

# QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING OF THE STATE PLUMBING BOARD OF LOUISIANA

**BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA**

**February 7, 2013**

**The Quarterly Board Meeting of the State Plumbing Board of Louisiana was called to order by Chairman, James Finley, at 10:02 a.m.**

**The following persons were in attendance:**

<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>	<b>ADVISORY BOARD</b>	<b>STAFF</b>	<b>GUESTS</b>
Carl Bourgeois	Ray Tolar	John Barker	Bob Urann – RUSPC
Rickey Fabra	Dirk Payne	Lindsey Mayer	D.J. Berger – N.I.T.C.
Keith Bienvenu	Donald Turner	Pat Olivier	Lance Scott – Local 659
Kelly Craft		John Neal	J.C . Matt
James Finley		Cliff Slaughter	Ed Guillory – Home Depot
Larry Reiling		Glen Gremillion	Jim Riviere
Jerry Payne		Carl Barnum	Marissa Ruffino - PHCC
		Blaine Matte	Jeremy Harris – DHH/OPH
		Bob Hogan	Henry Heier- MCA
		Chris Bodet	Gene Martin
			Al Smith - Sears
			Dick Roundtree – Dick Roundtree Copiers
			Kevin Richard – MPS Plumbing & Training, LLC
			Larry Deaton – Deaton Plumbing

**INVOCATION:** *Keith Bienvenu*

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** *Kelly Craft*

**ROLL CALL:** *Lindsey Mayer*

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman, James Finley, informed the Board that they needed to break for executive session to discuss a personnel issue.

**MOTION : to break for executive session**

**MOTION : RICKEY FABRA  
SECOND : KEITH BIENVENU  
MOTION : CARRIED**

The Board broke for executive session at 10:03 AM. Mr. Finley called the meeting back to order at 10:22 AM. He informed the Board that there was a motion on the floor.

**MOTION : to adjust the salary of the Executive Director as approved by the Board**

**MOTION : KEITH BIENVENU  
SECOND : RICKEY FABRA  
MOTION : CARRIED**

## **PRESENTATIONS**

***a.) Dick Roundtree with DRC Copiers***

Mr. Roundtree informed the Board that he spoke with Executive Director, John Barker, to let him know that one of the copiers in the Administrative Office was being discontinued and they would no longer be able to receive parts on that machine. He informed the Board that with the State contract the price would be between \$5800 - \$8200 for two (2) new copiers. John Barker clarified that, if approved, the price will be included in next year's budget. Secretary-Treasurer, Rickey Fabra, asked Mr. Barker if the new copiers were needed as soon as possible. Mr. Barker informed the Board that it was something that could wait so the budget would not need to be amended or changed. Mr. Roundtree explained that his goal was to replace the current black and white machine because of age and slowness. Mr. Finley asked which machine would be preferable to the Administrative Staff. Mr. Barker stated that he feels the 45 copy per minute machine would be sufficient because it would be replacing a 35 copy per minute machine.

**MOTION : to include in next year's budget**

**MOTION : KIETH BIENVENUE  
SECOND : RICKEY FABRA  
MOTION : CARRIED**

**b.) *Louis Schwall with Computer Network Consultants***

Mr. Barker informed the Board that he received a letter from Mr. Schwall stating that he was unable to attend the Board Meeting. The letter stated that Computer Network Consultants was working on the new website for the State Plumbing Board. It also stated that there would be no interruption to the current site once the updated site was approved. The letter stated that the goal of Computer Network Consultants was to have the website up by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Barker clarified that CNC was constructing the new website with new logos and content on the side of the existing website.

**APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE**

*None*

**ENFORCEMENT**

*None*

**OTHER GUESTS****a.) *Mitch LeBas***

Mr. LeBas explained that he was asked to provide education for the Louisiana Irrigation Association. He informed the Board that they called the class Recertification for their Irrigation Contractors. He stated that they has approximately thirty-two (32) people and three (3) of them had the WSPS Endorsement on their license. Mr. LeBas told the Board that after the class was completed, those three (3) WSPS holders asked if the class counted towards their continuing education for their WSPS endorsement. He stated that the course for the WSPS endorsement was six (6) hours and the class for Irrigation Contractors is 7.5 hours. Keith Bienvenu stated that his concern was that the other people that completed the course are doing work without the proper license. Mitch LeBas to him that he told them that even though they complete the course does not mean that they are certified to do the work.

