

# ANNUAL BOARD MEETING OF THE STATE PLUMBING BOARD OF LOUISIANA

**BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA**

**AUGUST 7, 2008**

The Annual Board Meeting of the State Plumbing Board of Louisiana was called to order by the Secretary/  
Treasurer, Rickey Fabra, at 10:00 a.m.

The following persons were in attendance:

<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>	<b>ADVISORY BOARD</b>	<b>STAFF</b>	<b>GUESTS</b>
Rickey Fabra	Jim Clarke	John Barker	Louis Robein - Attorney (Bd.)
Jerry Payne	Jim Payne	Christina Hymel	Jim Finley
Wendell Guillot	Jay Huckabee	Katie Ramagos	Ed Guillory – Home Depot
Johnny Gypin	Ray Tolar	Terry Moore	Al Smith - Sears
John Thomas	Louis DeJohn	Nolan LeBlanc	Sal Giardina
		Bill Landrum	Keith Bienvenu
		Joe Leger	Don Traylor
		Lloyd Bordelon	Alden Aiola
			Mitchell LeBas
			Jake Causey
			Heather Gremillion
			Kelli Williams
			Jerry Franklin
			Leon Molinario, Jr.
			Mike Hanson

**INVOCATION:** *Jerry Payne*

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** *Rickey Fabra*

## **JOURNEYMAN QUALIFICATIONS**

*NONE*

## **ENFORCEMENT**

### ***a.) Informal Hearing Report***

Christina Hymel reported that four hearings were held. The first hearing concerned a customer complaint. The Enforcement Committee strictly mediated between the two parties in order to reach an agreement. A settlement was reached and the matter was resolved. The second hearing was for a plumber that was using unlicensed personnel. The plumber appeared admitted that he was at fault and paid his fine. The other two cases will be discussed later in the meeting.

## **OTHER GUESTS**

*NONE*

## **SPECIAL REQUEST**

### ***a.) Jerry Franklin***

Mr. Franklin appeared before the board to appeal his grade for the practical section of his journeyman exam. He stated that his rough-in was not graded until twenty or thirty minutes later after it was disassembled and put away. Mr. Franklin brought this to the attention of Alden Aiola at the time it was graded and Mr. Aiola stated that Mr. Franklin would need to bring the issue to the attention of the board.

Mr. Aiola explained to the board that he did not grade Mr. Franklin's rough-in but the way he understood the situation was that Paul Erato observed Mr. Franklin's rough-in, instructed him to disassemble it and move to the copper table. Mr. Erato then went to the copper table to grade the rough-in. When confronted at that time about the situation, Mr. Aiola told Mr. Franklin that he could not allow him to retake that part of the exam that day, Mr. Franklin would need to contact the board.

Mr. Rickey Fabra told Mr. Franklin that the board, with the help of John Barker, would investigate the matter and John Barker would inform him of the decision.

## TRAINING PROGRAM APPROVAL

### *a.) WSPS Training Provider*

Mitchell LeBas with Backflow Prevention Services, LLC applied to become a WSPS training provider. His application was submitted to the board's office prior to this meeting and was forwarded to the board members to review before the meeting. Mr. Fabra informed Mr. LeBas that after review of his application the board found that the certifications from the Treco Center do not meet the American Society of Sanitary Engineers (ASSE) guidelines stipulated in Title 46 of the Administrative Code. Mr. Fabra contacted Shannon Cochran, Executive Director for ASSE, and she sent a copy of the ASSE 5000/5010 series guidelines. Mr. Fabra instructed Mr. LeBas to review these guidelines and his application and then resubmit his application when it met these requirements. Mr. LeBas was also informed that a committee, appointed by the board, would visit his facility to insure that it also met these requirements.

After discussion, the board thought is best to give this committee that authority to approve or disapprove Mr. Lebas' program after he resubmits his application and the facility is inspected.

**MOTION: to give the committee the authority to approve or disapprove Mr. Lebas' application to become a WSPS training provider**

**MOTION: JOHNNY GYPIN**

**SECOND: WENDELL GUILLOT**

**MOTION: CARRIED**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### *a.) Continuing Education Committee*

The continuing education committee met on July 15 to discuss the topics for continuing education for the 2009 calendar year. The committee suggested to topics be as follows:

Journeyman and Master Plumbers

Environmental – "Green Plumbing"

Safety – "Bloodborne and Wasterborne Pathogens"

Act – Enforcement (any changes)

Code – Louisiana State Plumbing Code 2000 Edition (specifics will be left to the discretion of the provider)

Master Plumbers

Business – General Business Practices

**MOTION: to accept the topics recommended by the committee and to notify the providers of these topics**

**MOTION: JERRY PAYNE**

**SECOND: WENDELL GUILLOT**

**MOTION: CARRIED**

***b.) Medical Gas Renewals / CPE Requirements***

After much discussion on the matter it was decided that the recertification class and exam that is required every three years, will satisfy the continuing education requirement for the medical gas endorsement. Those holding this endorsement must take the four (4) hour class and pass the exam offered by a nationally recognized testing agency every code cycle in order to renew his/her endorsement. This requirement will be effective to renew a license for the year 2011.

