## QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING OF THE

## STATE PLUMBING BOARD OF LOUISIANA

Claiborne Building – Louisiana Purchase Room (1-100) 1201 N 3rd St, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

MAY 15, 2025

The Quarterly Board Meeting of the State Plumbing Board of Louisiana was called to order by Chairman, Michael Joiner, at <u>8:36</u> a.m.

The following people were in attendance:

	BOARD MEMBERS	ADVISORY COMMITTEE	STAFF	GUESTS
P	Chairman, Michael Joiner	Ellis Bourque	Ashley J. Tullier	Julie Richard-Spencer Legal Counsel
A	Vice-Chairman, Jake Causey	Todd Murray	Diana Cutrer	DJ Berger
A	Secretary-Treasurer, Rickey Fabra		Jim York	Joseph Perry
P	Kevin Brown		Nicholas Dykes	Crystal Carter
P	Doyle(Lynn) Solly		Stephen Campbell	Faith Gray
P	Terry Smith		William Easterling	Tony Baham
Α	Johnnie Marcade		Fred Fontenot	Joseph Stephany
P	Vincent Giglio III		Blaine Matte	Joseph Perry
P	Wayne LaFleur Sr.		Glen Gremillion	
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**INVOCATION: Terry Smith** 

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**ROLL CALL: Diana Cutrer** 

## **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MOTION: TO ADOPT MAY 15, 2025, AGENDA.

MOTION: VINCENT GIGLIO III

SECOND: TERRY SMITH MOTION: CARRIED

## **SPECIAL BUSINESS**

Executive Session - Board Members/Counsel/Executive Director

MOTION: TO DISMISS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

**TIME:** 8:39

**MOTION: TERRY SMITH** 

SECOND: VINCENT GIGLIO III

**MOTION: CARRIED** 

MOTION: TO RECONVENE THE REGULAR SESSION

**MEETING** 

TIME: 9:00

MOTION: VINCENT GIGLIO III

**SECOND:** TERRT SMITH

MOTION: CARRIED

## **ENFORCEMENT**

A.) Chris Dauzat—Consideration for contempt.

PC: NONE

MOTION: To find Mr. Dauzat in contempt for failure to comply

with the terms of his legal agreement with the Board.

MOTION: TERRY SMITH

**SECOND: KEVIN BROWN** 

**MOTION: CARRIED** 

**B.**) Requested to appear before the Board—Cody Womack.

Mr. Cody Womack was called before the Board for a formal hearing for one (1) count of advertising plumbing work without a proper license.

Mr. Womack withdrew his appeal with the board and has paid his fine.

C.) Requested to appear before the Board—Tony Baham III

Mr. Tony Baham III was called before the Board for a formal hearing for one (1) count of advertising plumbing work without a proper license one (1) count of operating a plumbing business without a proper license.

MOTION: DENY THE APPEAL—VIOLATION STANDS

MOTION: TERRY SMITH

SECOND: VINCENT GIGLIO III

MOTION: CARRIED

D.) Requested to appear before the Board—Joseph Perry

Mr. Joseph Perry was called before the Board for a formal hearing for

one (1) count of master plumbing work without a proper license

one (1) count of operating a plumbing business without a proper license

one (1) count of advertising plumbing work without a proper license.

MOTION: DENY THE APPEAL- VIOLATION STANDS

MOTION: TERRY SMITH SECOND: WAYNE LEFLEUR

MOTION: CARRIED

E.) Request to appear before the Board—Joseph Stephany Jr.

Mr. Joseph Stephany was called before the Board for a formal hearing for one (1) count of advertising plumbing work without a proper license.

one (1) count of operating a plumbing business without a proper license.

MOTION: REDUCE THE FINE FROM 1,000 TO 200

PROVIDED THAT MR. STEPHANY PROVIDE THE BOARD WITH A DISSOLVED NOTICE LETTER FROM THE SERCRETARY OF STATE AND IF HE IS CITIED AGAIN, HE WILL BE REQUIRED TO

APPEAR AGAIN BEFORE THE BOARD.

MOTION: VINCENT GIGLIO III

SECOND: TERRY SMITH

**MOTION: CARRIED** 

## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

A.) Formal Notification to the Nomination Committee—Chairman, Michael Joiner—This is the committee's formal notice to recommend to the board, Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary Treasure at the July 17, 2025, board meeting. As the board is aware, Mr. Rickey Fabra and previously Mr. Carl Bourgeois sat on the committee.

