



## *Office of the State Fire Marshal*

---

OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
ELEVATOR SAFETY REVIEW BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, May 10, 2018

A meeting of the Illinois Elevator Safety Review Board was held at the Suburban North Regional Office Facility in Des Plaines, IL on May 10, 2018.

Board Members Present: Chairman Joseph Block  
Aaron Adams  
Daniel Baumann  
Ed Christensen  
Thomas Ganiere  
Gerald Gross  
Joshua Hendryx  
Matthew Hunt  
Tom Jirik  
Robert Shanklin  
Kelly Weller

Board Members Absent: William Bogdan  
Craig Johnson  
Jennifer Notte

OSFM Staff Present: Mathew Perez, State Fire Marshal  
Robert Capuani, Director of Elevator  
Matthew Sebek, Deputy General Counsel  
Chris DiBiase, Inspector  
Loren Doherty, Inspector  
Carlotta Passmore, Administrative Assistant

OSFM Consultant: Dick Gregory

Non-Member Speakers: Jimmy Woellert, Thyssenkrupp Elevator  
Patty Young, Thompson Elevator  
John Thompson, Jr., Thompson Elevator  
Steve Stuard, Stuard & Associates, Inc.  
Mike Moran, QEITF  
Margaret Vaught, Illinois Council of Code Administrators

---

1. Chairman Block called the meeting to order at 8:41 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Mr. Robert Capuani
3. Approval of Minutes from June 8, 2017:

Motion to approve minutes as is: Ed Christiansen  
Second: Terry Shanklin  
Motion approved by voice vote

4. Old Business:

Elevator Progress Report – OSFM's Elevator Safety Division Manager Capuani  
35,845 Conveyances  
Licenses issued this year 206  
Registrations 273  
Certificates 4,461

5. New Business: (Note that wherever statements are attributed to individuals in these minutes, they are offered as summaries and not as verbatim accounts)

A. Election of Secretary for the Board

Chairman Block moved for nominations for position of Board Secretary. No nominations offered. Motion tabled.

B. Presentation by OSFM Legal Counsel on previous issues relating to decorum at Elevator Board meetings and Proposed Rules for Public Comment.

Motion to approve Rules as is: Terry Shanklin

Second: Dan Bauman

Motion approved by voice vote (Copy of approved rules is attached for reference.)

Thomas Gainere: Suggested that members of the public wishing to make public comments be allowed to make those comments before any action is taken by the Board.

C. Presentation from ThyssenKrupp Elevator on their EVO product for Board consideration and vote to approve:

Chairman Block invited Jimmy Woellert of Thyssenkrupp Elevator to make a presentation of new technology for the Board's consideration under section 35(a) of the Elevator Safety and Regulation Act. Mr. Woellert then briefly presented that his company is bringing to market the Evolution 200 product which he described as an alternative means suspension machine less elevator. He then invited questions from the Board. Several members of the Board (including Mr. Shanklin, Mr. Adams, and Mr. Weller) as well as Mr. Capuani and Mr. Gregory engaged Mr. Woellert on questions concerning technical aspects of this technology. Mr. Woellert

responded and included (by telephone) Thyssenkrupp Engineer Johnny Stockstill to assist in answering these questions. Mr. Weller recommended that, if this product/technology is approved by the Board, that Thyssenkrupp provide a progress report on the use of its product in Illinois one year after approval.