**MOTION : to recognize that the class counts for their CPE**

**MOTION : RICKEY FABRA  
SECOND : KEITH BIENVENU  
MOTION : CARRIED**

b.) Keith Bienvenu stated as he understands that as of January 1<sup>st</sup> only the UA is certified for WSPS continuing education because the rules and regulations stipulate that to be a certified instructor you must be a Master Plumber. He also stated that Mitch LeBas is qualified to teach the criteria and curriculum. Mr. Bienvenu stated that he would like to put some kind of provision together for Mr. LeBas to be able to teach the WSPS continuing education course. Mr. Finley stated that he and John Barker looked for the provision that states that instructors must be a Master Plumber but were unable to find it. Mr. LeBas explained that Backflow Prevention Services was offering a Recertification course already but it was only at his facility.

**MOTION : to allow Mr. LeBas to submit an application to be considered at the May Board Meeting to provide CPE for 2013 if he is interested.**

**MOTION : KIETH BIENVENU  
SECOND : NONE  
MOTION : DIES FOR LACK OF SECOND**

Mr. Finley suggests that because the Board is already familiar with Mr. LeBas' qualifications and because he is unable to find provisions that prohibit Mr. LeBas from providing CPE, the Board grant him permission to provide CPE classes. D.J. Berger stated that after looking at the requirements, the minimum requirements listed doesn't state that you must be a Master Plumber, it states that you must carry a Water Supply Protection Specialist Endorsement. Rickey Fabra stated that he believes that with Mr. LeBas being approved as a training provider and that he falls in the guidelines of the 5010 ASSE guidelines that should qualify him to provide the service of WSPS CPE. Mr. LeBas stated that they are already meeting the ASSE requirements for recertification which are much more involved than the CPE, so they would have no problem meeting the CPE requirements.

**MOTION : to allow Mitch LeBas and his company to provide WSPS CPE services due to the fact that he is the owner of the company that has been approved by this Board as a training provider.**

**MOTION : RICKEY FABRA  
SECOND : KELLY CRAFT  
MOTION : CARRIED**

Mr. Finley asked Mr. Bienvenu if the motion would satisfy his request. Mr. Bienvenu clarified that the only concern that he has is if Mr. LeBas is even interested in providing WSPS CPE courses. Mr. LeBas stated that the problematic component of the WSPS CPE is that providers must hold classes in seven (7) locations around the state. He also stated that out the seven (7) classes scheduled last year, six (6) were cancelled due to lack of interest.

**MOTION : that Backflow Prevention Services conduct WSPS CPE course in seven (7) areas required only in three (3) year cycle and in area of choice in years that fall between the three (3) year cycle.**

**MOTION : KEITH BIENVENU**

**SECOND : RICKEY FABRA**

**MOTION : CARRIED**

### **SPECIAL REQUESTS**

***a.) Jarvis Claiborne – James Andrus second request to renew license after seven (7) year lapse without retest***

Mr. Finley notified the Board that Mr. Claiborne called the Administrative Staff to inform them that he could not make it to the meeting. Mr. Finley stated that Mr. would be moved to the next Board Meeting and he failed to show up, his request would automatically be denied.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

***a.) D.J. Berger – Kevin Richard approval to provide CPE courses***

Mr. Berger stated that as Chairmen of the Continuing Education Committee he was asked to review the text for the three (3) Continuing Education providers. He informed the Board that one of the providers, MPS Plumbing & Training, was new. Mr. Berger also stated that his topics and book appears to be in compliance other than Board Member information, and a disclaimer statement that needs to be added. D.J. Berger added that PHCC and the Pipe Trades' books also look to be in compliance.

**MOTION: to accept Mr. Richard and his CPE book that has been reviewed**

**MOTION: KELLY CRAFT**

**SECOND: LARRY REILING**

**MOTION: CARRIED**

***b.) Strategic Planning Committee Report***

Vice-Chairman, Kelly Craft, informed the Board that the Strategic Planning Committee had to meet earlier this month. The members that were present at the meeting Mr. Craft, Henry Heier, D.J. Berger and John Barker. Henry Heier stated that the Committee

met in regards to the importance of the integration of the new code into the Continuing Education courses. He stated that the Committee also discussed the upcoming Legislative Session. Mr. Craft informed the Board of the new logo in the Board Meeting room. He also stated that one of the goals of the Strategic Planning Committee was to have every Plumbing Service Vehicle marked with the new State Plumbing Board logo.

## **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

(December 13, 2012)

**MOTION: to accept the December 13, 2012 minutes as presented**

**MOTION: KEITH BIENVENU**

**SECOND: LARRY REILING**

**MOTION: CARRIED**

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

**MOTION: KELLY CRAFT**

**SECOND: LARRY REILING**

**MOTION: CARRIED**

## **ADVISORY REPORT**

Mr. Donald Turner reminded the Board that he will be retiring and that Lance Scott will be taking his place on the Advisory Board.

