

**MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 21, 2014 MEETING OF THE LIQUEFIED
PETROLEUM GAS EDUCATION AND SAFETY BOARD
WILLIAM ASHBY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS BUILDING**

Call to order: The Meeting was called to order by Chairman William Curcio at 1:30 PM.

Board members present: William P. Curcio (Chairman), Larry A. Horowitz, Gerard C. Stocker, Thomas A. Leahy, Michael Merrill, Michael Ticktin

Department staff present: Director Edward M. Smith, Bureau Chief Michael Baier, Carrie Battista, John Tomasone

Member of the public present: None

Agenda: A motion was made by Michael Ticktin seconded by Gerry Stocker to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Public comments: None

Approval of minutes: A motion was made by Michael Ticktin seconded by Thomas Leahy to approve the Minutes of May 14, 2014. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports: There were no committee reports.

Old Business:

- 1. Adoption of NFPA 58 – 2014** – With the appearance of the proposal of the 2011 edition of NFPA 58, the committee has delayed looking at the proposal that would adopt the 2014 edition because the adoption of the 2011 edition must be finalized first. The comment period ends prior to the next Board meeting. It was decided that the draft changes be circulated prior to the scheduled December 3rd Board meeting. The NFPA 58 review committee will meet prior to the Board meeting at 10:00 am on that day.

New Business:

- 1. CETP proper documentation of employees** – members of the Board were concerned about the qualifications of people handling propane. The rules require employees of LP-Gas marketers to hold the proper CETP certifications but the Board questioned how the Department enforces the requirements. Mr. Baier responded that the Department checks the CETP certifications of employees as part of the audit it performs. The Board thought that being able to check online through ITS (the group that issues the certifications) might be helpful. A Board member asked if the Department was still issuing wallet cards for CETP appliance training. Staff reported that they are and pointed out that the CETP module numbers have changed again and are not the same as the ones in the rules.

2. Dispenser Training – A Board member questioned whether the current document used for training those who dispense propane at fill stations was appropriate for those who dispense autogas. The concern was that the current document used for training (“Dispensing Propane Safely”) might not be the best training. There was discussion about the use of other training that might be more appropriate and whether the rules allow for other equivalent training. After discussion it was decided that other training could be submitted to the Department for equivalency.
3. Use of proper pipe dope – a board member expressed concern that mechanics assembling propane piping systems or installing appliances may be using the wrong type of pipe dope, which could lead to leaks in the system. The Board suggested that the Department develop a counter document for local building Departments as an informational document for those applying for permits reminding them to check the label to make sure the product is appropriate for LP-Gas.
4. Customer owned containers – there was discussion about customer owned tanks and the potential safety concerns associated with them. A Board member was concerned that most consumers are not aware of their responsibility when they own the tank, in that they have the same obligations for the maintenance of the tank as if they were a marketer. The issue of a phone number on the tank was also discussed. The problem is becoming more prevalent as box stores such as Home Depot begin selling 100 gallon containers. These containers are often installed without the proper pressure test being performed as required by the rules. The Board suggested giving local building inspectors a heads up as this practice becomes more prevalent. In addition to the leak test not being performed, in some cases the installation of the container is also improper. While those installations that are clearly at odds with the code should be resolved by the supplier not filling the container, in some cases the supplier will fill non-conforming installations. There was a suggestion that something be sent to the industry reminding them that it is illegal to fill a tank that does not meet the regulations even if it is customer owned. In addition to the sales of tanks at box stores, the installation of home generators is also driving the practice of customer tanks. There was additional discussion about whether LP-Gas tanks could be treated similar to backflow preventers and pressure vessels under the Uniform Construction Code requiring a periodic inspection. It is also a consumer protection issue since resold tanks are not covered under the container manufacturer’s warranty.

Information – none

Board Comments – the Board felt that the list of Committees of the Board should be updated.

Next Meeting – March 10, 2015 at 1:30 pm

Adjournment – a motion was made by Michael Ticktin seconded by Gerard Stocker. The motion passed.