Motion to Approve the use of this product (Thyssenkrupp Evolution 200) in Illinois with a status and progress report from Thyssenkrupp in approximately one year: Kelly Weller  
Second: Terry Shanklin  
Motion approved by voice vote

- D. Board's revisiting discussion from June 8, 2017 Board meeting of A17.1 2016, Sec 8.11.3.1.6 (Note that attempts are made here to reflect as much of the discussion as possible, beyond merely the general summary required by the Open Meetings Act, but this does not necessarily purport to reflect a verbatim record of this discussion):

Chairman Block gave the floor to OSFM's Elevator Safety Division manager Capuani who explained that at the Board meeting June 8, 2017, the Board voted to adopt A17.1 2016 as written. Prior to the board voting to adopt A17.1 2016 as written, the Board discussed whether A17.1 as written required an elevator inspector to physically witness the testing of the fireman's recall activation connected smoke sensors. At the June 8 meeting, the Board came to the conclusion that it believed the adoption of A17.1 2016 as written included the requirement that an elevator inspector must physically witness the testing of the fireman's recall activation of connected smoke sensors. Shortly after the Board meeting of June 8, 2017, consultant to the Board, Mr. Gregory, made a formal request to ASME to inquire as to whether A.17.1 2016 as written included the requirement that an elevator inspector physically witness the testing of fireman's recall activation of connected smoke sensors. Mr. Capuani then ceded the floor.

Dick Gregory: I made this formal request for an interpretation and the interpretation was no, the elevator mechanic does not have to witness the smoke detector activating fire fighter services and referred me back to three older interpretation that said the same thing. The answer is a little involved due to the publication error between traction elevators and hydraulic which will get fixed in 2019. The direct answer is no.

Bob Capuani: This is not really a direct answer to your question, correct, because they are referring to old inquiries.

Dick Gregory: No, the old inquiries were just for reference.

Bob Capuani: I would like to read one more interpretation. ASME QEI interpretations, subject QEI 2010 date issued September 22, 2010, questioned, when words witnessing are used in paragraph 2.2(a) and 2.2 b. Is it intended that the duty of the inspector is to be physically present to verify the test results, prior to serve test results as described in 2.2c1, the reply was yes.

When the inspector is not physically present, it is acceptable for the inspector to certify the results of the test per paragraph 2.2C(1) based on the elevator mechanic written or verbal confirmation of the test result, the answer is no.

Dick Gregory: And I submitted another request for interpretation, in the same line, the background information is the same as the first interpretation, and that is in the jurisdiction that requires the fire emergency system smokes and whole system to be tested by a licensed fire system company which is the State of Illinois, is that kind of a jurisdiction. Is it required that the inspector be present for that or can they see the mechanic make sure the elevator does its thing? If you as the State of Illinois have a smoke detector system and its been required to be annually tested and required by a licensed in the State of Illinois fire alarm company. They test the fire alarm system and they test the output in the fire alarm system are working, but the fire alarm company knows zipo about the elevator. The elevator company tests that the elevator if it gets the input and does what it's supposed to do. The question is do we require the fire alarm company, the elevator company all at the same time? I submitted that interpretation and it's being assigned but, it will probably not happen real fast at ASME. It will probably be a good six months before I get an answer.

Bob Capuani: I think the concern we have here is the link between the sensor and control room. I would like to read another interpretation from NFPA 72 in 2013 and 2016. As an example, testing of the elevator fire extension shut down functions, we require a coordinated multi discipline efforts with presence of qualified personnel for the alarm system, elevator systems and other building systems. The presence of inspection authority might also be needed in some jurisdictions, which you guys are the jurisdictions. This plan should also assure that all appropriate personnel are present when needed and that the testing requirements will quote the fire alarm system and elevator systems are fulfilled. This is section 8.14.2.7.1 NFPA 17, 2013 and 16.

Dick Gregory: Wait, those sections you just read were ASME?

Bob Capuani: I am just reading another one from NFPA.