Mr. Vincent Giglio III would like to recommend Terry Smith for the Nomination Committee

**PC: NONE** 

Chairman, Michael Joiner appointed Mr. Terry Smith to the Nomination Committee.

B.) CPE Committee—Chairman, Michael Joiner reported that the committee was asked to explore potential Continuing Professional Education (CPE) requirements for apprentices. Currently, the laws in place are statutory, and the Board does not have the authority to require continuing education for apprentices without legislative action. Therefore, any changes would need to be pursued through legislation. Despite these limitations, the committee has been tasked with identifying alternative options that could be implemented without statutory changes. One possibility discussed was requiring an OSHA certification or a similar safety-related credential. The committee plans to present viable options to the Board at its next meeting. It was noted that the primary concern behind this initiative is health and safety, which may allow for certain requirements to be enforced without changing existing laws.

Executive Director Ashley Jones-Tullier clarified that the committee's inquiry centered on whether the Board could mandate continuing education for apprentices. She explained that, statutorily, the Board cannot enforce such a requirement. To do so would require filing a bill and initiating regulatory changes, which she does not believe is necessary at this time. The committee also discussed potential concerns, including the ethical implications for Board members affiliated with organizations that would receive funds for apprentice CPE. To avoid any conflict with the Ethics Board, a suggestion was made for the Board itself to facilitate this education directly. The committee is considering options such as requiring completion of OSHA 10 or implementing an entrance exam similar to models used in other states like Texas. Based on the discussion, there was consensus to find a balanced approach that addresses both health/safety and organizational concerns. Chairman Joiner confirmed that the committee will reconvene and report its recommendations to the Board at the August meeting, including how such requirements might be enforced if adopted.

Mr. Giglio asked for clarification, stating his understanding was that the Board is exploring options for apprentice CPE.

Chairman Joiner responded that while not necessarily CPE, the discussion focused on requiring proof of OSHA 10 completion as part of the exam application process.

Mr. Giglio confirmed his understanding that apprentices may need to provide some form of secondary certification during their apprenticeship.

Chairman Joiner affirmed this interpretation.

Additionally, the committee reviewed the 2026 CPE topics, which were previously approved by the Board, to ensure continued alignment. The committee also confirmed that the "Train the Trainer" event will be held in Baton Rouge at the Crowne Plaza. This item appears on the agenda under Old Business. This concludes the CPE committee report.

- C.) Examination Committee—Chairman Michael Joiner reported that the Exam Committee continues to work to keep both the Board and the public informed. The contractor tasked with completing the approved practical exams for the journeyman license is expected to finalize all 12 exams by the end of June. However, the piping portion of the exam must still be completed before the full exam package can be released for administration in Baton Rouge and then moved to Shreveport for testing. Given that journeyman testing is currently scheduled through October, and that both examiners and custodians are required to undergo training in January, the committee recommends that the new exams be rolled out beginning January 2026. This timeline is in the best interest of both the applicants and the Board. This concludes the exam committee report.
- **D.) Building Committee**—Vincent Giglio III reported that this is an exciting time for both the Plumbing Board and the Shreveport area, as the Board is set to acquire a new building. The closing on the property is scheduled for Friday, May 23, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., followed by a Building Committee meeting at 11:30 a.m. The new facility is centrally located just outside of downtown Shreveport, conveniently near hotels and restaurants, making it well-suited for testing purposes. The property requires minimal maintenance due to limited green space. As part of the purchase agreement, the roof will be replaced at no cost to the Board—an improvement valued at approximately \$100,000. The building offers strong curb appeal, presents a professional image, and is expected to support the activities of the Board effectively. At the next Building Committee meeting, members will review and prioritize necessary improvements to prepare the building for part-time administrative functions, potential meetings, and—most importantly—exam administration. Enhancements will focus on getting the facility fully operational for testing, which is anticipated to significantly increase both capacity and frequency of testing in the Shreveport region. Once the Shreveport location is fully established and operational, the committee will redirect its attention to the Baton Rouge facility. Remaining budgeted funds will be considered for upgrades to that building to ensure it meets the Board's long-term operational needs. This concludes the Building Committee report.

## **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

PC: NONE

**MOTION: TO ACCEPT DECEMBER 12, 2025, MINUTES AS** 

RECORDED.

MOTION: TERRY SMITH

**SECOND:** WAYNE LEFLEUR

MOTION: CARRIED

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

A.) Financial Report – Executive Director, Ashley Jones-Tullier

B.) 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Amended Budget

PC: NONE

MOTION: TO ACCEPT THE 2024-2025 Fiscal Amended Budget

report.

