

ELEVATOR SAFETY BOARD
Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2017

I. Call to order

Chairperson Kris Kesterson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in the conference room at 150 Des Moines Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

II. Roll call

Members present: Kris Kesterson
Peggy VandenBerg (via phone)
Justin Carleton
Kerry Dixon
Amy Infelt (via phone)
Kathleen Uehling

Members absent: Wayne Sims, Todd Christensen, and Marvin Schumacher

III. Approval of agenda

Mr. Carleton moved to approve the agenda and Ms. Dixon seconded the motion. The Board approved it unanimously.

IV. Approval of minutes from September 27, 2017

Mr. Carleton moved to approve the September 27, 2017 minutes. Ms. VandenBerg seconded the motion and the board approved it unanimously.

V. Item for Action

- A. Petition for variance from TSP regarding electrical conduit in two hoistways in the Marshall County Courthouse (E2017-181)*

This item was tabled from the previous meeting. No one from the county participated. Mr. Jim Borwey, Manager of the Elevator Safety Division, provided information on this variance.

Elevator State ID# 2447 no longer requires a variance as the issues are mitigated.

Elevator State ID# 1370 still requires a variance from A17.1(2013) 2.8.2.2 for the wiring. It has been sheetrocked and caulked to mitigate the issue regarding the existing conduit that does not pertain to the elevator. They have also removed the junction box from the hoistway.

Ms. Dixon moved to grant the variance on State ID # 1370 due to undue hardship for the owner regarding the non-elevator wiring. Ms. Uehling seconded and the board approved it unanimously.

- B. Petition for variance from Ed Allen regarding an historical bird cage elevator in the Lexington Apartment building in Des Moines (E2017-182)*

The board agreed to table the variance due to compliance and possible withdrawal of the request.

- C. Petition for variance from DuPont regarding temperature in oil buffers (E2017-183)*

Mr. George Xenakis of DuPont spoke to the board regarding this variance request.

This facility is new and will be sold to another operator. The elevator is only rated to 0 degrees Fahrenheit but it was installed in an open shaft. The control room temperature is controlled but the buffer is not. They are requesting a variance to allow a heat tracer to control the temperature on the buffer to 45 degrees. Heating the elevator shaft would be extremely expensive and difficult to maintain. The automated system is continuously monitored. The remaining items on the variance request have been mitigated.

Ms. Dixon made the motion to approve the variance with the condition of utilizing the heat trace for the buffer. Ms. VandenBerg seconded. The Board approved the motion unanimously.

D. Petition for variance from Century Elevators regarding load and platform limits for new construction (E2017-184)

Mr. Kevin Lavorgna of Century Elevators spoke to the board regarding this variance request. This is a new facility and the elevator that is to be installed is a rack and pinion that doesn't meet code due to platform size and capacity.

Ms. Dixon moved to approve the variance to section 5.7.12.2 to increase the loading and platform size on the condition the owner add emergency operation to the elevator. Mr. Carleton seconded the motion and the board approved it unanimously.

E. Second Notice of Intended Action concerning code updates and petition for rulemaking (E2017-179)

A similar Notice of Intended Action was approved by the board at the last meeting but it was never published. A line for the new wind tower code was added. Also, there is a new edition of ANSI A117.1 that required some changes.

Ms. Dixon moved to adopt the Notice of Intended Action and Ms. Uehling seconded. The board approved it unanimously.

VI. Communications

None.

III.

The board discussed a list of 15 recommendations for proposed rule changes that was prepared by the staff. Although the board generally agreed with the recommendations, Mr. Carlton objected to requiring hoistway lighting and conduit.

IV. Division of Labor Report

Mr. Borwey reported that there are two candidates for the elevator inspector vacancies.

Labor Commissioner, Michael Mauro, reported that the Department of Administrative Services has changed the pay grade for elevator inspectors from 26 to a 30. The Safety Coordinator position has changed from a 30 to 32. The new minimum inspector pay will stay the same but the maximum will be \$83,033. The Commissioner is negotiating with the DAS concerning raises for current staff.

The Commissioner announced that effective November 28 the Safety Coordinator, Jim Baedke, will be out on medical leave for 5 to 6 months.

Commissioner Mauro gave a financial update to the board. Salaries and benefits constitute the majority of all expenditures. Last fiscal year it cost \$1.9 million (\$167,000/month) to operate the elevator program. Travel and equipment expenses accounted for 10%. Indirect costs were determined by the number of employees and covers expenses such as the building, IT, and HR.

The elevator division spent \$1.9 mil and took in \$2.1 million.

IX. Next meeting dates

- Wednesday, January 16, 2018 at 9:00 a.m., 150 Des Moines Street
- Thursday, February 22, 2018 at 9:00 a.m., 150 Des Moines Street

X. Next meeting agenda

- Notice of Intended Action stemming from Rules Review and Labor Commissioner's recommendations
- Tabled variance from Ed Allen and Lexington Apartments E2017-181


XI. Public comments

Mr. Gary Briggs stated IBC requires hoistway lighting. Mr. Briggs also requested a copy of the suggested code updates.

XII. Adjournment

Ms. Kesterson moved to adjourn the meeting. The board approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ms. Kathleen Uehling, Secretary