



**STATE BOARD OF HEATING, VENTILATION, AIR-CONDITIONING, AND
REFRIGERATION CONTRACTORS
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

Date: September 11, 2024

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Place: The Board of HVACR Contractors meeting was held via teleconference (US +1 208-907-5480 PIN: 871 402 772#).

Members Present: **Michael Giangrandi, Chairman**, Master HVACR Contractor
Lawrence Kitching, Vice Chair, Master HVACR Contractor
Michael Weglarz, Master Electrician
Amadou Magazi, Master HVACR Contractor
Winfield “Rocky” Jones, Master Plumber Member
David Politzer, Consumer Member
Dwight Needham, Master HVACR Contractor (joined at 10:47 a.m.)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: **John Bull**, Executive Director, Mechanical Licensing Unit
Sloane Fried Kinstler, Assistant Attorney General
LaKissha Thornton, Administrative Officer, Mechanical Licensing Unit

Guests Present: None

Call to Order

Chairman Giangrandi called the Business Meeting of the State Board of Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration (“HVACR”) Contractors (“Board”) to order at 10:37 a.m.

Mr. Jones moved to adopt the September 2024 meeting agenda. Mr. Weglarz seconded the motion; by a roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved the meeting agenda.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Jones to approve the business meeting minutes of the August 14, 2024, HVACR Board meeting without amendment or correction. The motion was seconded by Mr. Weglarz and, by a roll call vote, unanimously approved by the Board.

Complaint Committee Report

Ms. Thornton reported the findings of the Complaint Committee as follows:

<u>Closed Complaint</u>	<u>Under Investigation</u>	<u>Sent for A.G. Pre-Charge</u>	<u>Criminally Charged</u>
22-0006		24-0045	24-0013
24-0036			24-0020
24-0042			24-0021
24-0053			24-0054
24-0053			
24-0055			
25-0021			

A motion to approve the findings of the Complaint Committee was made by Mr. Politzer, seconded by Mr. Magazi, and, by a roll call vote, unanimously approved by the Board.

Application Review Committee

There were no applications submitted; no Application Review Committee report was necessary.

Review of Examination Statistics and License Totals

Director Bull reported the following PSI exam statistical summaries for the month July 2024:

	Candidates Tested	Passed	Failed	Pass Rate %
July 2024				
Total	53	20	33	38%

Cumulative- YTD				
Total	421	163	258	39%

Testing to date				
Total	12784	5542	7260	43%

There are currently 21,574 active licensees.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence submitted.

Old Business

Mr. Kitching questioned Director Bull as to whether there had been any progress on the proposed reciprocity agreement with the District of Columbia (“D.C.”) Director Bull replied, stating that D.C. was still reviewing the agreement proposed by the Board and had not responded as of the meeting date. He advised that he provide the Board with updates as new information was received.

New Business

There was no New Business to be discussed.

Executive Director's Report

Director Bull informed the Board that the vacant Board Administrator position had been filled and that the new Administrator would begin employment on October 2, 2024. Director Bull continued, stating that interviews for a second Mechanical Licensing Investigator position would be held on September 16, 2024, and that they hoped to fill the position after the interviews were conducted.

Director Bull reported to the Board that PSI was still in the process of implementing a Spanish version of the HVACR exam. He stated that he hoped that the Spanish version of the exam would be available by January 2025.

Mr. Needham joined the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

Director Bull reminded the Board that the October 9, 2024, Board meeting would be held in person, as there are four (4) hearings scheduled to be held after the meeting. He reminded the Board that the October 2024 Meeting would be his last meeting, as he is retiring effective November 1, 2024.

Counsel's Report

Counsel did not offer a report but did remind the Board that it would be entering into a closed session and that a license application hearing would take place after the meeting.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman did not provide a report, but did thank Director Bull for his service to the Board.

Closed Session

Upon Mr. Weglarz's Motion, and Mr. Jones' second, the Board unanimously voted to convene in a closed session at 10:50 a.m., pursuant to General Provisions Article, to § 3-305(b)(2), (7), and (8), Annotated Code of Maryland, to consider a license application for an applicant who disclosed a criminal conviction and to seek the advice of Counsel.

Application .01

Counsel presented an apprentice application from an individual who disclosed that in 2019, the applicant was convicted of 1st degree assault, a felony, and possession of a handgun, a misdemeanor. Counsel stated that the applicant was sentenced to incarceration for ten (10) years (suspended) and probation for three (3) years for the felony assault conviction, and probation for five (5) years for the misdemeanor handgun conviction. Counsel stated that the applicant did not submit information from a parole or probation officer, nor an explanation as to the circumstances of the convictions. Mr. Weglarz asked whether the applicant was currently employed. Counsel replied that she could not comment on his employment status as no information regarding his employment status had been submitted. Counsel did state that, generally, a probationer is required to be employed (or actively look for employment) as a condition of probation.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Magazi moved that staff request that the applicant submit a letter from a probation officer regarding their probation status and a letter from a current or most recent employer before the Board makes a determination on the license application. The motion was seconded by Mr. Needham, and unanimously approved by the Board.

A motion to return to the business meeting was made by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Weglarz, and unanimously approved by the Board at 11:10 a.m.

A motion to adopt the findings of the Closed Session was made by Mr. Weglarz, seconded by Mr. Needham and unanimously approved by the Board.

Adjournment

With no further business, upon Mr. Magazi’s motion and Mr. Weglarz’s second, the Board voted to adjourn the September 11, 2024, meeting of the State Board of Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration Contractors at 11:12 a.m.

Signature on File

10/09/2024

John Bull
Executive Director

Date

Signed on behalf of the Board as voted on and approved on 10/09/2024