

Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners

Board Meeting Agenda

929 East 41st Street

Austin, TX 78751

November 14, 2018

The Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners will convene in open session, deliberate and possibly take action on any of the following items:

1. Call to Order – 9:00 a.m.
2. Roll Call.
3. Public Comment.
4. Examination Committee Report – Ed Thompson, Chair.
 - (a) Consider and possibly take action on Texas State Technical College’s (TSTC) request for approval of a Plumbing & Pipe Engineering Associate of Applied Science Degree curriculum, for purposes of Texas Occupations Code § 1301.354 and Board Rule § 363.6.
 - (b) Discussion of potential new Board rule establishing uniform criteria and procedures for seeking Board approval of an Associate of Applied Science Degree in plumbing, as contemplated by Texas Occupations Code § 1301.354. Possibly take action instructing Board staff to prepare proposed language of the rule for consideration at a future meeting of the Board.
 - (c) Discussion of potential new Board rule establishing the number of work hours afforded an individual receiving a board-approved Associate of Applied Science Degree in plumbing, pursuant to Texas Occupations Code § 1301.354, and for purposes of seeking to take an examination for a license issued by the Board. Possibly take action instructing Board staff to prepare proposed language of the rule for consideration at a future meeting of the Board.
5. Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Committee Report – Robi Jalnos, Chair.
 - (a) Discussion and possible action regarding allowing online Continuing Education classes.
6. Rules Committee Report – Rick Guerra, Chair.
 - (a) Consider and possibly take action on Board Staff’s proposed amendments to Board rules §§ 363.4, 363.5, regarding eliminating educational requirements for applying to take an examination and seek licensure by the Board as a Journeyman Plumber and/or Master Plumber.
 - (b) Consider and possibly take action on Board Staff’s proposed amendments to Board rule § 363.2 (General Requirements) concerning instituting the requirement for applicants and licensees to submit fingerprints to allow for a review of their criminal background by the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, pursuant to Texas Government Code § 411.122.

- (c) Consider and possibly take action on Board Staff's proposed amendments to Board rule § 367.9 (Advertising; Offering to Perform Plumbing) concerning eliminating the existing requirement that advertisements for plumbing services that are in an audio format only and do not contain a visual component state the license number of the Responsible Master Plumber for the plumbing company.
 - (d) Consider and possibly take action on Board Staff's proposed amendments to Board rule § 367.15 (Investigating Complaints) concerning supplementing the Board's prioritization of complaints with a formal written process for assigning a priority metric while processing complaints, thereby ensuring the prioritization of complaints is documented and to promote tracking of same.
 - (e) Consider and possibly take action on Board Staff's proposed amendments to Board rule § 367.20 (Informal Conference; Violation of Law, Rule or Board Order), concerning implementing formal processes and procedures for when to utilize informal settlement conferences, and establishing the format and requirements for said conferences.
7. Discussion of Sunset Commission's Staff Report concerning the findings of their review of the Board, including the statutory, rules, and managerial directives recommended by Sunset staff and contained in the report. (A copy of the published report will be available prior to the meeting from the Sunset Commission's website, located at <https://www.sunset.texas.gov/reviews-and-reports/agencies/texas-state-board-plumbing-examiners>.)
 8. Discussion of potential legislative amendments to the Plumbing License Law concerning the statutory requirements for taking the Journeyman Plumber examination and set forth in Texas Occupations Code § 1301.002(5)(B), to allow the recipient of an Associate of Applied Science Degree to enjoy a shortened wait time before taking the Master Plumber examination, similar to that of a person completing a Department of Labor approved apprenticeship program.
 9. Discussion of potential legislative amendments to the Plumbing License Law, allowing for some amount of work hours performed under the supervision of a Responsible Master Plumber (RMP), while not registered as a Plumber's Apprentice, to count towards the minimum work hours required to take an examination for licensure, provided they are properly documented and certified by said RMP.
 10. Consider and possibly take action on Board staff's draft response to the Sunset Commission Staff Report.
 11. Future Board Meeting Dates.
 12. Issues for Consideration at Next Board Meeting.
 13. Adjourn.

The Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners may go into a closed meeting after first convening in an open meeting and stating the authority under which the closed meeting will be held in accordance with Section 551.101 of the Open Meetings Act. Public comment shall be limited to 3 minutes per person.

Section 46.035 of the Texas Penal Code prohibits handgun licensees from carrying their handguns at government meetings, such as this one. This prohibition applies to both concealed carry and open carry by handgun licensees. Handgun licensees

are required by law to refrain from carrying their handguns at this meeting.

If you need auxiliary aids or services, please contact Dawn Saravia at (512) 936-5226 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Parking is available in the front and rear of the building.