**MOTION: to adopt the certification from a nationally recognized testing agency and to notify those person holding the medical gas endorsement of these requirements**

**MOTION: JERRY PAYNE**

**SECOND: JOHNNY GYPIN**

**MOTION: CARRIED**

### **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

(May 8, 2008)

Mr. Gypin stated that after reviewing the minutes, there was a matter that needed to be brought to the attention of the board. Mr. Gypin stated that the previous minutes stated that board would accept or deny continuing education credit from other states. However, since the board meets only once a quarter he suggested that the administrative staff be granted the authority to approve or deny such credits so that the matter may be resolved in a timely manner. The other board members agreed that the minutes should be amended to give the administrative staff the authority to approve or deny continuing education credits from other states.

**MOTION: to accept the amended May 8, 2008 minutes**

**MOTION: WENDELL GUILLOT**

**SECOND: JOHNNY GYPIN**

**MOTION: CARRIED**

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

**MOTION: to accept the financial report as presented by Rickey Fabra**

**MOTION: WENDELL GUILLOT**

**SECOND: JOHNNY GYPIN**

**MOTION: CARRIED**

### **ADVISORY REPORT**

*NONE*

### **INDIVIDUAL MEMBER'S REPORT**

*NONE*

**ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS’ REPORT**

The enforcement officers each gave their individual report.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**1.) Job Challenge Program**

Mr. Barker stated to the board that he met with Mr. Burns with the Job Challenge program to discuss becoming a partner with the program. Mr. Barker explained that Job Challenge gives graduates of the Youth Challenge program, 90 days of basic training in different trades. Mr. Burns would like to have plumbing added to the list of trades and asked if the board could compile a list of those interested in assisting with this program. Mr. Barker has spoken with D.J. Berger with Local 60 and with PHCC, and both parties are interested. The board gave its approval to partner with the Job Challenge program.

**2.) Sale of plumbing permits to contractors, not licensed plumbers**

Mr. Barker stated that it has been brought to his attention that the City of Lake Charles does not issue a plumbing permit to licensed master plumbers, the permits are only issued to contractors and/or homeowners. Louis Robein stated that he would have to investigate the matter further before he could make a recommendation on the board’s involvement.

**MOTION: to give Louis Robein and John Barker the authority to investigate the matter further**

**MOTION: WENDELL GUILLOT**

**SECOND: JERRY PAYNE**

**MOTION: CARRIED**

**3.) Audit**

Mr. Barker informed the board that the CPA would be in our office beginning August 12, the auditors beginning August 20, and that the audit would be into the state by August 31.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A.) EXAM REPORTS**

**1.) JOURNEYMAN EXAMINATIONS**

- a.) July 12, 2008 - Johnny Gypin – *no problems*
- b.) July 19, 2008 - John Barker – *no problems*
- c.) July 26, 2008 - Johnny Gypin – *no problems*

**2.) MASTER EXAMINATIONS**

- a.) August 2, 2008 - John Barker – *no problems*

**B.) OTHER BUSINESS WHICH MERITS DISCUSSION**

Mr. Johnny Gypin mentioned that when the board is returned to full capacity, he would like them to look at the grading process for the practical portion of the exam. Mr. Gypin pointed out that if an examinee fails one part of the practical, it is not possible for him/her to pass the practical overall. In the interim, Mr. Barker suggested that board require two signatures instead of one when an examinee fails a portion and also add a brief explanation of why he/she failed. Mr. Fabra also asked that the Exam Committee convene to discuss the matter and make a recommendation to the board.

**NEW BUSINESS**

***a.) Adopt Compliance Questionnaire***

Mr. Fabra stated that the board needed to adopt the compliance questionnaire for the audit.

- MOTION: to adopt the compliance questionnaire**
- MOTION: JOHNNY GYPIN**
- SECOND: WENDELL GUILLOT**
- MOTION: CARRIED**

***b.) CPE Affidavit***

Mr. Fabra explained the continuing education affidavit to the board. Louis Robein stated that there may be some regulation changes and asked that he be granted the authority to make any necessary changes.

- MOTION: to accept the affidavit and to give the authority to Louis Robein to make any necessary regulation changes**
- MOTION: JOHNNY GYPIN**
- SECOND: WENDELL GUILLOT**
- MOTION: CARRIED**

***c.) Medical Gas and Water Supply Protection Specialist (WSPS) CPE***

Previously discussed

***d.) Medical Gas Renewals***

Previously discussed

***e.) New Enforcement Form***

Mr. Barker presented the new enforcement form to the board. The form is a new inspection report that replaces the 4 other forms previously used (the inspection report, 2 sign violation forms and one vehicle advertisement violation form).

***f.) Budget Committee***

Mr. Fabra reappointed the budget committee. The committee consists of Mr. Rickey Fabra, Mr. Jerry Payne and Mr. Wendell Guillot.

***g.) Master Exam***

Mr. Barker stated that the previous master exam had over a 50% pass rate on all three parts and that this was the first time since NITC has been proctoring the exam that this had occurred.

**TENTATIVE DATE FOR THE NOVEMBER, 2008  
QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING**

**November 6, 2008** is the tentative date of the next Quarterly Board Meeting of the State Plumbing of Louisiana.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: to adjourn the Quarterly Board Meeting of the State Plumbing Board of Louisiana - 11:00 a.m.**

**MOTION: JOHNNY GYPIN**

**SECOND: WENDELL GUILLOT**

**MOTION: CARRIED**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**Rickey Fabra, Secretary / Treasurer**

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**Board Member**