

ELEVATOR SAFETY REVIEW BOARD MEETING
September 17, 2008 - 8:30 a.m.
Michael A. Bilandic Building - Room 505

Attended: Chairman Frank Christensen, Bill Bogdan, Tom Ganiere, Rod Gilles, Mark Hertsberg, Darrel Swienton, Kelly Weller
Absent: Dick Gregory, Tom Jirik, and Kenneth Mason
Elevator Safety Division Staff: Robert Capuani, Elaine Del Greco, Chet Janus, John Fennell, Legal Counsel

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Christensen at 8:45 a.m.

The minutes of the August 14, 2008 meeting were reviewed. Mr. Swienton moved to accept the minutes and Mr. Bogdan seconded the motion. Mr. Capuani requested the following correction to the minutes of August 14, 2008: Page 12, Line 11 – Change “agree with Gregory’s statement.” to “**do not** agree with Gregory’s statement”. The motion passed 6-0.

Old Business:

- A. Mr. Capuani reported the following for the Elevator Safety Program as of 9/15: Conveyances registered – 21, 916; licensed contractors – 93; licensed inspectors – 139; licensed mechanics – 1,734; licensed apprentices – 700; municipalities with agreement – 132 (as of 9/4); inspection companies - 13.
- B. Since Mr. Gregory was not present, dates for the inspector's meetings were not chosen. This will carry over to the October meeting.
- C. John Fennell sent a letter to all municipalities on August 14th clarifying the jurisdiction issue for conveyances in public schools.

Mr. Capuani reported that NAESA suspended inspector Oveson for a 90-day period beginning September 1st, and the Elevator Safety Review Board also suspended his license for this same time frame.

Mr. Capuani reported that as requested by the Board at the August 14th meeting, drawings were submitted for the variance that was approved for McKinley Foundation, Champaign, Illinois, indicating the work completed.

New Business:

Mr. Capuani requested an additional extension to November 14, 2008 for elevator inspection companies to submit their applications for licenses. The database to process these applications is not ready at this time. Mr. Ganiere moved to grant the extension and Mr. Bogdan seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0. This information will be posted on the Elevator Safety website.

Mr. Capuani questioned Craig Zomchek of Colley Elevator regarding work being performed at 31 West Downer Place in Aurora by Colley without a permit. The permit was issued 7/24/08 and work commenced on 6/23/08. Mr. Zomchek explained that the permit was applied for and

paid for, and was approved but never picked up. Mr. Capuani relayed that Mr. Herman Benke of Aurora was unaware of this application. Mr. Zomchek reiterated the same information. He was reminded by Chairman Christensen that permits should be picked up before work commences.

Public Comment:

Mr. Lou Giannetti and Phil Laverty of Bristol Court Condominium Association explained that on 4/21/08 an extension of time was requested to perform work on their 13 elevators in their condo complex. They have currently replaced two cylinders due to failures. The condo association has no city services and any work must be paid for with their own funds. They are requesting an extension to 2015 or later to complete the work needed to be done due to the financial burden on the condo owners. They have a contract with ThyssenKrupp and presented a plan to the Board for the completion of all the work. Mr. Capuani stated that they are doing everything - fire service, cylinders - all work required to be done by the current 2013 deadline, and recommended that this extension to 2015 be granted. Chairman Christensen supported this recommendation because of the amount of the work and the thoroughness of their plan.

Mr. Weller moved to grant the extension for completion of this work until 2015 and Mr. Gilles seconded the motion. Mr. Ganiere questioned the amount of time needed and suggested that this should be addressed in 2012, not now. He feels that this request is premature. Mr. Swinton pointed out that financial issues are governing this request. A roll call was taken and the motion passed 5-1 with Messrs. Bogdan, Gilles, Hertzberg, Swinton and Weller voting for the extension and Mr. Ganiere opposing the extension.

Tim Plowman, National Elevator Inspection Services, had a question regarding special purpose elevators. He stated that they are currently stricken from the non-exempt portion of the Act which means they require state registration and inspection witnessing. He wanted to know if this information was accurate or subject to change. Mr. Capuani said that they do have to be registered; however, inspections are only needed if they are in a public area.