MOTION: TERRY SMITH SECOND: WAYNE LEFLEUR

MOTION: CARRIED

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Advisory Committee Member Mr. Todd Murray reported that the Advisory Committee met on May 14, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. He stated there were two items on the agenda. The first was to formally welcome him, Mr. Murray, as the newest member of the Advisory Committee.

The second item involved a discussion on whether to allow Residential Plumbers to obtain the Water Supply Protection Specialist (WSPS) endorsement on their license. Mr. Aubrey Brand expressed support for the idea, stating he wanted to give up-and-coming plumbers something additional to work toward and to help keep them engaged in the craft.

Mr. Richard Paulk voiced opposition to the proposal, stating he was not in agreement with lowering any experience requirements for the WSPS endorsement.

Chairman Joe Maranto read aloud the current requirements set by ASSE and outlined in Louisiana law. After reviewing the applicable statute and endorsement criteria, he stated that there was nothing the Board could act on, as the WSPS endorsement requirements are legally established and governed by ASSE/ABPA standards. Mr. Jason Martin recommended adding a hyperlink on the State Plumbing Board's website to directly link to the laws and requirements for obtaining a WSPS

No formal recommendation was made by the Advisory Committee, as the Board cannot act on this matter due to the statutory limitations.

## **ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT**

The enforcement officers each gave their reports.

endorsement.

Mr. Giglio asked whether the "citations" column in the reports included issued warnings.

Ms. Jones-Tullier responded that the Board has no authority to track actual warnings.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

SPBLA Executive Director, Ashley Jones-Tullier, reported:

The following are the four bills that are in the legislative session that affect the Board.

### 1. HB603 - Appointment Reform for Professional Licensing Boards

This bill is essentially a reform of appointment procedures for professional licensing boards. HB603 amends existing laws to give the governor broader discretion in board appointments. Approximately twenty boards are included in this legislation, not just ours. The law no longer mandates that the governor appoints from the lists provided by associations but allows those lists to be considered. Associations can still submit a list of nominees, and this does not take away your associations rights to provide nominees, but the governor is not required to choose from it, though any selection must still come from within those associations.

### 2. SB122 – Revisions to the State Licensing Board for Contractors (SLBC)

This bill is an extensive revision SLBC. It modifies board member terms to not cause some attendance issues. Residential subcommittee terms are now increased from three to six years and increased maximum consecutive terms to three years members. There are also changes affecting dual license holders—such as those holding both a plumbing license and a contractor's license—requiring increased financial documentation. Specifically, dual licenses must meet an expanded net worth requirement to qualify for licensure. This affects most if not all of you, if you hold a contractor's license.

Additionally, there is also a vague provision in the bill specific to plumbing that I want to bring to your attention. The bill retains an exemption for licensed plumbing professionals acting within the scope of their license. This exemption is meant to prevent overreach by the contractor's board, but the bill does not clearly define what this exemption actually covers. I'm putting you on notice of this because the lack of clear language could cause enforcement issues later. Since its pending the House Commerce Committee, I'm still seeking clarification. If any of you have contact with the Contractors Board, I would appreciate your help in clarifying this exemption.

Mr. Giglio requested that Ms. Jones-Tullier provide the actual language from the bill for review.

Ms. Jones-Tullier responded in the affirmative and continued with her report.

### 3. SB175 - Restructuring of the State Plumbing Board.

You may already be familiar with its key provisions; however, the bill is still pending in the House.

Chairman Joiner asked what are the provisions of this bill?

Ms. Jones-Tullier stated that currently, the board consists of 11 members: one engineer, one inspector, three master plumbers, three journeymen, one residential plumber limited, and two public members who have not yet been seated. The proposed law keeps the 11 members but redistributes representation. The mechanical engineer

position is now clearly defined — it changed from "engineer" to "mechanical" last year — with three nominees coming from the Louisiana Department of Health. The plumbing inspector position remains but is now nominated by the LSU Code Council (LSUCCC), not the Department of Health.

The proposed will be five master plumbers: three nominated from a list of nine by the Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling Contractors of Louisiana (PHCC), and two nominated from a list of six by the Louisiana Pipe Trades Association. There will be one journeyman plumber nominated from a list of three by the Louisiana Pipe Trades Association, one Residential Plumber Limited (which the governor retains the appointment for, as of last year), and two public members. The bill specifies these two public members must not earn a living in construction-related industries. All master plumbers must be listed as the responsible master plumber for their company. Regarding eligibility and terms, all members except public members must be licensed by the board at the time of appointment. Board members will serve six-year terms and remain in service after their term expires until a successor is appointed. Board leadership positions — Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary Treasurer — will be elected for two-year terms. The election date is moved from July 1 to within 30 days after August 1.

