**Meeting Minutes for**

**Rule Change Committee**

**Item #A: Alternative Pathway for Apprenticeship: Indentured and Unindentured**

Statutory Changes - LA R.S. 37: 1366C and l377C

Regulatory Changes - 46 LAC § 101

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Rule Change Committee recognizes that the alternative pathway for apprenticeship would first need to be changed statutorily. The Rule Change Committee recommends that if the legislature makes a preliminary revision to the definition of Apprentice to include both Indentured and Unindentured, the Board should adopt regulatory rules immediately following the passing of the statutory changes.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Trey Giglio

SECOND: Mike Joiner

MOTION: Carried

**Item #B: Requirements to Take Journeyman Plumber Examination**

Statutory Changes – Item #1 will first need to become an ACT

Regulatory Changes - 46 LAC § 305A (1)

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Rule Change Committee recognizes that the alternative pathway for apprenticeship would first need to be changed statutorily to further make allowances for the journeyman plumber applicants. The Rule Change Committee recommends the Board adopt the following; immediately following the passing of the statutory changes.

1. SPBLA Registered Indentured Apprentices shall have performed 7,000 hours of manual labor of plumbing under the direct on-the-job supervision of a licensed journeyman plumber.

2. SPBLA Registered Unindentured Apprentices shall have performed 8,000 hours of manual labor of plumbing under the direct on-the-job supervision of a licensed journeyman plumber.

3. SPBLA Licensed Tradesman shall have performed 3,000 hours of manual labor of plumbing under the direction of a licensed master plumber of an Indentured Apprentice.

4. SPBLA Licensed Tradesman shall have performed 4,000 hours of manual labor of plumbing under the direction of a licensed master plumber if an Unindentured Apprentice.

5. The applications will no longer require a voucher signed by a licensee.

6. Application will still require proof of OJT hours by official payroll documentation or W-2's.

7. An apprentice will be *requested* to submit a paycheck stub for each company that they have worked for at the time of renewal during that year. They will however be *required* to turn in the most recent paystub to verify that they are still employed by a Master Plumber prior to renewing their apprentice registration.

8. Once they have worked the required hours and are eligible to take the exam, they can ether submit official payroll documentation or provide W-2’s that match the paycheck stubs previously submitted.

9. Those that fail to submit paycheck stubs throughout the years will still be required to submit if applying with W-2’s.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Trey Giglio

SECOND: Mike Joiner

MOTION: Carried

**Item #C: Define "Direct on-the job supervision"**

Regulatory Changes - 46 LAC § 301B

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee recommends that the Board immediately move forward with the Regulatory Rule Change Process adopting the following Regulatory Rule Change;

1. Direct on-the-job supervision means that a licensed journeyman plumber is physically present and in direct communication at the property or jobsite for residential construction and single-story or single building commercial construction, and in the same building on the same floor level for multi-level or multi-story commercial construction, where the apprentice is engaged in plumbing. A licensed journeyman plumber may supervise apprentices as governed by the workforce commission who are engaged in plumbing at a time. An apprentice doing work other than plumbing shall not be considered an apprentice for purposes of supervision

2. Same language for natural gas fitters.

3. In each category, both indentured and unindentured language should be added the “direct on the job supervision” should include “supervision by a licensed journeyman and/or master plumber.”

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Mike Joiner

SECOND: Trey Giglio

MOTION: Carried

**Item #D: Natural Gas Fitter Hours and Application Process**

Regulatory Changes - 46 LAC § 305A (1) and 46 LAC § 307A (1)

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Rule Change Committee recognizes that the alternative pathway for natural gas fitters would first need to be changed statutorily to include unindentured apprentices. The Rule Change Committee recommends that if the legislature redefines the definition of Apprentice to include both Indentured and Unindentured, the Board should immediately move forward with adopting the following regulatory rule.

1. Recommends adding language that states gas fitter hours may be earned concurrent with earning journeyman plumber hours.

2. Natural Gas Fitter law should also be changed to reflect an unindentured on-the-job training pathway as well as the indentured apprenticeship. The same rules would apply to natural gas as journeyman. On-the-job training pathway would require no less than 4,000 hours official payroll documentation or W-2’s. Paycheck stubs submitted to renew their apprenticeship registration will count towards gas as long as there is a MNGF. Anyone who applies for the exam with time earned prior to the law change may just use W-2’s or payroll working for a Master Natural Gas Fitter, however someone who is applying with time accrued after the rule change must have also been registered as an apprentice for those years.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Trey Giglio

SECOND: Mike Joiner

MOTION: Carried

**Item #5: Define scope of work for journeyman plumber running a repair business**

Statutory Changes - LA R.S. 37:1367 A (1) and (2); possibly LA R.S. 37:1377B (1) and (2)

Regulatory Changes: Possibly 46 LAC § 101 and 46 LAC § 301E

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Rule Change Committee recognizes that repair companies would first need to be changed statutorily. The Rule Change Committee recommends that if the legislature makes a preliminary revision to the law to protect the health and welfare of the Louisiana citizens and remove the ability for repair companies to operate with only a journeyman plumber that the Board immediately adopt rules that give those license holders five years to upgrade to a Master Plumber.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Trey Giglio

SECOND: Mike Joiner

MOTION: Carried

**Item #6: Vice Chairman Procedure**

Regulatory Changes - 46 LAC § 503A(2)

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee recommends that the Board immediately move forward with the Regulatory Rule Change Process adopting the following Regulatory Rule Change.

