committee moved to Executive Session at 10:59 a.m.

Agenda Item #13

Adjourn from Executive Session, with a recorded vote and/or public action on any item of business considered by the Committee while in Executive Session

Adam Winbury made a motion to adjourn from Executive Session and reconvene Regular Session. Gary Holmes seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved

The Committee resumed Regular Session at 11:47 a.m.

Action Resulting from Executive Session

Gary Shelly and Noah Lewis were not present at the meeting. Zac Godwin was present at the meeting.

Steven Brekel made a motion to suspend the license of Zac Godwin until pending case is concluded. Nathan Patrick seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart and Nathan Patrick,

No: Steven Brekel, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes, and Duane Dyson

Abstain: None

Motion denied

Agenda Item 14:

GENERAL public comments

Bernita Hart discussed concern regarding the earlier discussion example of the schools hiring people who are not licensed to do the work. From her asbestos background she knows some of your smaller schools do not have the money to buy paper. They will not have money to invest and if the committee moves forward, she would like to see a way to get them what is needed.

Steven Brekel is concerned about the insurance requirement motions made in November. He feels it may need to be for more than one discipline.

Agenda Item 15:

New Business

Agenda Item 16:

Next regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., in the multi-purpose room at the Oklahoma Department of Labor.

Agenda Item 17:

Adjournment

Adam Winbury made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Gary Holmes seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Yes: Bernita Hart, Steven Brekel, Nathan Patrick, Kris Pettigrew, Adam Winbury, Gary Holmes,
and Duane Dyson

No: None

Abstain: None

Motion approved

Meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.