



**SUFFOLK COUNTY PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHER AND
AUTOMATIC FIRE EXTINGUISHING SYSTEMS LICENSING BOARD**
c/o Suffolk County Fire-Rescue, 102 East Avenue, Yaphank, NY 11980-0127
631-852-4855
felb@suffolkcountyny.gov



Minutes of June 16, 2022 General Meeting

The meeting was brought to order by J. Kuethen at 10:04 am.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- Motion to accept the minutes from the May 19, 2022 meeting made by M. Matteo and seconded by J. Meyer.

Public Comment Period

- None

Correspondence

Email received from Rose at Elite Action Fire Equipment & Services advising Juan Barron 116F is no longer with the company; Employee Termination form received, license not returned to them.

Email received from Maureen Ulley on behalf of George Ulley asking to waive testing based on extenuating circumstances.

See “e” under Application(s) for Review

Application(s) Review

a) United Fire Protection Corp.

New license application for Eduardo Nolasco. (Portable Fire Extinguishers, Dry/Wet Chemical Fixed Extinguishing Systems, Clean Agent Systems)

Motion to move application forward made by J. Meyer and seconded by A. Duspiva.

b) Suffolk Fire Inc., dba Anderson Fire Equipment

New license application for Ryan Abrahall. (Portable Fire Extinguishers, Dry/Wet Chemical Fixed Extinguishing Systems)

Prior license holder application for Paul Turro, Sr. (Portable Fire Extinguishers, Dry/Wet Chemical Fixed Extinguishing Systems)

New license application for Ryan Matera. (Portable Fire Extinguishers)

Motion to move all applications forward made by J. Meyer and seconded by A. Duspiva.

c) Elite Action Fire Extinguishing Equipment & Service, Inc.

License renewal application for Augustin Garay. (Portable Fire Extinguishers, Dry/Wet Chemical Fixed Extinguishing Systems, Clean Agent Systems)

Motion to table until review of complaint in “Reported Violations Review” made by M. Matteo and seconded by J. Meyer.

Motion to put renewal application back on the table and move application forward made by J. Meyer and seconded by D. Lynch; note that applicant was named in complaint discussed and closed at today’s meeting.

d) Firematic Supply Co., Inc.

Prior license holder application for Alexander Ramirez. (Portable Fire Extinguishers, High Pressure Hydrostatic Testing)

Motion to move application forward made by J. Meyer and seconded by A. Duspiva.

e) All Safe Fire Protection, Inc.

License renewal application for George Ulley. (Portable Fire Extinguishers, Dry/Wet Chemical Fixed Extinguishing Systems)

Motion to move application forward as a renewal after consideration of email sent on applicant’s behalf made by J. Meyer and seconded by A. Duspiva.

Review of Reported Complaints

- a) Complaint received 6/1/2022 naming Chase Fire Products, Inc. The location is St. Thomas More Church, 115, 119 & 130 Kings Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788.

Complaint cited an unlicensed employee servicing extinguishers; motion to send a Letter to Appear for both the Certificate of Registration holder and the named unlicensed employee made by J. Meyer and seconded by M. Matteo.

Report of the Chairperson

Thank you for the continued hard work and for being present at the meeting.

Report of the County Attorney

Welcomed Samantha McEachin and introduced the Board members. M. Matteo gave Ms. McEachin a brief history of FELB and its functions.

Report of Fire Marshal

D. Lynch has no report.

Report of FMASCO

M. Matteo has no report.

Report of Industry Representatives

J. Meyer and A. Duspiva have no report.

Report of Authorities Having Jurisdiction

M. Matteo has no report; no others present.

Unfinished Business

- a) Complaint received 2/1/2022 naming Fire Command Co., Inc. The location is James H. Boyd Intermediate School, 286 Cuba Hill Road, Huntington, NY 11743.

Complaint received 2/1/2022 naming Fire Command Co., Inc. The location is Harley Avenue Primary School (Boiler Room), 30 Harley Avenue, Elwood, NY 11731.

Complaint received 2/1/2022 naming Fire Command Co., Inc. The location is Harley Avenue Primary School (Kitchen), 30 Harley Avenue, Elwood, NY 11731.

Complaint received 2/2/2022 naming Fire Command Co., Inc. The location is John H. Glenn High School, 478 Elwood Road, Elwood, NY 11731.

Items “a” through “d” discussed, motion to send Letter to Appear made by M. Matteo and seconded by D. Lynch. Certified letter mailed 3/25/22. Certified return receipt received 4/4/22. Email from Michael Suarez requesting to appear at the May meeting. Motion to send letter confirming attendance to the May meeting made by J. Meyer and seconded by A. Duspiva. Certified letter sent 5/2/22; return receipt received. M. Suarez emailed to confirm his attendance on 5/16/22. Email received 5/19/22 requesting teleconference for May meeting. Motion made to table until he can attend in person next month; if he does not appear at the June meeting, we will move forward without his attendance. Motion made by M. Matteo and seconded by J. Meyer. Email sent to confirm appearance at June meeting.

