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

**DATE:** March 21, 2023

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** 1100 N. Eutaw St., 5<sup>th</sup> Fl. Baltimore, MD 21201

**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  
Sloan Kinstler, Assistant Attorney General  
LaKissha Thornton, Administrative Officer I  
Johnston Brown, Administrative Specialist III  
Danielle Anderson, Web and Outreach Coordinator

**GUESTS**

**PRESENT:**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the business meeting held on January 17, 2023. Upon Mr. Arizaga’s **Motion**, and Mr. Lance Brown’s second, and by a roll call vote, the Board unanimously voted to approve the January 17, 2023, minutes without amendment or correction.

**COMPLAINT COMMITTEE**

No report was offered.

**APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Chairman Wodka reviewed and sent questions to Mr. Arizaga and Mr. Noonan. He suggested the committee members rotate taking the lead reviewing the applications. Mr. Wodka took lead for last month, Mr. Noonan will take lead next month. No report is available by the Committee due to all members not receiving the applications as they were only sent to Mr. Wodka in error.

**REVIEW OF EXAMINATION STATISTICS AND LICENSE TOTALS**

PSI Exams submitted the following statistical summary for January 2023:

	<b>Candidates Tested</b>	<b>Passed</b>	<b>Failed</b>	<b>Pass %</b>
Stationary Engineer Grade 1	11	2	9	18%
Stationary Engineer Grade 2	3	1	2	33%
Stationary Engineer Grade 3	8	2	6	25%
Stationary Engineer Grade 4	1	0	1	0%
Stationary Engineer Grade 5	1	0	1	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>21%</b>

PSI Exams submitted the following statistical summary for February 2023:

	<b>Candidates Tested</b>	<b>Passed</b>	<b>Failed</b>	<b>Pass %</b>
Stationary Engineer Grade 1	11	3	8	27%
Stationary Engineer Grade 2	4	1	3	25%

Stationary Engineer Grade 3	4	1	3	25%
Stationary Engineer Grade 4	7	3	4	43%
Stationary Engineer Grade 5	6	2	4	33%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>31%</b>

Director Bull also reported that since January 2023, 57 candidates have been tested, with 16 candidates having passed and 41 candidates failing, for a pass rate of 28%. Since the inception of the test 7283 candidates have been tested, with 2571 having passed and 4712 having failed, for a pass rate of 35%. There are currently 4,105 active licensees.

Mr. Arizaga wanted to confirm if the pass rates are in line with other States, to which Director Bull stated yes as he has made inquiries with other States. Chairman Wodka stated this can be discussed further in Old Business.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None to report.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director John introduced Matt McKinney who joined O&P, handles Board appointments and other O&P projects. Mr. McKinney confirmed Chairman Wodka and Mr. Gary Brown terms are up this year, Mr. Gary Brown stated he may be moving out of State and may not want to continue with his appointment once it us up. There are vacancies on the Board for Stationary Engineer, Consumer, and Boiler owner. There were 119 inquiries for the open seats across all the open Board positions. Chairman Wodka asked what the term limits are for Board members, to which Mr. McKinney responded three-year terms, and that Mr. Lance Brown term is up in 2024, and Mr. Arizaga's term is up in 2025. AAG Kinstler commented that those whose term is expiring this year, they may hold over in their seat until it has been replaced if they so choose. Gary Brown will let Mr. Bull know of his intentions at a later date. Mr. McKinney stated he has notified the Governor's office that Mr. Gary Brown does not intend to be reappointed. In response to Chairman Wodka, Mr. Bull stated that potential new members are vetted by review by the Board and O&P Commissioner. Mr. McKinney went on to clarify that ultimately, the vetting is done by the Governor's office, and potential candidates are vetted through their office and selected for a green bag appointment, however; we will not go through that process at this time. He also stated that the legislative session ends on April 11, after that the Governor may make recess appointments, which would be voted on during the next session. Recess appointments can be withdrawn by the Governor when the Session starts. Mr. Arizaga asked what the term "green bag" means. Per Mr. McKinney, it is an old ceremonial practice where nominees are placed in a green bag for selection by the Governor, in essence, it means only the Governor can select those individuals. Mr. Bull stated he will go through the list of candidates in an effort to obtain a fully staffed board.

## **COUNSEL'S REPORT**

The Stationary Engineer's board has a statutory requirement to meet with the Boiler Board annually to discuss rules, however; The Boiler Board is not obligated to meet with the SE Board. AAG Kinstler suggested that the SE Board discuss possible dates to meet with the Boiler Board. In the past, the SE Board has had their meeting directly after the joint meeting to avoid inconvenience to Board members. Their meeting is typically in May, if that does not work, it may be pushed to summer or fall. The May meeting is May 16, 2023. Mr. Lance Brown asked if we could meet virtually, to which AAG Kinstler and Mr. Bull responded yes, or if preferred the Board can attend in person since the meeting is in Hunt Valley, MD. Mr. Bull stated he will reach out to the Boiler Board to coordinate a meeting date, he will present at least three dates to select from. In response to Mr. Lance Brown, AAG Kinstler stated you will need a quorum, and since Chairman Wodka is a member of both boards, we tend to count him as a member of the SE board to maintain quorum, and that all Board members except Mr. Noonan can be counted towards a quorum. Per Mr. Bull, we will add a section in the Agenda moving forward for Mr. Noonan to speak as the Chief Boiler Inspector. Chairman Wodka stated it should be added as a Board report. Mr. Noonan stated he did not prepare a report but would like to mention that he recommissioned 140 National Board of boilers inspector commission, which is done every two years. In his seminar he mentioned that he included a field report on systems, and on the inspection reports there is now a section that reports whether a Stationary Engineer was present at inspection. This is not required for the Boiler Board but is helpful as it would promote awareness of the need for engineers. Chairman Wodka asked if there will be a metric that can be presented to the Board, Mr. Noonan replied he will be able to present in the future.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

No report necessary.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Discussion of PSI Exam. Per Mr. Bull, In the last meeting, there were concerns regarding the pass rate being between 30 and 50%, our numbers are on par with other jurisdictions regarding the pass rate. (VA, WV, DC). Mr. Bull inquired about questions that are consistently missed and if those questions can be modified, to which he was told by PSI we could not have the actual questions, but they did send a breakdown of the rate. Chairman Wodka expressed concern with the applicability of exam questions, to which Mr. Bull stated the questions derive from the code. Mr. Noonan expressed concern with information to train new Stationary Engineers and would like to see what is in the exam to confirm if the questions are in line with actual Boiler industry standards. Mr. Bull suggested that the MATC program would be on par with the exams if not better. Chairman Wodka suggested that the Board meet with PSI to show us the process of where PSI pulls questions from. Mr. Bull reminded the Board members that they have the option to rewrite exam questions. He asked Board members to send him questions they want asked to PSI Examination Services.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Board did not convene in closed session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon Mr. Lance Brown's **Motion** and Mr. Arizaga's second, the Board voted, by a roll call vote unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:29 a.m.

Signature on File

May 9, 2023

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John Bull  
Executive Director

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Date

Signed on behalf of the Board as voted and approved on May 9, 2023