

**MINUTES OF THE  
THIRD BOILERS & PRESSURE VESSELS  
TECHNICAL COUNCIL MEETING OF 2014**

**DATE:** May 9, 2014

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.

**LOCATION:** **Holiday Inn**, Edmonton South

**PRESENT:** Izak Roux, Vice Chair

Mike Clancy  
Dr. Magdi Ghobrial  
Brian Grantham  
Brian Lade, Chair  
Darwin Leitch  
David Miller  
Grant Peuramaki  
John Valens  
Jim Weiss  
John Wolff

Dr. Ken Lau, Administrator & Chief Inspector  
Mike Poehlmann, ABSA  
Allan Hantelmann, Alberta Municipal Affairs  
Harry Li, Alberta Municipal Affairs  
Tyler Wightman, Safety Codes Council  
Asha Clarke, Alberta Municipal Affairs  
Karen Pottruff, Alberta Municipal Affairs (arrived at 10:00 a.m.)

**GUEST:** Randy Kvill, Heritage Boilers Association of Alberta (10:00 to 10:45 a.m.)

**REGRETS:** Marvin Kossowan  
Todd Loran  
Terry Wiseman

**RECORDER:** Sandi Orr

**2014 MEETINGS:** September 12 – regular meeting  
October 17 – special meeting  
November 21 – regular meeting

## **A. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Izak Roux at 9:02 a.m.

## **B. Introductions**

Darwin Leitch was introduced and a round table introduction was held.

## **C. Adoption of Agenda**

The following item was added to the agenda:

- F.2.03.14 - Pressure Equipment Exemption Order Regulation

**Brian Lade / John Wolff moved to adopt the agenda as amended; CARRIED**

## **D. Adoption of Minutes**

The April 11, 2014 meeting minutes were reviewed and the following corrections were made:

- Meeting Location – corrected to read Holiday Inn Edmonton South
- Brian Grantham was added to the Power Engineers Working Group on page 3

**Brian Grantham / Mike Clancy moved to approve the minutes of April 11, 2014, as corrected; CARRIED**

The January 23-24, 2014 revised minutes were reviewed. It was noted that these minutes were previously adopted but further amendments have been made since then.

**John Valens / Brian Lade moved to approve the minutes of January 23-24, 2014, as redrafted; CARRIED**

The March 7, 2014 minutes were reviewed and the following corrections were made:

- Djordje Srnica to be listed as “Acting Administrator”
- Dr. Ken Lau, Administrator & Chief Inspector to be added under Regrets
- All occurrences of the acronym AWOK to be changed to AWOC

**Mike Clancy / Brian Lade moved to approve the minutes of March 7, 2014, as corrected; CARRIED**

With regard to the December 2013 minutes, the Recorder will revise the draft for circulation by email for adoption at the September 2014 meeting. [S.Orr / Lade]

## **E. Business Arising from the Minutes**

### **F.5.02.10 Clarification on the use of “Overpressure Protection by System Design” as provided for under the Regulation vs. Code provisions by the Administrator – update**

The Director of Codes and Standards for Building, Fire and Accessibility reported on the two issues before the sub-council. A summary of the interpretation was provided with a follow up letter to be provided later in the day:

- The regulatory interpretation is fairly straight forward. As over pressure protection has been a regulation requirement dating back to at least 1975, requiring over pressure protection compliance by pressure relief devices (or through other means such as OPPSD acceptable to the Chief Inspector under the Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act other means such as OPPSD, does not constitute any sort of retroactivity.
- Implementation to ensure code compliance is much more complex.

Although requiring code compliance for OPPSD is not retroactive, clarification was also provided during the discussion on the applicability of retroactivity of newly introduced regulatory requirements. Although newly introduced regulatory requirements would not typically be enforced retroactively, the Administrator also has the regulatory authority to enforce such requirements if something is deemed as an unsafe condition.