Terry Shanklin: Here is the situation. The interpretation we are talking about is an interpretation of convenience, right? In my lifetime, I found out it's always harder to do the right thing. I wanna say 50 years ago half way around the world, I was taught never take the easy way, people get hurt, people die. Don't walk on a road; keep your feet dry; it may take a little long to get there, but you will get there safe. The problem is what Mr. Capuani is talking about is nobody checks the link between the initiating

device and the elevator system. A person can come in and check the initiating device that says its fine, it works right and the elevator company can simulate on the controller on the elevator system that the device is triggered right. But they do not recall the elevator that uses the initiating devices. The problem is that there is interpretation all over the place; I got one here from a question. When conducting period test is it acceptable to activate the input on the elevator controller in lieu of activating the sensor device to satisfy the intent of A17.1 phase one emergency recall? The answer is testing the fire alarm initiating device is not addressed in A17.1, the authority having jurisdiction may require the system to be tested by initiating the fire alarm-initiated device.

Matthew Sebek: Can you identify what you are reading, sir?

Terry Shanklin: That's an inquiry 09-10.

Matthew Sebek: ASME?

Terry Shanklin: Yes A17.2 which is the guide, the inspector's guide. I passed out some sheets to the members of the board and Bob already read the one, right, where you have the interpretation from the QEI standards from elevator inspector which is a direct conflict from the interpretation Mr. Gregory read. The second part page two which is numbered number 2 is from A17.1 section 8.6.4.19.6 Fire Fighter Emergency Apparatus, phase 1 and 2 shall be tested to determine the performance with the applicable requirements. Phase 1 recall shall be tested by individually activating fire alarm initiating device inputs to the elevator controllers, that's a little ambiguous. We need you to believe that you are going to initiate using the detector. They talk about the input; they are simulating the input; they are not checking the wire between the initiating device and the elevator system. You don't know what happened to that, don't know if it's corroded, you don't know if a rat ate through it. The next one on page 3 which refers you to 2.27, 2.27.3.2.6 of A17.1, it talks about emergency recalls. You have smoke detectors in the machine room and in the hoist way. If there's a fire in the machine room or fire in the hoist way, that device if activated, if it's connected, will recall those conveyances to the first floor. When the conveyances get to the first floor that halo inside the elevator will flash. That tells the first responders that there is a problem with that conveyance and if you get on that elevator that might be your coffin, because it tells them not to right that elevator, but if they don't check those devices, initiating devices in the machine and they don't check those devices in the hoist way and that thing doesn't blink you are going to have first responders getting on an elevator in a dangerous situation and expiring in a terrible manner. I think it's a common sense thing. We are the Elevator Safety Review Board. It's not about convenience or hard to this, it's not about being

(unintelligible). It's about safety and taking care of the riding public and the people who responds in emergencies. They are heroes in this society. I put a thing together, I would like to make a motion if I can Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Block: Can I ask for other comments? Are you suggesting that every device should?

Mr. Shanklin: Let me read the motion, the way I see it we are the AHJ. Which we are. We can set the bar, we set the bar of safety, we predict type of conditions that people are going to live under. I make a motion that we sat the practice of the State of Illinois. Where initiating devices are present in an elevator recall system, the system will be tested annually by recalling the elevators to Phase I and activating every initiating device in that system to insure that the link between each device and the system are operable, and programmable devices have the correct address. Testing will be witnessed by a licensed Illinois Elevator Inspector. I would like to make that motion. (Note, a verbatim copy of this verbally presented motion is attached).

Mr. Sebek: Mr. Gregory is our agency's consultant on this matter and the reason he sought the interpretation.

Mr. Shanklin: That's the minimum.

Mr. Sebek: If I can complete my thought, he received those interpretation after being requested to ask for them, so I think the idea as I approached this meeting was that there may be alternative motions on this topic. If that's the case I don't want anyone to not discuss their alternative motion further before we vote on one motion, because that seems to be putting the cart before the horse. Mr. Gregory, do you have anything further to say on this issue or offer an alternative motion?

Mr. Gregory: No.

