

**FIRE SPRINKLER COMMITTEE MEETING**  
Approved Minutes

The Fire Sprinkler Committee met on **Tuesday, June 11, 2019**, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia. The following Committee Members were present:

Herbert "Jack" Dyer  
Donald Groh  
Gordon Dixon  
Tracy Eppard  
George Wagner

Members absent were Michael Redifer, and Ed Altizer.

The following DPOR staff members were present for all or part of the meeting:

Mary Broz Vaughan, Acting Director  
Eric Olson, Executive Director  
Marjorie King, Board Administrator  
Stephanie Keuther, Administrative Assistant

**Eric Olson, Executive Director** called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

**Call To Order**

**Eric Olson, Executive Director** introduced the Fire Sprinkler Committee Members.

**Introductions**

- Herbut "Jack" Dyer, Chairman of the Board for Contractors
- Donald Groh, Member of the Board for Contractors
- Tracy Eppard, Citizen Member
- George Wagner, Virginia Fire Sprinkler Association
- Gordon Dixon, Associated General Contractors

Members Absent:

- Michael Redifer, Member of the Board for Contractors
- Ed Altizer, Virginia Fire Sprinkler Association
- (1) Vacant Seat

**Election of Officers**

**Election of Officers**

**Mr. Dixon made a motion seconded by Mr. Groh** to nominate Mr. Jack Dyer as Chairman of the Fire Sprinkler Committee.

**The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0-1. Ayes:** Groh, Dixon, Eppard, and Wagner. **Nays:** None **Abstain:** Dyer. **Absent:** Redifer, and Altizer.

Mr. Dyer took over as Chairman.

**Mr. Dixon made a motion seconded by Ms. Eppard** to nominate Mr. George Wagner as Vice Chairman of the Fire Sprinkler Committee.

**The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0-1. Ayes:** Groh, Dixon, Eppard, and Dyer. **Nays:** None **Abstain:** Wagner. **Absent:** Redifer, and Altizer.

**Public Comment**

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Timothy S. Loscomb "Hooper", Virginia AFSA and Eagle Fire – Spoke in favor of the bill.

**Upcoming Meeting Schedule**

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- Monday, July 22, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. Board Room 4
- Monday, August 19, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. Board Room 4 (Tentative)

### Regulatory Review Process

Mr. Olson discussed the Regulatory Review Process with the Committee Members. Mr. Olson explained how the public would need to be notified of the proposed regulation changes and have the opportunity for public comment. After this takes place the Board for Contractors would need to review and adopt the proposed regulatory changes. The regulatory review would then be received by other executive agency branches before going to the Governor's office.

### Individual Regulatory Discussion

#### Statutory Requirements

Marjorie King, Board Administrator informed the Committee that the Fire Sprinkler specialty has been added and available as an individual license.

Mr. Wagner explained to the Committee in his years of helping to establish this law, the NICET level 2 is for individuals certified in the inspection and testing of water based systems and the NICET level 3 certification is for individuals certified in the water based systems layout program.

Mr. Olson explained to the Committee that the current licensing scheme requires that the Qualified Individual for the Fire Sprinkler Contracting specialty (SPR) must hold a valid NICET level 3 certification in water based systems layout, which is not the same as the certification level for the new Fire Sprinkler Inspector Certification.

While there would be nothing to prevent an individual from holding both the Fire Sprinkler Inspector Certification and being the Qualified Individual for a licensed contractor holding the SPR specialty, they will be different and will have different eligibility criteria.

After discussing the difference between the current contractor requirements and the newly formed program, the Committee instructed staff to not modify the Board for Contractor Regulations beyond moving the definition of SPR to the classification section of the regulations.

### Placement and Structure

Mr. Olson provided the Committee with information on how the Board for Contractors Individual License and Certification Regulations are set up with regards to outlining the experience and education requirements for those applying for an

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### Placement and Structure

Mr. Olson provided the Committee with information on how the Board for Contractors Individual License and Certification Regulations are set up with regards to outlining the experience and education requirements for those applying for an

individual license or certification. As the section of the regulations is becoming longer and cumbersome he recommended that the Committee consider having the new program have its own section of the regulations. The Committee member discussed the advantages of it being set off and agreed that the draft version of the regulations should be presented as such.

**Education**

The Committee discussed the current process of the education requirements for approval through NICET and third party certifications. There is currently only one nationally recognized certification program, although there are two in development (NFPA and ICC) and each of these programs has its own education and experience requirements. Since the new program is based on a certification program that would have its own education requirements, the Committee determined that there would be no requirement to have an education component in the initial eligibility section of the regulations.

**Education**

**Experience**

Mr. Olson explained as was the case with the education section, the individual certification programs will have their own experience requirements that must be met in order to attain certification. Additional experience requirements for the certification will not be necessary. The Committee agreed.

**Experience**

**Exams**

Mr. Olson explained that, once again, the individual certification programs will be responsible for their own examinations, so no exam requirement is necessary. The Committee agreed.

