



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

Date: December 14, 2022

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Place: The Board of HVACR meeting was held via video conference and teleconference

Members Present: **Brian Hamilton, Chair**, Master HVACR Contractor
Grant G. Gotlinger, Master Electrician
Michael Giangrandi, Master HVACR Contractor
David Politzer, Consumer Member

Members Absent: **Richard C. Ludlow**, Master Plumber
Amadou Magazi, Master HVACR Contractor
Ezio Rebechi, Master HVACR Contractor

Staff Present: **John Bull**, Executive Director, Mechanic Licensing Boards
Sloane Fried Kinstler, Assistant Attorney General
Sean Heeter, Administrative Officer
Danielle Anderson, Web Content and Outreach Coordinator

Staff Absent: None

Guests Present: **Jake Spolan**, Association of Air-Conditioning Professionals
Sabine Rogers, Association of Air-Conditioning Professionals
Charles Hayden, Association of Air-Conditioning Professionals

Call to Order

Chairman Hamilton called the Business Meeting of the State Board of Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration (“HVACR”) Contractors (“Board”) to order at 10:40 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Members of the Board reviewed the minutes of the Business Meeting held on October 12, 2022. Upon Mr. Politzer’s Motion and Mr. Giangrandi’s second, the motion was unanimously carried to approve the minutes without amendment or correction.

Complaint Committee Report

The Complaint Committee meeting was rescheduled for December 21, 2022.

Application Review Committee

There were no applications to be reviewed.

Review of Examination Statistics and License Totals

Mr. Bull reported the following PSI exam statistical summaries for the month of October and November 2022:

Monthly	Tested	Passed	Failed	Pass %
October	57	28	29	49%
November	47	20	27	43%
Cumulative	Tested	Passed	Failed	Pass %
October	586	265	321	45%
November	633	285	348	45%
Testing to Date	Tested	Passed	Failed	Pass %
	11,663	5,087	6,576	44%

There are currently 20,299 active licensees.

Correspondence

Representatives from the Association of Air-Conditioning Professionals (“AACP”) addressed the Board to recommend an increase in the total hours a licensed apprentice pursuing licensure through on-the-job work experience must demonstrate to be eligible for journeyman licensure. The referenced a pre-filed bill sponsored by Senator Benjamin T. Brooks, Sr. but did not provide a copy of it for the Board to consider, nor did they identify the “LR number” assigned to each pre-filed bill. As set forth in the written statement previously submitted to the Board by AACP together with the Heating & Air Conditioning Contractors of Maryland (“HACC”). The representatives highlighted a discrepancy between the eligibility of an applicant who seeks to qualify for journeyman licensure through on-the-job (“OTJ”) training and an applicant who completes a MATC apprenticeship program. Ms. Rogers explained that that individuals who complete a MATC-approved HVACR apprenticeship program must complete 8,000 field hours and 576 classroom hours to complete a 4-year program, which is more than the 1,875 hours during the three (3) years preceding application currently required of journeyman applicants who did not complete a MATC program. Md. Ann. Code, § 9A-302(e) and (f).

The Board discussed the distinction between OTJ training and a MATC apprenticeship, and also acknowledged that a journeyman license applicant by the OTJ must successfully pass a journey-

level license examination, while an individual who completes a MATC program is entitled to a license examination waiver, in accordance with § 9A-306(e). *See also* COMAR 09.15.02.08.

Executive Director Bull explained the Departmental requirements including submission of legislative requests to the Secretary of the Department of Labor for approval, for which the deadline has passed for the 2023 legislative session. Chairman Hamilton indicated that once the bill language is made available to the Board, they will review it and, if appropriate, they will provide their position to the Office of the Secretary. Director Bull explained that notwithstanding a board's position on certain legislation, the Office of the Secretary may determine to support, oppose, or take no position on a piece of legislation.

Executive Director's Report

Director Bull addressed the Board about the 2023 meeting schedule. He explained that the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing is encouraging boards and commission to meet in person once or twice a year. He suggested that they consider scheduling the first in-person meeting for February 2023. The Board agreed that they will meet in person on February 8, 2023. Mr. Bull stated that Board members are encouraged to attend the February meeting in person but if that is not possible, they could still attend virtually. Director Bull also indicated that he would provide the Board with the policy for Board meetings in the case of inclement weather.

Old Business

Chairman Hamilton asked for an update on reciprocal licensing for electricians and when Director Bull expected he could begin working on HVACR reciprocal licensing. Director Bull stated he expected to begin working on reciprocal licensing for HVACR by March or April 2023.

New Business

The Board was reminded that if they have anything they wish to discuss it needs to be added to the agenda before it is published. The information should be sent to Director Bull in plenty of time for review by Board members and Counsel prior to the meeting. This does not preclude things from being added to the agenda the day of the meeting, however it is preferred to have the item on the public agenda beforehand.

Counsel's Report

No report from Counsel was necessary.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Hamilton thanked the Board for their attendance.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board did not convene in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, upon Mr. Giangrandi’s Motion and Mr. Gottlinger’s second, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the December 14, 2022, meeting of the State Board of Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration Contractors at 11:08 a.m.

Signature on File

January 11, 2023

John Bull
Executive Director

Date

Signed on behalf of the Board as voted and approved on January 11, 2023