Eric Buschick and Dave Vanderpool, Schindler Elevator Company, requested approval of Schindler's safety program for Continuing Education. They stated that Schindler has a safety program in place, and copies of their 2007 program was presented and explained to the Board. A PowerPoint safety presentation is sent on a monthly basis to their employees. The program consists of safety and technical training. Mr. Christensen stated that ThyssenKrupp, Otis and Kone all have programs that have been approved by the Board. They were asked if the Board could attend a training session or do spot checks and this was not a problem. Copies of their program would be kept on file by the Elevator Safety Division. Mr. Weller moved that this program be accepted as part of the Continuing Education program for mechanics and Mr. Hertzberg seconded the motion. Mr. Ganiere asked if the training was supervised and it is. The motion passed 6-0.

Jeff Miller and Dana Gillon of UIUC presented materials for their continuing education program. She described the training and sessions to the Board and distributed written materials to the members. Their training program is based on the programs of ThyssenKrupp, the North American Elevator Services (NAES) and the National Elevator Industry Incorporated (NEII). A certificate is given for 8 hours of training. They currently have seven mechanics on their staff.

Mr. Weller asked if this training was for internal staff only and the answer was yes. Mr. Weller then moved to accept the training program and have it added to our approved continuing education training list. Mr. Gilles seconded the motion and the motion carried 6-0.

Patty Young, Thompson Elevator Inspection Service, questioned Section 2.27.5 of the 2007 Code for fire service, and wanted to know if for example two of seven elevators were upgraded would all seven keys have to be changed. Mr. Capuani stated that a K-1 key is now required. Mr. Fennell asked if new modules are in two of the elevators can you use the old key. Mr. Capuani stated that the K-1 is a new key, and you cannot change the lock sets in new elevators to match the old elevators. Mr. Capuani said that this would be for all alterations and new construction. Mr. Christensen stated that you would want all the keys to be the same and this was re-iterated by Mr. Ganiere. Mr. Ganiere stated that a lot of buildings have a "Knox box" for all the keys and that they don't go to the elevator for a key. It was suggested and agreed to by the Board that this question should be tabled until the next meeting.

Adjournment:

Mr. Gilles moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 a.m. and Mr. Ganiere seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

The Board reconvened at 9:20 a.m. in open session to consider requests for variances. Roll call was taken.

- Present: Chairman Frank Christensen, Bill Bogdan, Tom Ganiere, Rod Gilles, Mark Hertsberg, Darrel Swienton and Kelly Weller
- Absent: Dick Gregory, Tom Jirik and Kenneth Mason
- Elevator Safety Division Staff: Robert Capuani, Elaine Del Greco, Chet Janus, John Fennell, Legal Counsel

Variances:

John Henderson, Midwest Generation, re-presented a variance request that was denied at the August 14th meeting. The request presented today was totally new information with a new design plan to have a reduced depth of the pit. The pit would be divided into two zones. He thoroughly explained the drawings submitted with the variance and stated that Code requirements can be met with a slight variance. Mr. Capuani asked that signage be placed in the pit stating "Danger - Low Clearance". Letters to be a minimum of 4" high. The sign should be in red and white stripes, affixed to the back wall and visible from the entrance. There should be a yellow stripe on the floor outlining the deepest part of the pit for refuge space. Pictures of the pit when completed will be required by the Board, and Inspector Chet Janus will go to the site to review the completed project.

This variance was presented to the Board for a second time because there were new factors to consider. Mr. Weller asked is this was an appeal on the original variance and Mr. Fennell stated that this was not the same variance. The request is for a reduced depth of pit. Mr. Gilles then explained why he had denied the previous request. Then Mr. Gilles moved to grant the variance and Mr. Ganiere seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

Rod Reid, Project Architect, Ratio Architects, Inc., requested a variance for the Illinois State Police Forensic Lab, Springfield, Illinois. He would like a variance on a ladder access to a governor above a LULA. A standard ladder cannot be used and they are proposing a telescoping ladder which is non-combustible and permanently mounted. When raised it is above head level. He would only go up and down and would only be used by mechanics and inspectors to access the governor which is locked. The ladder is locked when in place.

Mr. Weller moved to grant the variance and Mr. Hertsberg seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Del Greco

Elaine Del Greco
Administrative Assistant
Office of the State Fire Marshal
Elevator Safety Division

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