

**State of Maryland**  
**Elevator Safety Review Board / Business Meeting Minutes**

**DATE:** August 20, 2024  
**TIME:** 10:00 a.m.  
**LOCATION:** Held Virtually via Google Meet  
<https://meet.google.com/vbg-mvtj-mtv?hs=122&authuser=0>  
Join By Phone: (U.S.) =+1 470-400-5690  
PIN: 546 397 236#

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ed Hord, Chairman  
Thomas Lindsay  
Michael Moran  
William "Bill" Hosea  
Jason Dankner  
Charles "Pete" Meeks

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Lance Brown

**LABOR OFFICIALS AND STAFF PRESENT:**

Ralph Dillman, Labor and Industry  
Dave Dearborn, Labor and Industry  
John Bull, Executive Director  
Matthew Venuti, Assistant Attorney General  
LaKisha Thornton, Administrative Officer

**GUEST PRESENT:**

Luke Metzinger, Alimak Group USA, Inc.  
Stephanie Lumbark, Delaware Elevator- Public Member

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Hord called the Business Meeting of the Maryland Elevator Safety Review Board to Order at 10:06 a.m.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A motion to approve the June 18, 2024 Open Session Business Meeting minutes was made by Mr. Danker, seconded by Mr. Meeks. Before the vote to approve the minutes, Mr. Moran noted that the number of active elevator licensees in the state appeared to have increased since the last meeting. Director Bull stated that he was not sure of the exact number of licensed mechanics as of Aug. 20, 2024 but that the number of active licensees does fluctuate. Chairman Hord requested that the Board be informed of the number of active licensees during each meeting.

Director Bull called a vote on Mr. Danker's motion, and the Board unanimously voted to approve the June 18, 2024 open session meeting minutes.

### **COMPLAINT COMMITTEE REPORT**

There was no report from the Complaint Committee.

### **APPLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT**

There was no report from the Application Review Committee

### **REVIEW OF PSI EXAMINATION STATISTICS AND LICENSE TOTALS**

Director Bull reported that no candidates had been tested in 2024. Since the inception of test 79 candidates have been tested, with 37 having passed and 42 having failed for a pass rate of 47%. There are currently 1,154 active licensees.

### **WIND TURBINE COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Mr. Danker reported to the Board that the Committee had met prior to the Board meeting. He stated Mr. Lindsay requested that the Committee meet before any site visits were to take place. Mr. Danker also informed the Board that Mr. Meeks felt the Board should be presented with information on any test control programs, testing forms and any other pertinent information from companies operating wind turbines before the Board took a position on offering a separate license for wind turbine mechanics. Mr. Danker informed the Board that the committee did not recommend moving forward with establishing a new license classification at this time.

Mr. Gutierrez stated that he was under the impression that Director Bull would be reaching out to the two manufacturers of wind turbines that operate in Maryland to gather information to be presented to the committee. Director Bull stated that he would reach out after the meeting. Director Bull questioned where he should obtain information regarding testing standards. Mr. Gutierrez stated that information would come from the current codes. Chairman Hord questioned whether any of the wind turbines in Maryland had been subject to state inspections to date. Mr. Gutierrez confirmed that the turbines were currently being tested every five years. He stated that the testing was performed by 3<sup>rd</sup> party inspectors

and the data was recorded to Labor and Industry systems and then reviewed by their office. Mr. Meeks stated that he would like for Labor and Industry to provide the Committee with information on testing procedures, standards, codes and review procedures, in addition to any installation review guides they received from the manufacturers. Chairman Hord requested that the Committee prepare a list of items they would like to have reviewed and present it to Director Bull at the October meeting. Mr. Lindsay commented that he would not feel comfortable approving a new category of license if the Board was not able to visit the wind turbine sites and see the elevators being used there.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Discussion on improvements to the process of reporting active licenses registered in the State and the status of the electronic application process.

Director Bull reported that there were no updates regarding the electronic application process. He stated that the process has been delayed as O&P was working to implement a new licensing database. Chairman Hord requested that the item be left on the agenda for discussion at future meetings.