With respect to over pressure protection, the rule has always been there and owners have always been obligated to be compliant through either the prescriptive path through use of pressure relief devices or an alternate solution such as OPPSD acceptable to the Administrator. It was recognized that from an industry perspective, becoming compliant might come at great expense and resources.

The Administrator and Chief Inspector explained the reasons for creating the OPPSD guideline. From a safety perspective, an article was published recently in the Pressure News highlighting a serious incident, which could easily cause fatality to heighten the awareness of owners and operators on the safety risks when OPPSD is not correctly applied. It was also noted that in many cases in existing plant operation, there is likely compliance but possibly the required documentation is not in place or not readily available.

The Director of Codes and Standards for Building, Fire and Accessibility mentioned that from an implementation perspective, an example would be the 10-minute rule in the Alberta Building Code whereby a gradual approach was taken to ensure compliance.

The Administrator noted that the OPPSD Guidelines were not developed in isolation and a great deal of stakeholder input was sought for the last two years during its development.

The Director of Codes and Standards for Building, Fire and Accessibility will have the letter to the Council Chair later in the day. [J.Orr]

Members of the Sub Council recognized that the letter, when available, would provide the opportunity to discuss the matter with leadership within each organization in order to determine a path forward for over pressure protection compliance where necessary.

It was noted that the guidelines still need to be revised removing the term “directive” to reflect the nature that the information bulletin provides guidelines as to how OPPSD can be achieved.. [Lau]

#### **F.4.01.11 Apprenticeship and Industry Training and B Pressure Welders**

It was reported that the Pressure Welders Regulation is at the Minister’s Office and it is believed its approval will be included on the agenda of the May 27, 2014 Cabinet meeting.

It was reported that AWOC has expressed concerns regarding the inability for some apprentices to challenge the Tack Welders Certification and that this will create hardship for approximately 300 to 500 apprentices of other trades. It was recognized by the sub-council

that this is not creating hardship, but should be seen as a potential further opportunity. Apprentices are currently employed in tack welding when the tacks are being removed. This same process may continue such as provided by the interpretation on tack welding issued by the Administrator under IB13-013 Rev. 1. However, in that case, this may be seen as contravening the provision of the proposed regulation amendment and further review on this subject is necessary.

Rather than stalling the regulation amendment process because of the tack welding certification concern, it was suggested that the Amendment Regulation should continue moving forward and that consideration would be given between now and the October in force date on a potential revision to include some other apprentices for tack welding certification once this has been determined. For that consideration, it was also recognized that information would be needed on what skills are acquired at each year of apprenticeship.

Caution was expressed regarding having a regulation amendment adopted, only to propose another amendment shortly thereafter. Consideration should be given to either whether any proposed amendment is taking away someone's livelihood or if it is simply opening up new opportunities.

The Technical Advisor will bring forward proposed wording, background information and a 3-column document for discussion. [Hantelmann]

The Chair reported on minor wording changes brought to him by the Ministry and he has given his endorsement to the wording changes, as these did not change the context nor the intent.

#### **F.4.03.11 Municipal Affairs Legislation Process**

##### **a) SCA Review – Update**

Karen Pottruff provided an overview of current legislative processes. It was also reported that the Agendas and Priorities Committee would be reviewing the request to consult on the proposed changes to the Act at their May 28, 2014 meeting. If this moves forward, it is hoped to have the amendments adopted in the spring of 2015.

##### **b) AWOC – Page 17 Listing of Key Issues**

These issues have been addressed and this item will be removed from the agenda.[Paches]

#### **F.1.03.13 Expiry of Variance for Gas Fired Process Equipment**

A status update on the STANDATA Variance (VAR-GAS-01-13) was circulated as information (Handout #2) and it was noted that the Administrator of Gas Safety would be willing to come to a future meeting to discuss this further.

It was noted that the status update does state that if there is not a sufficient supply of IBs or CBs, a new variance would be required to ensure that the industry has a temporary pathway to comply.

Although it was recognized, the subject matter is related to gas safety discipline and thus outside of this council's jurisdiction, continued concern was noted relative to the need for more active consultation with industry.