1.Allowing the Chairman to appoint a Board Member to the Vice-Chairman vacancy until the next Board Meeting, where the nomination committee will recommend the next Vice-Chairman, subject to a vote by the entirety of the Board.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Trey Giglio

SECOND: Mike Joiner

MOTION: Carried

**Item #7: MP & MNGF Designation**

Regulatory Changes -46 LAC § 301E, F, G

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee recommends that the Board immediately move forward with the Regulatory Rule Change Process adopting the following Regulatory Rule Change.

An employing entity must designate one responsible MP and/or MNGF for purposes of enforcing the ACT.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Trey Giglio

SECOND: Mike Joiner

MOTION: Carried

**Item #8: Job Site Signage**

Regulatory Changes -46 LAC § 301F

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee recommends that the Board immediately move forward with the Regulatory Rule Change Process adopting the following Regulatory Rule Change.

Job signage rules should specify a physical address in the signage regulations since the rules mandate that the person must have a place of business.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Mike Joiner

SECOND: Trey Giglio

MOTION: Carried

**Item #9: Ratio**

Regulatory Changes -46 LAC § 301B

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee recommends that the Board immediately move forward with the Regulatory Rule Change Process adopting the following Regulatory Rule Change:

1. Changing the regulatory ratio to reflect the statutory ratio and request from LWC approval for an allowance of a 2:1 ratio for two apprentices to one journeyman for a period of 10 years.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Mike Joiner

SECOND: Trey Giglio

MOTION: Carried

**Item #10: Executive Director**

Regulatory Changes -46 LAC § 506 and 46 LAC § 701D

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee recommends that the Board immediately move forward with the Regulatory Rule Change Process adopting the following Regulatory Rule Change:

Changing the job duties to allow the Executive Director to oversee examinations in a Board Member capacity when a Board Member is unable to be present and only after notification to all Board Members.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Mike Joiner

SECOND: Trey Giglio

MOTION: Carried

**Item #11: Background check requirements for MP & MNGF**

Statutory Changes - LA R.S. 37:307 and 308

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee recommends referring questions of liability to the Texas State Board of Examiners and tabling item until the December Board Meeting.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards December agenda

MOTION: Mike Joiner

SECOND: Trey Giglio

MOTION: Carried

**Item #12: Increasing General Liability Insurance**

Statutory Changes - LA R.S. 37:13808(3)

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee recommends referring to legal to determine if there are laws that keep the Board from increasing the limits and if the Board is under the regulatory authority to do so that the liability be increased to $500, 000.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Trey Giglio

SECOND: Mike Joiner

MOTION: Carried

**Item #13: Advisory Board Duties**

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee recommends requiring all Advisory Committee Members to serve as examiners and attend at least one examination to be eligible to continue to sit on the Advisory Committee. The Committee wants to table the item until they review the duties document.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards December agenda

MOTION: Mike Joiner

SECOND: Trey Giglio

MOTION: Carried

**Item #14: Advisory Board**

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee recommends that the Board immediately move forward with the Regulatory Rule Change Process adopting the following Regulatory Rule Change:

Changing the regulatory language that identifies the advisory body to reflect the Statutory language that identifies the body as the Advisory Committee.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Mike Joiner

SECOND: Trey Giglio

MOTION: Carried

**Item #15: Advisory Committee and Board Member - Special Enforcement Officers**

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee recommends writing a policy and procedure prior

MOTION: To further discuss policies and procedures at next Rule Change Committee Meeting

MOTION: Mike Joiner

SECOND: Trey Giglio

MOTION: Carried

**Item #16: Regulatory Changes - 46 LAC Clean up**

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee recommends a cleanup of the Regulatory laws of any old and outdated rules directly following the passing and completion of all the above. This will allow the Committee to redirect and complete the next phase of the changes.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Mike Joiner

SECOND: Trey Giglio

MOTION: Carried

**Item #17: Practical Examinations**

**RECOMMENDATION**: The Committee that the examiners take pictures of the floor plans after an applicant has completed and submit the picture with the applicant’s information to staff. The staff to supply an additional paper in their testing packet to be put in the frame of the picture. Examiners must sign the paper and the Board shall supply cameras with sim cards.

MOTION: To move item to the Boards August agenda

MOTION: Trey Giglio

SECOND: Mike Joiner

MOTION: Carried

##### ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the Rule Change Committee of the State Plumbing Board of Louisiana at 2:08 pm.

MOTION: Mike Joiner

SECOND: Trey Giglio

MOTION: Carried