

CONSUMER PROTECTION / WEIGHTS & MEASURES

50 Sanatorium Road, Building A, 8th Floor
Pomona, New York 10970
Phone: (845) 364-3901 Fax: (845) 364-3902
Email: CPLCAL@co.rockland.ny.us

Kimberly Von Ronn, Esq.

Director and Public Advocate

Rockland County Board of Plumbing, Heating, Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration and Sheet Metal
Examiners

Minutes from Meeting

December 11, 2023

A Meeting of the Rockland County Board of Plumbing, Heating, Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration and Sheet Metal Examiners was held on Monday, December 11, 2023, in the Legislative Committee Room at 11 New Hempstead Road New City, NY 10956.

Members Present:

Carmelo Toscano
Patrick Conroy
Matthew Zugibe
Thomas Pastore
Hon. Toney Earl
Thomas Pastore
Malcolm Lauder Jr.

Members Absent

Jay Theise

Also Present:

William Hartnagel, Esq.
Al Rossi
Daisy Morocho
Freddy J. Rodriguez
John Gaudiomonte
Tom Gandolfini
Louis Ragusa
Jack Dineen
Jack Carroll
Dan Ambrosetti

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:28 pm by Chairman Hon. Toney Earl

ROLL CALL: By Daisy Morocho

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: By Member M. Lauder Jr, second by Member C. Toscano to approve Minutes for Meeting held on November 13, 2023.

ACTION: All in favor, Motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

P-1226 Weathervane Service, Inc.

Board requested licensee holder Harry Enoch to attend the January Meeting. Mr. Enoch submitted a letter to the Office of Consumer Protection on 12/6/2023, stating how he can directly supervise while living in North Carolina. The letter stating with modern technology, he can directly supervise by via Facetime and technicians will submit photos of the job being performed. The Board is unsatisfied with Mr. Enoch's response and how he was unable to attend Board meetings when he has been requested to attend since April of 2023. The Board approved the renewal of the license with the requirement of Mr. Enoch's attendance to January's Board Meeting.

P-954 David Sepinski

Mr. Sepinski was unable to attend the December Board meeting. Mr. Sepinski sent an email to the Office of Consumer Protection stating how he filed a CE-200 and is on a "long well-deserved vacation". Also stating he does not have any work due to permit delays and the builder on the permit unable to start projects until the spring and/or summer. Mr. Sepinski states he is the process of purchasing another home in New York when the weather is warmer. The Board questioned of why Mr. Sepinski hadn't just shelved his license. The Board allowed the renewal of his license and with a letter to be sent by Program Aide, D. Morocho to send a letter for a response of why the license cannot be shelved.

P-605 Louis J. Ragusa

Mr. Ragusa attended December's Board Meeting along with attorney, Jack Dineen. Union Members 373, Thomas Gandolfini, Jack Carroll, and Dan Ambrosetti. Along with a client from the Subaru Project in Orangeburg, NY, John Gaudiomonte. Mr. Dineen stated that Mr. Ragusa has been in the Union 373 for 50 years and has 40 pages of call logs made to his employees and consumers about each job. Mr. Dineen also stated Mr. Ragusa travels to New York 8-10x a year. Mr. Ragusa attends all the pre- construction meetings and with modern technology, as per Mr. Ragusa he can directly supervise each job in Rockland County, NY. If any emergencies were to occur, Mr. Ragusa would fly in immediately. Member C. Toscano questioned Mr. Ragusa on how he can delegate operation commands and what if an event to occur such as a break in the gas line. Mr. Ragusa's states that he goes by a checklist every day, and nothing does not get passed him and that everyone is involved and if a gas line were to break it would by the chain of command. Union member, Tom Gandolfini stated with larger companies there are different roles and different people doing physical labor. Mr. Gaudiomonte from the Subaru project. The project was for the Subaru Corporate Campus in Orangeburg, NY. Mr. Gaudiomonte stated he was more than satisfied with Mr. Ragusa's work and was hesitant at first because Mr. Ragusa lived in Florida. Mr. Gaudiomonte stated Mr. Ragusa was very much involved in the project and was able

to directly supervise the jobs and was always a phone call away when needed any questions to be answered. The Board by consensus is satisfied with Mr. Ragusa's response on how he able to directly supervise any projects in Rockland County.

MOTION: By Member T. Pastore, second by Member C. Toscano

ACTION: Approve to renew License P-605

Defining if a Mini Split requires both a Master Heating and/or Air- Condition license.

MOTION: By Member C. Toscano, seconded by T. Pastore

ACTION: Mini- Splits are only to be installed by a Master Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration License due to the refrigerants in the mini-splits.

Jack Walsh P-618 Requests to renew his shelved license without taking the 5-hour Continuing Education Course

MOTION: By Member M. Zugibe, seconded by Member T. Pastore

ACTION: Denied the request, Mr. Walsh will not be able to renew with the Continuing Education Course.

Alfred Rossi – Rockland County, NY Plumbing Examiner

The Board by consensus agrees that going forward will request any licensee holder in question of direct supervision to submit in writing of how he or she is directly supervising work being done in Rockland County. The Board by consensus agrees that Mr. Rossi will determine by discretion whether the license will be renewed based on the submission in writing or to be determined by the Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

Plumbing 5-Hour Continuing Education Course

- As of 12/11/2023, Scott Bishop had 100 license holders take his class. Last class given on 10/11/2023.
- As of 12/11/2023 Dan O’Gorman had 32 licensee holders taken his class. Last class given 12/9/2023.
- As of 12/11/2023 Al Shimanski had 79 licensee holders take the course.
 - Al Shimanski is willing to open more classes if requested.
- Renewals sent out on 10/16/2023 by the Office of Consumer Protection.
- In total, 211 out of 292 license holders took the course, as of 11/7/2023.
- There are 81 licensee holders that have not taken the course for license renewal. Member C. Toscano requests Program Aide, D. Morocho to see which of those are active and shelved license holders by January’s meeting.

NEW APPLICANTS:

- A) Sanddy R. Vargas – P-23328 - (Master Heating and Air-Conditioning)
Motion: Adjourned by Chair Hon. Tony L Earl seconded by Member C. Toscano
Action: Board requests Mr. Vargas to attend January's Board Meeting.

- B) Lippa Feldman – P-1772 - (Master Heating)
Motion: By Member M. Lauder Jr seconded by Member T. Pastore
Action: All approved

- C) Carlos R. Solorzano Ortiz – P-22398 - (Master Plumbing and Heating)
Motion: By Member P. Conroy seconded by Member M. Zugibe
Action: All approved

CLOSE MEETING:

With the agenda completed in its entirety the Meeting adjourned at 6:45PM.

NEXT MEETING: Monday January 8, 2024, at 5:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Daisy Morocho

Daisy Morocho
Program Aide