

Plumbing and Mechanical Systems Examining Board
Chapter 29 Committee Meeting Notes
Wednesday, March 10, 2010 10-11:45 a.m. Room 208

Committee Members Present: Ron Masters, Mick Gage and Chuck Thomas.

Committee Members Absent: Tom Day and Jane Hagedorn

Staff Attending: Cindy Houlson, Matt Oetker and Mary Swinehart

NOTES: February 26, 2010 notes were approved.

Questions: Cindy distributed questions from Susan VanHorn to allow the group a chance to review to provide answers.

Evan Petersen from Black Hills Energy was invited to this meeting for review and discussion of Black Hills Energy training materials.

When hiring what type of background does the candidate possess?

It varies by individual and experience, some have had two years schooling; some have owned a business; some have received in-house training.

How often are your classes held?

It is not a regimented plan presently. Classes are offered throughout the year – for instance three times each year at different areas of the state.

How long is the training?

How long it takes is based upon an individual's aptitude.

Can a regimented CEU program be put together going forward?

There could be monthly safety training. Trainers and courses can get certified. Black Hills actually covers four states, however are trying to centralize in one area.

The specialty licenses were not included in the grandfathering period. What are options now?

Specialty licenses will probably be available the end of April. There will be changes in CEU requirements and changes to the rules that must go through the process taking approximately six months.

Is there a certificate applied when an individual has completed the training?

Presently, we do not provide certificate but we could.

How are records tracked for individuals?

All of our information is maintained on our HR system presently.

Matt thought that while it may be premature at this point to approve the training equivalency for specialty licenses, the initial discussion on these issues is clearly beneficial and this committee may wish to review the procedures that Med Gas Piping Committee utilizes for approval.

Chuck Thomas presented some questions brought forward by the ARC Committee:

Is there an avenue for an individual with a master plumbing license to get a journeyman license in another discipline without taking an apprenticeship?
This issue was discussed at the last board meeting. The individual could sit for a master exam. According to 105.18 there is no avenue for that level at this time.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding the breakdown of the licenses. Some areas have considered hydronics as a part of plumbing and refrigeration as a part of HVAC.

Do we need to amend a rule to say the master must be in the specific discipline for a contractor license?

Yes, if agreement that the board would like to go in this direction will need to be added to Chapter 29, the licensing chapter.

Is a contractor license needed for specialty licenses?

Specialty licenses are not tied to a contractor; therefore do not require a master. Consensus of this committee membership is that a contractor license is not needed.

Adjournment 11:45