**Meeting Minutes for**

**Examination Merger Committee**

ATTENDEES.

Michael Joiner - Chair

Jake Causey

Responses:

Kerry Brouillette - Custodian

Ben Cosper - Custodian

Keith Bienvenu - Custodian

**REPORTS**.

**Report #1**: Current Journeyman Plumber & Natural Gas Fitter Examination Information

*Details: Currently the Journeyman examination is as follows:*

Written Exam: 3 hours - Practical Exam - 1 hour

We have Four testing times:

7:30am - For applicants that need to take both the written and practical (29 people max )

9:00am - For applicants that need to take the practical only (9 people max)

12:30pm - For applicants that need to take both the written and practical (29 people max )

2:00pm - For applicants that need to take the practical only (9 people max)

*Currently the Natural Gas examination is as follows:*

Written Exam: 3 hours - Practical Exam - 30 minutes

We have two testing times:

7:30am - For applicants that need to take both the written and practical (29 people max )

9:00am - For applicants that need to take the practical only (9 people max)

**NEW BUSINESS**.

**Item #1**: Determining if testing both the journeyman exams and the natural gas exams on the same testing day is feasible.

Details: - Spoke to Kerry Brouillette - Based on the current set up of the exams, the allowable space and the time in which examinee is provided to take exams, if someone was scheduled for both a journeyman exam and a master natural gas fitter exam on the same day, you would need to not only lessen the amount of examination spots but completely remove two of the testing times for practical only for each exam. Someone who was scheduled for both exams would first need to take the journeyman written exam that consists of 3 hours, then take the practical for an hour. Once completed, they would need to switch out code books and take another 3 hour written exam followed by a 30 minute practical. With time and changes this would require someone to be testing for a total of almost 8 hours without considering a lunch.

Spoke to Ben Cosper - Would need to lesson number of examinees, which would require more testing days. Believes it would be a disservice to the examinee, requiring them to prepare and take two written and practical exams in one day. Would only be applicable to a small amount of people who have met both the 8,000 hour journeyman exam requirement and 2 year natural gas requirement. Most people should be able to take the exam two years prior to taking the journeyman exam.

Spoke to Keith Bienvenu - Could be done if the examinees that this was applicable too, were scheduled for the last testing session of the month for journeyman.

Spoke to several apprentices and OJT employees – They felt that taking two written exams in one day was not something they would want to do.

**OTHER ITEMS**.

**Item #1**: Findings

Details: It appears that if the Board moved on such change, that it would not support the needs of the entirety of the trade. However, it is possible to have multiple tests in a larger facility with additional examiners. There is also concern regarding the 7.5 hours that an examinee would be in house taking the exam. 7.5 hours does not include any breaks or lunch.

MOTION: The Committee recommends tabling this item until the Board has a larger facility as well as an increased number of custodians and examiners.

MOTION: Jake Causey

MOTION: Carried