



**STATE BOARD OF STATIONARY ENGINEERS
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: January 17, 2023

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Via Google Meet Video and Teleconference

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Brian Wodka, Chairman, Industry Member
Lance Brown, Vice-Chairman, Industry Member
Steven Noonan, Ex-Officio Member, Chief Boiler Inspector for the State
John F. Arizaga, Industry Member
Gary Brown, Consumer

MEMBERS

ABSENT: None.

STAFF

PRESENT: John Bull, Executive Director, Mechanical Boards
Kausar Syed, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing
Kimberly Smith Ward, Deputy Counsel, Office of the Attorney General
LaKissha Thornton, Administrative Officer I
Johnston Brown, Administrative Specialist III
Danielle Anderson, Web and Outreach Coordinator

GUESTS

PRESENT: Jay Bouis, Community College of Baltimore County
Dave Frey, Community College of Baltimore County
Christopher Maclarion, Office of Workforce Development
Jennifer Runkles, Office of Workforce Development
Faith Ramsburg, Office of Workforce Development
Alex Coleman, Retired Stationary Engineer, Member of Public

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman, Wodka, called the Business Meeting of the Maryland State Board of Stationary Engineers to order at 10:14 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the business meeting held on November 15, 2022. Upon Mr. Arizaga's **Motion**, and Mr. Lance Brown's second, and by a roll call vote, the Board unanimously voted to approve the November 15, 202, minutes without amendment or correction.

COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

No report was offered.

APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

Chairman Wodka questioned the members of the application review committee regarding receipt of an application that was scheduled for review. Chairman Wodka did not receive a copy of one (1) application pending Board review and requested that staff send the application to him before next month's meeting.

REVIEW OF EXAMINATION STATISTICS AND LICENSE TOTALS

PSI Exams submitted the following statistical summary for November 2022:

	Candidates Tested	Passed	Failed	Pass %
Stationary Engineer Grade 1	9	5	4	56%
Stationary Engineer Grade 2	3	0	3	0%
Stationary Engineer Grade 3	1	0	1	0%
Stationary Engineer Grade 4	1	1	0	100%
Stationary Engineer Grade 5	3	2	1	67%
TOTAL	17	8	9	47%

PSI Exams submitted the following statistical summary for December 2022:

	Candidates Tested	Passed	Failed	Pass %
Stationary Engineer Grade 1	14	3	11	21%
Stationary Engineer Grade 2	2	0	2	0%
Stationary Engineer Grade 3	8	1	7	13%
Stationary Engineer Grade 4	3	2	1	67%

Stationary Engineer Grade 5	6	3	3	50%
TOTAL	33	9	24	27%

Director Bull also reported that since January 2022, 395 candidates have been tested, with 137 candidates having passed and 258 candidates failing, for a pass rate of 35%. Since the inception of the test 7226 candidates have been tested, with 2555 having passed and 4671 having failed, for a pass rate of 35%. There are currently 4,114 active licensees.

Vice-Chairman Brown posed a question regarding the cumulative pass rate for the exam. Vice-Chairman Brown asked if there was or should be a certain pass percentage rate that caused the Board to review the exam questions. He voiced a concern over the 35% overall pass rate and questioned if the exam should be modified to achieve a higher overall pass rate. Director Bull replied stating that no target rate has been established, but, if the Board had concerns arrangements could be made with PSI to review the exam. Chairman Wodka stated that concerns over the overall pass rate of the exam had been raised in the past by former Chairman Morris. The former chairman expressed that an overall pass rate of around 35% or less would cause a review if it were any other examination. Chairman Wodka requested that Director Bull try to obtain exam metrics, such as which questions are most often answered correctly and incorrectly, and present any information to the Board at the March meeting. Chairman Wodka requested that Director Bull request metrics and, if possible, try to obtain pre-pandemic versus post-pandemic results. Director Bull agreed to try to obtain metrics and present them at the March meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

None to report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director John responded to the Application Review Committee’s request to find out if all examination application submitted to PSI were being sent the Committee for review. He stated that he requested an answer to the question and no reply had been received. Director Bull reminded that Board that the March meeting would be held in person for Board Members and staff only. Any members of the public and Board members who could not attend in person would be able to attend the meeting virtually. He requested that any member of the Board who was planning to attend, please notify Board staff by March 10, 2023, to allow time to arrange for parking. Director Bull stated that a reminder email would be sent out to the Board on March 1, 2023. He encouraged all Board members to attend in person, as several important topics would be discussed at the meeting.

COUNSEL’S REPORT

No report was offered.

CHAIR'S REPORT

No report necessary.

OLD BUSINESS

Director Bull introduced Christopher Maclarion, Director for the Maryland Apprenticeship and Training Council, MATC, through the Division of Workforce Development to discuss a proposal to form a MATC approved Stationary Engineering Program in conjunction with the Community College of Baltimore County, CCBC. Mr. Maclarion greeted the Board and thanked Chairman Wodka for his time and assistance with the preparation of the proposed program. He then introduced two members of his staff, Jennifer Runkles and Faith Ramsburg, who also assisted in the development of the program. Mr. Maclarion also introduced Jay Bouis and Dave Frey from CCBC, who also assisted with the development of the proposed program. Mr. Maclarion stated that the proposed program would involve four years of training which would allow individuals to advance from a Grade 5 Stationary Engineer license to Grade 1 license through a combination of education and on the job training. Mr. Maclarion presented an outline that detailed what would be an applicant's progression through the program on a year-by-year basis through the apprenticeship program. Mr. Maclarion referenced the declining numbers of qualified applicants for Stationary Engineers licenses to cite the need for the proposed program. After a discussion of the proposal by the Board, a motion was made by Vice Chairman Brown to approve the proposed material and support the development of the apprenticeship program, which was seconded by Mr. Arizaga, and by a roll call vote, unanimously approved by the Board.

Chairman Wodka suggested that analytics for the exam be requested, to which Vice Chair Lance Brown asked whether there is a fixed number on low scores for PSI Exam. Steve Noonan suggested a copy of exam be reviewed before March meeting. John Bull suggested this discussion be had by the Exam Review Committee before or at next month's meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board did not convene in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon Mr. Arizaga's **Motion** and Mr. Lance Brown's second, the Board voted, by a roll call vote unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

Signature of File

March 21, 2023

John Bull
Executive Director

Date

Signed on behalf of the Board as voted and approved on: March 21, 2023