This change may affect the nomination board meeting we have scheduled in July. If the bill becomes law before then, we will have to adjust the meeting to comply with the new election timeline. We will monitor this closely and keep you updated. Also, the Chairman and Vice Chairman must be active master plumbers responsible for their companies.

Mr. Giglio asked if the discussion could return to SB122, noting a vague interpretation regarding the \$10,000 project limit. He explained that previously, if a plumbing project exceeded \$10,000, a contractor's license was required. However, some now interpret that if the total project is over \$10,000 — for example, a \$12,000 remodel — but the plumbing portion is only \$2,000, a plumbing contractor's license would still be required. He stated there appears to have been a minor language change that may affect whether the \$10,000 threshold applies solely to the plumbing portion or to the entire project, including electrical or other trades. He added that while he did not recall the exact wording, this change could significantly impact license holders, and the Board needs to ensure the interpretation is correct.

Ms. Jones-Tullier responded that she did not have the bill pulled up at the moment, but from her notes, the bill changes the net worth requirements — for example, raising the minimum net worth to \$50,000 for most licenses. She said she did not have the specific language about the \$10,000 limit but would review SB122 and send the information to all members so the Board is properly informed. She then continued with her report.

## 4. SB228 – Transfer of the State Uniform Construction Code Council (LSUCCC)

This bill transfers the Louisiana State Uniform Construction Code Council (LSUCCC) from the Department of Public Safety & Corrections to the State Licensing Board for Contractors(SLBC), restructures council membership, and shifts administrative duties to the SLBC. The Executive Director of the Contractors Board will also now serve as Director of the Council. Staff from the Contractors Board will support the Council's functions. Membership is reduced from 20 to 17, with the state health officer seat removed and replaced by two building code enforcement officers. There will be a seat

for a fire marshal, and a combined seat for a plumber, electrician, or HVAC technician (pending amendment). Currently, plumbing has its own seat, but this will change. Other members include mechanical and structural engineers, residential and commercial contractors, licensed architects, representatives from the Louisiana Associated General Contractors (AGC), Home Builders, insurance, building officials, and code associations. There are only two at-large members.

The Council will be domiciled in East Baton Rouge and meet bi-monthly, or more frequently if requested by the chairman. Term limits are removed — previously capped at four years — and member travel reimbursement is eliminated. The governor may remove members for cause or for missing more than half the meetings in a year.

This affects amendments to codes governing continuing education for the State Plumbing Board. Since the Council has not been active, we have not seen recent amendments, so this process may take some time. Meanwhile, we intend to continue operating exams and Train the Trainer sessions under the 2021 code amendments.

Finally, I want to put the public on notice that the governor has issued numerous executive orders increasing oversight of boards like ours. One order requires a legislative audit of our board members' functions, including decisions made under the law and enforcement actions. The purpose of this audit is to ensure compliance with the twelve Department of Administration (DOA) agencies, as well as adherence to internal policies governing Board Members, staff, accounting, human resources, and all licensing activities. The Board is preparing for its upcoming Legislative Audit, which will be conducted by independent auditors and submitted directly to the Louisiana House and Senate. The audit period begins in June and typically continues through August. I ask patience during this time, noting that previous findings were minor and expressing confidence in the Board's internal procedures. For new Board Members, the auditors will review compliance with the 12 DOA agencies, as well as human resources and accounting requirements. They will also randomly check licensee applications and supporting documents to verify compliance. We will provide the board with updates throughout the audit.

Looking ahead, staff anticipates that—pending Board approval—the next initiatives will include implementing online testing at the Shreveport facility and launching an online application process.

Ms. Spencer-Richard stated I reviewed the language of SB 122, and it does include the change you described, Mr. Giglio. The bill deletes the typical definition of "plumbing contractor" as a person who installs, maintains, or repairs potable and non-potable water or sewer systems within buildings or residential structures when the cost exceeds \$10,000. Now, it says the threshold is when the "project value" is \$10,000 or more. Project value is defined as the entire cost of labor, materials, rental, and all direct and indirect project expenses. So, you are correct that under this language, many more license holders may be affected. We need to watch this closely as the bill progresses.