Motion to accept: Terry Shanklin

Second: Dan Bauman

Motion Approved (10-1) by Record Vote as follows:

Aaron Adams-yes  
Daniel Baumann-yes  
Ed Christensen-yes  
Thomas Ganiere-yes  
Gerald Gross-no  
Joshua Hendryx-yes  
Matthew Hunt-yes

Tom Jirik-yes  
Robert Shanklin-yes  
Kelly Weller-yes  
Chairman Block-yes

6. Public Comment (again, statements attributed to individuals are offered as summaries and not verbatim accounts)

Mr. Block: We will move on to the public comment section. I believe I have four parties who have committed to make comment and Patty, you wish to make comments to the board. This is to remind public comments so not to expect answers necessary from the Board and that you have five minutes.

Patty Young: Patty Young with Thompson Elevator Inspection Service, I would like to commit on item 5 D which is the conversation we just ended, request that based on the decision that the board has made that the Office of State Fire Marshal issue a letter that can be posted on the website to acknowledge that there has been a change from the code from 2013 to 2016 that is not going to include this testing intensity and that we are only the messenger of the code and that it will impact the building owners. We all remember that when there were the upgrades, there was a lot of push back and then there were changes and adjustments to it, so this is going to be a request that we as inspectors would like to communicate to the building owners as to why they are now being required to do such testing. The elevator companies when they are working with their customers will need to have the same message told to the building owners as to why there is going to be additional cost and time. A lot of buildings and hospitals are going to be impacted greatly, condominiums. There will be as Terry has mentioned all the cars will be coming down and no available elevators. If testing is done, people from a higher level and there is a testing issue, 1<sup>st</sup> responders can't get to them as quickly as they could if there was an available elevator to address their needs. It's going to be a game changer how the building prepares for this testing environment that you as the board just voted on. I am requesting that documentation in a letter on State Fire Marshal letterhead is available to all of us who will be talking and communicating to the buildings.

Mr. Block: Thank you. John Thompson.

John Thompson:

I just reiterate what Patty said because this will be a major inconvenience to the buildings and the elevator inspectors usually take it from the chin from the building owner this is our idea. We want to make sure the Board makes it clear it is a ruling from the Board and it isn't something that different inspectors throughout the state came up with on their own and clear it's a Board decision this testing will be done.

Mr. Block: Thank you. Steve.

Steve Stuard: Steve Stuard – Stuard and Associates Elevator Inspections. A couple of things. I want to clarify to make sure whether or not heat detectors are included in this proposal, in this motion. The term fire initiating devices have been thrown about, I want to clarify whether heat protector are part of this procedure. Secondly, this is not going to be a minimal expense or minimal inconvenience. OSFM, your larger hospitals, it's not two or three smoke heads are going to pop off, it's a dozen, its two dozen, it's four cars in a bank. Those people will have exposure and increase in financial cost. That's all. Thanks.

Joe. Block: Thank you. Margaret.

Margaret Vaughn:

Margaret Vaughn, I am with the Illinois Council of Code Administrators, as far as procedurally the effectiveness, the effective date of this, does the board recommend this go to JCAR for adoption or is it effectively immediately as far as procedurally?

Mr. Sebek: Procedurally, how that would work is we would be writing. . .

Mr. Block: It's public comment.

Mr. Sebek: I would prefer to answer the question, if that's okay. We are going to draft of language. Which would be formally adopted or potentially edited at the next meeting and then it would, of course, go through JCAR. Thank you.

Mr. Block: That concludes the public comments.

Mike Moran: Mr. Chairman can I make a comment? I did not know I was supposed to fill out a form.

Mr. Block: I will allow.