M. Suarez was present at the meeting; he informed the Board that the cited employee will no longer be with the company and he is on leave now, as he started a new job. M. Suarez spoke with this employee regarding the complaint and said that neither he nor the employee know why the seals were not done properly. M. Matteo explained the importance of proper maintenance. M. Suarez acknowledged that a mistake was made. Motion to have M. Suarez submit a letter of retraining as well as proof that they went back to the location and corrected the mistake made by M. Matteo and seconded by J. Meyer.

- b) Complaint received 3/10/2022 naming Elite Action Fire. The location is BP Subway Dunkin Donuts, 410 Wheeler Road, Hauppauge, NY 11788. *FM Minder reported via telephone, explained that he had issues with the blow out caps in the past and has seen an increased number of caps missing since his last inspection. Motion to send a Letter to Appear made by M. Matteo and seconded by D. Lynch.*

Certified letter mailed 3/25/22. Certified return receipt received 4/4/22. Fil Conte, President, emailed requesting to appear at the May meeting, as he is out of town for the April meeting. Motion to send letter confirming attendance for the May meeting, as well as contacting FM Minder to request his attendance to the May meeting made by J. Meyer and seconded by D. Lynch. Certified letter sent; return receipt received. Email received from F. Conte requesting to attend the June meeting as he is out of town again this month. Email also received from FM Minder stating "ALL TIEMS RECTIFIED BEFORE 5-4-22". Email sent to F. Conte confirming his attendance to the June meeting with the stipulation that if he fails to appear at the June meeting, the Board will move forward with the investigation and may make a final determination in his absence. Motion to table until next month made by M. Matteo and seconded by D. Lynch. Email sent to confirm appearance at June meeting.

F. Conte is present to discuss complaint. D. Lynch's main concern is how so many caps can go missing. F. Conte explained that this particular system at this gas station is flawed. The weather severely affects the caps and it is a common occurrence for caps to come off on the PyroChem system. He explained this to the customer and asked that if they notice caps on the ground, to pick them up and they will go back and change out the caps and o-rings. F. Conte stated that the Fire Marshal was there 3 months after Elite Action Fire was there servicing the system. Discussion ensued about the defect in this particular system and how to handle this situation properly. F. Conte stressed that the technician named in the complaint, A. Garay, is an excellent technician. F. Conte also stated that he has made the manufacturer aware of the deficiency in the system. After lengthy discussion, motion was made to close and file the complaint by M. Matteo and A. Duspiva.

- c) Review and update written exam questions/review and update Rules and Regulations to accommodate online/virtual testing. *R. Fischer suggested creating a test bank in order to hopefully move forward with online testing. He suggested the Board review each test and check that questions are current with NFPA standards, NYS requirements, as well as adding questions regarding Suffolk County law and FELB Rules and Requirements. We can work with County IT to get online testing software that would be adequate for FELB testing. He also suggesting decreasing the length allowed for the test with the allowance of an open book policy. The FELB Rules and Regulations also need updating/revision. J. Kuethen and D. Lynch requested starting test question revision with just the Portables Tests (versions A, B, and C). B. Minden will send the three versions of the test along with the current Rules and Regulations to the Board for their review. Motion to table for next meeting made by M. Matteo and seconded by J. Meyer. Progress. D. Lynch is going to reach out to Nassau County to see if they have a test bank we can review.*

To be further discussed at the next meeting.

- d) M. Matteo suggested we rephrase out Letter to Appear to clarify requests for postponement. Motion made by M. Matteo and seconded by D. Lynch. *Rewording suggestions emailed to the Board by B. Minden and S. McEachin. Discussion ensued; wording should not sound like we are requesting them to appear at a*

Hearing, just that their attendance is requested but they are able to delay their appearance to the following month should they have a conflict.

New Business

None.

Expirations

Certificate of Registration

None

Individual Licenses

None

Next Meeting

- The next meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2022 at 10:00 AM, at the Suffolk County Fire Academy.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by M. Matteo and was seconded by J. Meyer, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:54 AM.

(T) – Teleconferenced

MEMBERS PRESENT	GUESTS PRESENT	STAFF PRESENT
Joseph Kuethen	Michael Suarez	Brianne Minden
Donald Lynch	Rich LaVacca	Samantha McEachin
Al Duspiva	Filippo Conte	
Michael Matteo		
James Meyer		