Review the list of all licensed Elevator Inspectors registered in the state of Maryland

Director Bull reported that the Elevator Safety Review Board does not license Elevator Inspectors and therefore cannot report on the matter. He advised that information would need to come from Labor and Industry. Mr. Gutierrez commented that there were approximately 125 licensed inspectors in the State, and that they all could perform inspections on wind turbines. He continued stating that currently, inspections on wind turbines were performed by All Safe, a third-party inspector company.

Review options for ESRB meeting schedule

Chairman Hord suggested that the Board move to a quarterly meeting schedule. Director Bull confirmed that the Board's statute only required the Board to meet quarterly, should they choose to go in that direction. Director Bull asked the Board to comment on adopting a quarterly meeting schedule and if it would like to continue to meet on Tuesday. Mr. Lindsay expressed that he wished to leave the meeting schedule as is. Hearing no other comments from the Board, it was decided that the Board would continue to meet bi-monthly on the third Tuesday of the month.

Review of all Elevator Contractors registered in the state of Maryland

Chairman Hord stated that he had the item placed on the agenda to ensure that Mr. Danker and the member of the Wind Turbine Committee had all information that was needed to make a recommendation to the Board. Mr. Danker stated that he was more interested in the number of licensed inspectors. Director Bull stated that while he could not confirm the number of licensed inspectors, he could report

that there were around 47 licensed Elevator Contractor companies in Maryland. Mr. Moran asked Director Bull if he was able to comment on the number of licensed MD Mechanics versus the number of licensed mechanics working in Maryland. Mr. Danker stated he could confirm that there were approximately 1300 licensed mechanics operating out of Local 7 and Local 10. Ms. David asked if the Board could provide information on the number of new elevator apprentice licensees in Maryland. Director Bull informed Ms. David that Elevator Safety Review Board does not offer an apprentice license, and that the number of licensed mechanics could be obtained by contacting Board Staff. Ms. David asked if any other Board members could provide additional information. Mr. Danker stated that the number of new hires (which could be classified as apprentices) fluctuates by Union. He continued stating that he estimated that at least 50 new hires were added to Local 7 every year, and that the number was likely larger for Local 10 as they are a larger Union. Ms. David asked Mr. Danker if a person could actively apply for an apprenticeship at Local 7 or 10 at this time. Mr. Danker replied stating that Local 7 and 10 would be interviewing about 150 applicants in the upcoming weeks, with about 50 being selected. Ms. Davis questioned whether either Union had hired any applicants this year, to which Mr. Danker stated he believed about 35 people had been hired this year. Mr. Dearborn questioned that as Local 10 was the larger union, if they hired more apprentices proportionate to their increased size over Local 7. Mr. Danker stated he could not confirm. Ms. David questioned how many mechanics had retired or returned their license to the Board. Director Bull replied that he could confirm how many expired licensed there were in Maryland, historically, but that in order to provide the information she was requesting he would need to request information for the IT team. Mr. Lindsay asked Director Bull to confirm that the Board did not increase its licensing fees, which he did. Mr. Meeks advised Ms. David to contact the local unions to obtain data regarding apprenticeship enrollment and completion rates. Ms. Vanreusel asked Mr. Gutierrez if he knew how many elevator companies use registered apprentices. Mr. Gutierrez replied that he did not. Ms. David thanked the Board for their time and assistance.

There was no other Old Business.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Hord reminded the Board to be mindful to not constitute a quorum when sending and responding to emails. He reminded the Board that the MD Open Meeting Act is available online and encouraged everyone to take the course on the act. Chairman Hord requested that Director Bull send a link to the course to all the members of the Board.

There was no other New Business

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT**

Director Bull reported that Ms. Thembi was no longer with the Department of Labor. He informed the Board the Ms. Thornton would assume her duties until a new Administrator has been hired. He asked for the Board's patience during the transition. Director Bull informed the Board that the October meeting would be his final meeting with the Board, as he was retiring on December 1, 2024. He stated that he would provide all the information that Board requested during the meeting in October.

### **COUNSEL'S REPORT**

Counsel did not offer a report but congratulated Director Bull on his retirement and wished him well.

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Hord did not offer a report but wished Director Bull well and stated that it was a pleasure to work with him.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn August 20, 2024, Business Meeting of the Elevator Safety Review Board was made by Mr. Lindsay, seconded by Mr. Danker and unanimously carried by the Board at 10:47 am.