## **INDIVIDUAL MEMBER'S REPORT**

*None*

## **ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS' REPORT**

The enforcement officers each gave their individual report. (See attached)

Mr. Barker informed the Board that Enforcement Officer, Steve Porter, Region G, is resigning to work with the Bossier Parish School Board as a resourced armed officer in one of the nineteen schools on Bossier Parish. He also informed the Board that he is actively looking for a replacement for that Region.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director, John Barker, informed the Board that he would like to commend the Strategic Committee for the new logo and image. He stated that there will be links on the new State Plumbing Board's website for the Center for Disease Control that will list all of the related diseases that are related to the Plumbing industry. He also informed the Board that World Plumbing Day will be March 11<sup>th</sup>. He stated that the Board will be integrating the new logo in more things. He informed the Board that the new code will become official on February 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Barker stated that they will be educating Plumbing Officials about the new code.

### **MOTION : to accept Executive Director's Report**

**MOTION : RICKEY FABRA**

**SECOND : KELLY CRAFT**

**MOTION : CARRIED**

## **EXAM REPORTS**

### **1.) JOURNEYMAN EXAMINATIONS**

- a.) **January 12, 2013 – Larry Reiling – *no problems***
- b.) **January 19, 2013 – Jim Finley – *one applicant tardy, allowed to test without additional time due to wreck on Airline Hwy; one applicant without ID, allowed to test as long as he shows the Administrative Staff proper ID on the following business day; one came in 35 minutes late, not allowed to test.***
- c.) **January 26, 2013 – Keith Bienvenu – *one issue with a retake on Practical exam that custodian, Ronald Varnado, handled appropriately.***

### **2.) MASTER EXAMINATIONS**

- a.) **February 2, 2013 – Jerry Payne – *only one no show***

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### ***a.) Gas Licensing Law***

Mr. Barker stated that he wanted to ask the Board's permission to pursue the Legislation for the Gas License

**MOTION : to continue the effort in the gas licensing law**

**MOTION : RICKEY FABRA**  
**SECOND : KEITH BIENVENU**  
**MOTION : CARRIED**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

***a.) Louis Robien – Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with local & governmental agencies in regard to Plumbing Code***

Bob Urann informed the Board that Louis Robien could not make the Board meeting so he would speak on this matter. He stated the Mr. Robien was looking in to entering in to an agreement with local and governmental agencies to assist in the enforcement of the Plumbing law. He informed the Board that under their regulations, there is a specific provision that allows the Board to enter into cooperative arrangements with the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, the Louisiana State Fire Marshall, or local governing authorities to aid in the enforcement of the Board's regulations. He stated that he would be drafting the cooperative endeavor agreement and that the State Plumbing Board is allowed to have the agreement according to their rules and regulations.

***b.) Board approval to hold class to educate Plumbing Officials on the 2013 Plumbing Code***

Mr. Barker stated that he was petitioning the Board to pay \$500.00 for the use a facility to allow Jeremy Harris and his staff at Department of Health and Hospitals to educate the local Plumbing Officials on the changes in the code. Jeremy Harris confirmed that the class would cover the significant changes made from the 2000 Edition Plumbing Code to the 2013 code. He stated that the class would be about an hour and a half long.

**MOTION: to hold class to educate Plumbing officials on the new code**

**MOTION: RICKEY FABRA**  
**SECOND: JERRY PAYNE**  
**MOTION: CARRIED**

***c.) Permission to negotiate agreement between SPBLA and Louisiana Contractor's Licensing Board in regard to common violators***

Mr. Barker explained that Bob Urann would be doing most of the legal work on this issue. He stated that a representative from the Louisiana Contractor's Licensing Board contacted him about helping them to take action against a Contractor. He stated that he and the Board's legal counsel would begin drafting an agreement with the Contractor's Licensing Board to take action against those who violate the Plumbing Board's laws and violate the Contractor Board's laws.



**MOTION: to negotiate between SPBLA and Louisiana Contractor's  
Licensing Board**

**MOTION: KELLY CRAFT  
SECOND: KEITH BIENVENU  
MOTION: CARRIED**

***d.) Mileage Changes***

John Barker informed the Board that he received a letter from the Division of Administration notifying the Board that there is a mileage rate reduction. He stated that he would inform the Enforcement officers accordingly.

**TENTATIVE DATE FOR THE NEXT QUARTERLY BOARD  
MEETING**

**May 9, 2013** is the tentative date of the next Quarterly Board Meeting of the State Plumbing Board of Louisiana.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** to adjourn the Quarterly Board Meeting of the State Plumbing Board of Louisiana at 11:15 AM

**MOTION: RICKEY FABRA  
SECOND: KELLY FABRA  
MOTION: CARRIED**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**James Finley, Chairman**

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**Rickey Fabra, Secretary/ Treasurer**