Mr. Giglio stated this is a significant burden on our license holders. For example, if there is a \$12,000 remodel and our license holders only do a \$300 job, they would still need a contractor's license. This is a big concern for many.

Ms. Spencer-Richard added it's hard to imagine a job today where the total project wouldn't exceed \$10,000, so this language could have a broad impact.

Mr. Giglio stated for the record it is surprising the Code Council does not include a representative from the industry it regulates. Our industry deserves to have a voice on that Council.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

A.) Claiborne Building-Quarterly/Annual Board Meeting usage— Chairman, Michael Joiner.

Mr. Giglio commended the staff on securing the Claiborne Building as a meeting location, stating, "This was a great find by the staff—two thumbs up from me."

Chairman Joiner noted that while the Board had previously approved upcoming meeting dates, they may need to be reconsidered due to room availability at the Claiborne Building.

Mr. Smith inquired whether 8:30 a.m. would become the standard starting time for future meetings.

Mr. Giglio expressed concern about the Advisory Committee's involvement, especially with members who must travel. He asked whether the Board would consider reserving an additional room for the committee or allowing them to meet in the main room prior to the Board meeting.

Chairman Joiner acknowledged the travel issue and agreed that having the Advisory Committee meet prior to the Board meeting had worked well in the past. He asked whether it would be possible to secure an additional room for their use.

Ms. Jones-Tullier provided the Board with background information on the room rental options at the Claiborne Building:

- Full-day rental (8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.): \$1,500 per day
- Half-day rental: \$800, with time slots of either 8:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. or 12:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.

She noted that the July meeting, pending the outcome of the legislative session—cannot be held at the Claiborne Building due to room unavailability. She recommended holding this meeting at the SPBLA office, as has been done previously, or selecting an alternative date.

She also informed the Board that:

- August 21 is available.
- December 11 is not available, but a half-day slot on December 4 is.

These challenges are a result of late scheduling for the current year and advised that moving forward, it would be beneficial for the Board to select specific meeting dates and times. This would allow staff to make timely reservations in accordance with the building's rental policies. She also explained that today's meeting had to be concluded by noon due to these scheduling limitations.

Mr. Smith stated that the issue was not the dates, but rather the meeting start times.

Ms. Jones-Tullier further noted that the SPBLA office had been made available to the Advisory Committee the previous day, with some members participating via Zoom. While this approach remains an option, she raised concerns about the Advisory Committee using the main room at the Claiborne Building between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m., as it conflicts with staff setup. She recommended securing an additional room—acknowledging the added cost—as a more professional and efficient solution for both the committee and staff. She added that while scheduling for the remainder of this year remains uncertain, planning future meetings earlier could help avoid similar conflicts.

Ms. Richard-Spencer clarified the discussion, asking Ms. Tullier, So, what you need from the Board is a motion on future dates for the Board meetings?

Ms. Jones-Tullier stated yes.

PC: NONE

MOTION: TO HOLD THE NEXT BOARD MEETING FOR

JULY AT THE SPBLA OFFICE AND MOVE THE DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> MEETING TO DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

AND MOVING FORWARD ANY OTHER MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE NEW

LOCATION OF THE CLAIBORNE BUILDING IN

BATON ROUGE IF AVAIABLE.

MOTION: TERRY SMITH SECOND: KEVIN BROWN

MOTION: CARRIED

B.) 2026 CPE Train The Trainer (TTT) Event Location—Chairman, Michael Joiner

PC: NONE

MOTION: TO ACCEPT THE LOCATION OF THE 2026 TRAIN

THE TRAINER EVENT LOCATION OF CROWNE

PLAZA IN BATON ROUGE.

MOTION: TERRY SMITH

SECOND: WAYNE LEFLEUR

MOTION: CARRIED

**C.)** Recommendation to add Terry Smith to the Examination Committee—Chairman, Michael Joiner

PC: NONE

MOTION: TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION AND ADD

TERRY SMITH TO THE EXAMINATION

**COMITTEE** 

MOTION: VINCENT GIGLIO SECOND: KEVIN BROWN

MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: CARRIED

#### D.) Exam Reports

Mr. Smith stated that there had been issues with the contents of the exam packets being placed in the wrong envelopes. This concern was brought to the attention of the Executive Director, Ms. Ashley Tullier.

Ms. Jones-Tullier responded that she had contacted NITC and spoke directly with Janelle regarding the absence of the proper practical materials in the candidate packets. She confirmed that the issue has been addressed and should be resolved moving forward.

Chairman Joiner asked whether all candidates were still able to complete their exams.