**Exams**

**Renewal/Reinstatement**

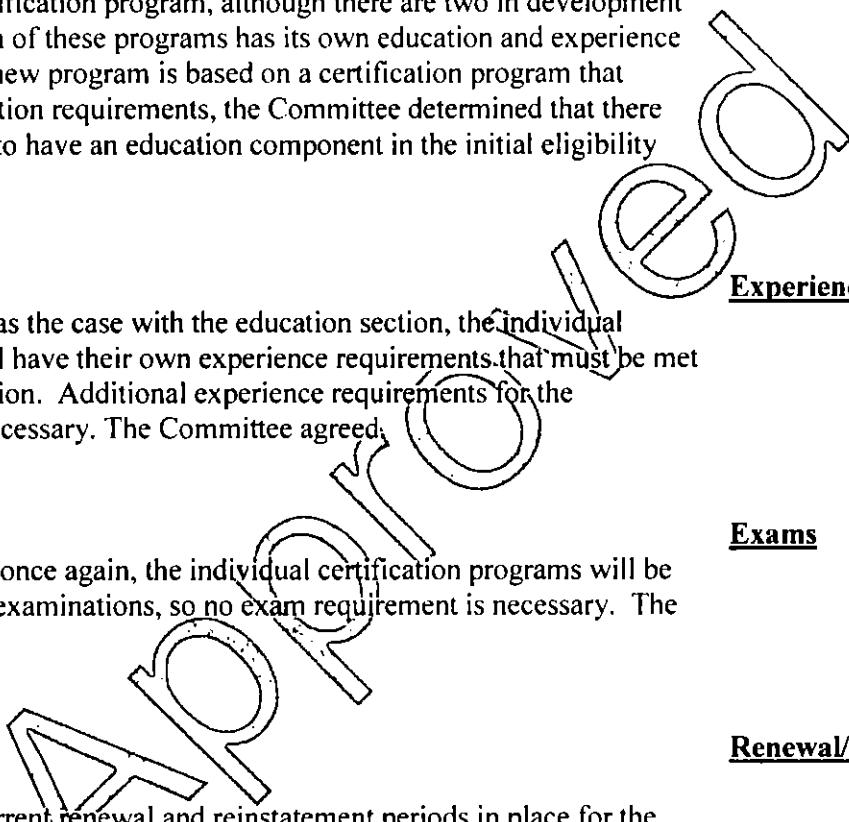
Mr. Olson outlined the current renewal and reinstatement periods in place for the various individual license and certification programs under the authority of the Board for Contractors. After discussion the Committee agreed to adopt the renewal and reinstatement period in place for the licensed tradesman which would include a three year renewal cycle and a one year reinstatement period. An individual whose license has been expired past the renewal period would be required to meet the then current eligibility criteria for certification.

**Renewal/Reinstatement**

**Continuing Education**

Mr. Olson outlined the current continuing education requirements for the various individual license and certification programs under the authority of the Board for Contractors. The Committee determined that, although the current nationally

**Continuing Education**



recognized certification programs all have continuing education requirements, it is possible that, in the future, there could be individuals certified by a program with no requirements. It was determined that the eight hours per license cycle currently required by Certified Elevator Mechanics and Certified Water Well System Providers would be sufficient for the new program. Additionally, all continuing education programs and providers will have to be required to be approved by the Board for Contractors in the same manner as those for other programs.

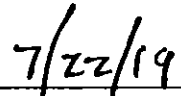
**Adjournment/Paperwork**


**Adjournment/Paperwork**

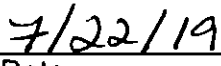
After discussion the Committee instructed staff to have the first draft of the regulations in ready for review at the next meeting on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, and have the proposed regulations ready to go the Board for adoption no later than its meeting on September 24<sup>th</sup>

Chairman Dyer adjourned the Fire Sprinkler Committee Meeting at 11:17 A.M.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Herbert Dyer, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Broz-Vaughan, Acting Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

**TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
for Officers and Employees of State Government**

1. Name Donald Groh  
(Name of Board Member)
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: DPOR/Board for Contractors - Fire Sprinkler Committee Meeting  
(Name of Board)
4. Meeting/IFF Date: 06/11/2019
5. I have a personal interest in the following transaction:

(Agenda Item)

Nature of Personal Interest Affected by Transaction:

I declare that I am a member of the following business, profession, occupation or group, the members of which are affected by the transaction:

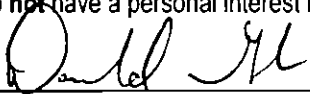
I am able to participate in this transaction fairly, objectively, and in the public interest.

or

I did not participate in the transaction.

6. I **do not** have a personal interest in any transactions taken at this meeting.

Signature



Date

6/11/19

**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
CONFLICT OF INTERESTS ACT**

**TRANSACTIONAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
for Officers and Employees of State Government**

1. Name Herbert "Jack" Dyer, Jr.  
(Name of Board Member)
2. Title: Board Member
3. Agency: DPOR/Board for Contractors - Fire Sprinkler Committee Meeting  
(Name of Board)
4. Meeting/IFF Date: 06/11/2019
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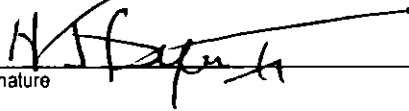
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I did not participate in the transaction.

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Signature



Date

6/11/19