

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE JOINT PRACTICE COMMITTEE  
held at 9:00a.m., Monday, October 19, 2020,  
Virtual/Telephonic Meeting

**Members Present-** Glen Thurow, PS, BLPEPS  
Ronald Bohannon, PE, BLPEPS  
Ray Vigil, Architect, BEA  
Bob Calvani, Architect, BEA  
Chris Green, BLA  
Martin Romeo, CBO, CID

**Members Absent-** Julie Samora, Chair, PE, BLPEPS  
George Radnovich, ASLA, BLA

**Others Present-** Perry Valdez, Executive Director, BLPEPS  
Melarie Gonzales, Executive Director, BEA  
Martin Romero, RLD/CID General Construction Bureau Chief  
Sally Galanter, RLD/CID General Counsel

**1. Convene, Roll Call and Introduction of Audience**

Mr. Valdez convened the meeting at 9:00 a.m., and a quorum was noted.

**2. State Fire Marshal's Proposed Rule Changes: Professional Seal Requirements for Fire Suppression Systems**

Mr. Valdez introduced the reason for the special meeting. He explained Mr. Romero brought to his attention the item of the New Mexico State Fire Marshal's Office proposed rule change and he requested a JPC special meeting. Mr. Valdez informed the Committee members that the Professional Engineering Committee of the New Mexico Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors (NMBLPEPS) discussed the proposed changes at their September 18, 2020 special meeting. Mr. Valdez reported that Mr. Romero and Ms. Galanter spoke at the meeting and presented their concerns. He concluded by stating the Professional Engineering Committee voted to issue a letter of concern to the State Fire Marshal's Office and request to speak at the public rule hearing. Mr. Valdez asked Mr. Romero to provide his concerns.

Mr. Romero addressed the Committee regarding the State Fire Marshal's proposed rule changes in regards to the fire suppression systems and engineering design requirements. Mr. Romero stated Mrs. Galanter would explain CID's opposition to these proposed changes.

Ms. Galanter provided an overview of the proposed rule changes and Construction Industries Division's (CID) concerns. Mrs. Galanter stated the State Fire Marshal's Office submitted proposed rules, and one of the recommendations was for the removal of the requirement for all shop drawings to be sealed by a licensed professional engineer. She explained it was suggested it would only be necessary for a NICET III or IV signature for the plans to be submitted. Mrs. Galanter reported she included in her response to this recommendation that it would be against the New Mexico Engineering and Surveying Practice Act and the Architectural Act.

The Joint Practice Committee discussed the issue of the recommendation of the removal of a licensed professional seal requirement for all shop drawings. Mr. Vigil reported that the Board of Examiners for Architects also discussed this issue at their October 9, 2020 meeting. He stated their concern with the proposed rule change would take away CID's ability on how permitting is handles and approving projects. Mr. Vigil said the recommendation is proposing to override each of their Acts. He concluded by stating he thought it would be a good idea for the JPC to provide a letter to the State Fire Marshal's Office in opposition to the proposed recommendation, not only are the separate Boards opposed but also the JPC as a whole.

Mr. Thurow agreed and introduced a motion.

**MOTION** by Mr. Thurow that the Joint Practice Committee oppose the proposed rule changes that will be considered by the State Fire Marshal's Office, at their October 21, 2020 meeting at 2 p.m., **SECOND** by Mr. Vigil,

**Roll call vote taken:**

**Voting 'Aye':** Mr. Bohannon, Mr. Thurow, Mr. Calvani, Mr. Vigil, Mr. Romero, Mr. Green.

**PASSED** unanimously.

3. **Next Scheduled Meeting Date:** TBD

Mr. Calvani requested to place a discussion of adding the Interior Designers on the agenda.

Mr. Bohannon requested to add the status of the Board of Landscape Architectures. Mr. Green responded that he had not heard of any changes to the status of the Board of Landscape Architectures.

4. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 a.m.

Submitted by:

s/Perry Valdez  
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Perry Valdez, Executive Director

Approved by:

s/Ron R. Bohannon  
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Ron R. Bohannon, JPC Chair

December 3, 2020 Approved Date