Ms. Jones-Tullier confirmed that yes, all candidates were able to take the exam.

### 1.) RESIDENTIAL LIMITED PLUMBER EXAMINATION

- a.) January 18th, 2025—Johnnie Marcade
- b.) March 29th, 2025—Terry Smith

## 2.) JOURNEYMAN PLUMBER & NATURAL GAS FITTER EXAMINATIONS

- a.) January 4th, 2025--Chairman, Michael Joiner
- b.) January 11th, 2025—Terry Smith
- c.) March 1st, 2025—Terry Smith
- d.) March 15th, 2025— Jake Causey
- e.) May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025--Wayne Lafleur Sr.
- f.) May 10th, 2025--Kevin Brown

#### 3.) MASTER PLUMBER EXAMINATIONS

- a.) February 1st, 2025—Executive Director, Ashley Tullier
- b.) April 5th, 2025—Executive Director, Ashley Tullier

#### 4.) MASTER NATURAL GAS FITTER EXAMINATION

- a.) February 8th, 2025—Terry Smith
- b.) April 26th, 2025—Wayne LaFluer Sr.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### A.) NetShapers Online Applications Quote—Executive Director, Ashley Tullier

Mr. Giglio stated that after reviewing the quote, he had a question for Ms. Jones-Tullier. Speaking on behalf of the Enforcement Committee, and in light of the current efforts to revamp the Enforcement Division, he asked whether the quote included the development of an online enforcement complaint submission portal for the Board.

Ms. Jones-Tullier clarified that the current contract pertains specifically to the development of an interactive online application submission system. However, she noted that staff had taken the initiative to also explore improvements in other areas. In addition to the applications quote, they obtained separate quotes for enhancements to the Enforcement Division and the CPE process. She explained that the current method for logging the CPE roster is cumbersome, and staff explored options for a more interactive system. These additional quotes are available for the Board's review.

PC: NONE

MOTION: TO ACCEPT THE ONLINE APPLICATIONS

CONTRACT AS PRESENDED

MOTION: VINCENT GIGLIO SECOND: TERRY SMITH

MOTION: CARRIED

# B.) Public Posting of Enforcement Violations on the Agency Website—Vincent Giglio III

Mr. Giglio stated that there has been public discussion expressing concern over the lack of visibility regarding enforcement citations issued by the Board.

Mr. Giglio proposed that, as a starting point, the Board consider publishing citation appeal outcomes on the agency's website—similar to how they are already noted in the published minutes. He suggested listing those cases in which individuals appeared before the Board, along with the Board's final decision, as a way to enhance transparency for the public. He acknowledged this may be a topic more appropriate for further discussion at the committee level but felt it was important to bring the matter before the full Board.

Ms. Richard-Spencer responded by cautioning against creating any distinction based on whether a citation was appealed. She expressed concern that only posting appealed cases could unintentionally discourage individuals from exercising their right to appeal. She advised that any public posting of enforcement actions should be consistent and limited to final actions—meaning either the fine has been paid, or the appeal has been denied—rather than differentiating between appealed and non-appealed cases.

Mr. Giglio agreed, noting that this broader question of public access to enforcement outcomes falls within the scope of the Enforcement Committee's ongoing review. He reiterated that no action was requested at this time and that the topic would be brought back for further consideration by the Enforcement Committee.

### C.) Unclassified 4% Merit Increase

Mr. Smith inquired about how many employees are unclassified.

Ms. Jones-Tullier responded that the proposed increase applies only to unclassified employees, whose salaries are governed by the Board. All other staff members are

classified and fall under Civil Service regulations regarding merit increases. She noted that there are two unclassified positions.

Mr. Smith asked, "And that would be you and Kaci?"

Ms. Jones-Tullier confirmed, "Yes, myself and the Accounting/Human Resources Department."

PC:

**NONE** 

MOTION: TO AWARD UNCLASSIFED PERSONNEL 4%

**MERIT INCREASE** 

**MOTION: TERRY SMITH** 

SECOND: VINCENT GIGLIO III

MOTION: CARRIED

## **NEXT BOARD MEETING DATES**

July 10th Nominations—Baton Rouge Office August 21st -Baton Rouge-Claiborne Building December 4th—Baton Rouge-Claiborne Building

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** 

TO ADJOURN THE ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

**MOTION:** 

**TERRY SMITH** 

**SECOND:** 

WAYNE LEFLEUR

**MOTION:** 

**CARRIED** 

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Joiner, Chairman

Rickey Fabra, Secretary/Treasurer