Mike Moran: My name is Mike Moran, elevator mechanic, elevator inspector. I sit on quite a few ASME Code committees. I'm a chair of ASME committee. I just want to comment on, I heard talk about water flow and all that. From what I understood it was about fire alarm initiating devices, the device that initiates I believe water flow and all that comes after the fact. I don't think that will be an issue what you guys are dealing with there. I also wanted to comment on Mr. Gregory's questions to the committee. The committee passed around questions and sent it on for an interpretation. The question was, is it permitted to test the elevator operation including the FEO requirements without testing the sensors which are the fire and alarm initiating devices and the committee said yes and referred the question to those old interpretations and leading the authority having jurisdiction which is the Board, you guys. I also wanted to say the A17 one part of it is the

testing part, it says yes, the mechanic or elevator personnel can test that with a jumper on the circuit board just to make sure the elevator works fine. The ASME, QEI 1 standards governs the inspectors and has a clear interpretation which say that inspectors need to be there physically to witness the test. That's the difference, they can test how they see fit, but the inspectors need to be there to witness it and that's the difference. What they're doing about the link between the detector and the circuit board on the controller is a very important thing because a lot of inspectors are finding that those detectors and fire alarms initiating devices are not working properly where the wire got broke and somebody put a screw through the ceiling. I commend you guys for doing the right thing.

Mr. Block: Thank you.

7. Presentation by State Fire Marshal

Chairman Block then opened the floor to the State Fire Marshal, Mr. Perez who thanked the Board for its dedication to elevator safety. He then presented each member of the Board with an OSFM challenge coin and certificate as a token of his and OSFM's respect and thanks for all of their efforts to maintain safe elevators in Illinois.

8. Adjournment:

Motion: Dan Baumann

Second: Kelly Weller

Motion approved by voice vote



## **RULES FOR MAKING PUBLIC COMMENTS AT ELEVATOR SAFETY REVIEW BOARD MEETINGS**

**(APPROVED 5/10/18)**

The meetings of the Elevator Safety Review Board ("Board") are subject to the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/1, *et seq.*) and open to the public.

Members of the public have a right to speak at Board meetings.

Comments by members of the public are limited to five minutes total, unless the Board chairperson ("chair") alters the limit.

A speaker may not cede time to another speaker.

Members of the public may only speak during the allotted speaking time or if asked a question by a member of the commission, with the permission of the Board chair.

The Board chair will determine the order of the speakers.

Public comments must pertain to one or more items on the Board's agenda for that meeting, or otherwise under discussion at the meeting at which the commentary is offered.

The chair, in consultation with the Board, expressly retains the right under these rules to stop any speaker who raises issues that are either not on the agenda or are not otherwise directly germane to the meeting at hand.

The chair, in consultation with the Board, expressly retains the right under these rules to stop and/or remove any speaker whose comments compromise the decorum and order of the Board's control of the meeting in any way. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of profanity, abusive language, threats, interruptions of the Board or its members, and disruptive behavior.

There will be a designated Public Comment period ("designated period") at each Board meeting. However, to the extent that the Board chair, in consultation with the Board, deems it appropriate to permit individuals wishing to use their allotted time to speak on a particular issue germane to the Board's consideration of particular issues prior to the designated period, the Board chair can permit comments to be made outside of the designated period.

Members of the public may distribute written copies of the comments they intend to make at a Board meeting. Any such copies, once in the possession and control of the Board, become public records subject to FOIA. Written comments pertaining to an agenda item submitted on behalf of members of the public not in attendance at the meeting will not be read aloud at the meeting.

Members of the public may not bring in signs, banners or other display materials. A member of the public may record a Board meeting, subject to the constraints imposed by section 2.05 of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2.05).

Individuals in need of interpreters or other special needs must contact the Board Chair at least one calendar week prior to the meeting in order to effectuate the request for special accommodations. Reasonable accommodations will be made free of charge.

The Board reserves the right to suspend these rules in case of emergency or unforeseen circumstances.

Verbatim Transcript of Handwritten Motion Approved at 5/10/18 Illinois Elevator Safety Review Board Meeting re: Agenda Item 5D.

Where initiating devices are present in an elevator recall system, the system will be tested annually by recalling the elevators to Phase I [and] activating every initiating device in that system to insure that the link between each device and the system are [sic] operable, and programmable devices have the correct address. Testing will be witnessed by a licensed Illinois Elevator Inspector.