The following action item remained outstanding:

- A letter of concern to be forwarded to the Chair of the Gas Technical Council with a copy to the TCC Chair and AMA. [Lade/Roux/Loran]

#### **F.2.05.13 Continuing Education for SCOs**

It was reported that all sub-council members were sent the draft proposed model and the feedback was favourable. The working group met and made a few minor revisions.

The next steps include a broader consultation with all SCOs and their employers, including a presentation at the upcoming Safety Codes Council Annual Conference in June. It is hoped that the final draft model can be presented to all sub-councils in the fall before bringing it forward to the Technical Coordinating Committee.

#### **F.6.02.14 Appointment of an additional Vice Chair**

It was clarified that for the purposes of succession planning, it was hoped that someone would fill this additional Vice Chair position within their first term.

The floor was opened for nominations. Jim Weiss was nominated and declined with thanks.

All members within their first term were asked to give this some thought for further discussion at the September meeting.

### **F. New Business**

#### **F.1.03.14 Heritage Boilers Association of Alberta**

The Technical Advisor reported on the limit of 250 kW for traction engines for the new traction engine operation certification that is introduced in the amended Power Engineers Regulation last December and that there are a number of traction engines in service over that size limit. Question was also raised with the Fireman's Certificate as to whether a Fireman's Certificate would continue be acceptable until these individuals have taken the new certification program.

Randy Kvill was welcomed to the meeting and provided a spreadsheet of inventory of operating and not operating heritage boilers (traction engines) that are known to exist in Alberta. The list will be recirculated with the minutes (Handout #1). It was recognized that the list is not complete and it will be updated following proper verification. Randy Kvill reported that the new training and testing program of the Association started in the fall 2014 and over 60 individuals have completed the program. It was reported that the 250kW was an arbitrary number based on the information available at ABSA when the amendment regulation was being drafted. Since then, it has been learned there are 148 (25%) that are over 250kW.

It was questioned whether there was a significant difference between 250kW and 400kW machines and reported that because of the size an incident could likely have consequences that are more serious.

With regard to the question regarding the Fireman's Certificate, it was noted that the certificates are still valid. ABSA just does not issue new certificates because provisions for obtaining a new Fireman's certificate had been removed from the Power Engineers Regulation for many years already.

With regard to the equipment over 250 kW, it was reported that most of the 6 or 7 owners have at least one 4<sup>th</sup> class operator eligible. It was suggested that the Power Engineers Working Group review this issue and bring forward a recommended to the sub-council.

[Miller]

The Technical Advisor reported that Saskatchewan is looking at a similar program and British Columbia will be adopting what Alberta has put in place.

#### **F.2.03.14 Pressure Equipment Exemption Order Regulation**

A brief discussion was held regarding how far to proceed with this agenda item. It was explained that the Pressure Equipment Exemption Order Regulation expires August 1, 2014 and it is hoped to move this forward through the summer.

It was questioned regarding the need for the Regulation. The Administrator and Chief Inspector provided history on the Regulation which provides (i) the same exemptions originally in the Boilers and Pressure Vessels Act (B&PV Act) but not in the Safety Codes Act, and (ii) clarity to industry of which pressure equipment related regulations apply and don't apply to different equipment.

A three column document circulated with the agenda was reviewed in detail and the following decisions were made:

- 1(2) – proposed change, deleted, consensus was reached to leave as currently worded
- 2(1) – consensus was reached to accept the proposed change
- 2(1)(f) – consensus was reached to accept the proposed change
- New 2(1)(g) – the context was accepted but it was suggested this wording be similar to what is written in 2(1)(f)
- 2(2) – consensus was reached to accept the proposed change
- 2(2)(e) – consensus was reached to delete from 2(2)
- 2(2)(i) – consensus was reached to delete from 2(2)
- 2(2)(m) – consensus was reached to delete from 2(2)
- New 2(2)(p) – consensus was reached to accept the proposed change
- New 2(2)(q) – consensus was reached to accept the proposed change
- New 2(2)(r)(i) – consensus was reached to accept the proposed change
- New 2(2)(r)(ii) – consensus was reached to accept the proposed change
- New 2(2)(s) – consensus was reached to accept the proposed change
- New 3(a) – consensus was reached to accept the proposed change
- New 3(b) – consensus was reached to accept the proposed change
- New 3(c) – consensus was reached to accept the proposed change
- 2(2)(j) – consensus was reached to accept the proposed change as revised to read: ...and hydraulic or pneumatic **actuating** cylinders...

It was noted that proposed amendment to the Regulation would result in a consequential amendment to the Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation as a result of moving the exemptions listed there to this Exemption Order.

It was requested that the Exemption Order Regulation be referenced in AB-516 “Pressure Equipment Safety Regulation User Guide” document. Relative to reciprocating compressors referenced in 2(2)(j) it was also suggested that further clarification be included in AB-516.

**Mike Clancy / Jim Weiss moved to accept the draft Pressure Equipment Exemption Order in principle, as revised, with the final version to be circulated for approval by Letter Ballot; CARRIED**

It was noted a recommendation to the Minister and the waiving of the 90-day review period would be included in the Letter Ballot.

## **G. Standing Agenda Items**

It was noted that all Working Group Chairs are responsible for bringing forward any future revisions of their Terms of Reference to the sub-council for approval as needed.

### **(a) Pressure Welders Working Group**

Izak Roux reported that the syllabus for both new certifications (Tack Welders and Welder Examiner in Training) is just about finished. The working group is planning their next meeting in August.

The Terms of Reference was reviewed and the following revisions were made:

- Title: ~~Pressure Welders Welding~~ Working...
- Subtitle: Terms of Reference ~~as of May 9, 2014~~
- Membership and Support: second “period” to be deleted at the end of the first bullet
- Membership and Support: fourth bullet - ...working group ~~and can participate in a vote regarding a proposal/motion whenever they are conversant with the topic.~~
- Ex-officio members: ~~Rob Rosenberg~~ Bob Roseberg

### **(b) Power Engineers Working Group**

David Miller presented the draft Terms of Reference. The document was reviewed and the following revisions were made:

- Subtitle: Terms of Reference ~~as of May 9, 2014~~
- Addition to Mandate: ~~Follow up and review of Heritage Boilers~~
- Membership and Support: fourth bullet - ...working group ~~and can participate in a vote regarding a proposal/motion whenever they are conversant with the topic.~~
- Membership addition: ~~Brian Grantham~~

### **(c) PESR – Codes & Standards, Design Survey/Registration and New Equipment Inspection Working Group**

Brian Lade reported that the task force for Division 2 will work with the Administrator and Chief Inspector with regard to the upcoming changes to the Regulation.

The Terms of Reference was reviewed and the following revisions were made:

- Subtitle: Terms of Reference ~~[April 2014]~~ ~~as of May 9, 2014~~
- Mandate: Fifth bullet “???” to be deleted
- Membership and Support: brackets to be removed from the fourth bullet
- Ex-officio members: “Allan Hantelmann??? AMA” to be deleted and replaced with AMA representative as requested; “???? SCC” to be deleted and replaced with SCC representative as requested

(d) PESR – In-Service Inspections, Repairs & Alterations and PEIM Working Group

When reviewing the working group's mandate, it was suggested that it be expanded to be more forward thinking.

The Terms of Reference was reviewed and the following revisions were made:

- Subtitle: Terms of Reference [~~April 2014~~] as of May 9, 2014
- Mandate: ...system design (OPPSD) for existing In Service Pressure Equipment.
- Membership and Support: fourth bullet - ...working group and can participate in a vote regarding a proposal/motion whenever they are conversant with the topic.
- Ex-officio members: ...support to the working group as needed

**Mike Clancy / John Valens moved to adopt the Terms of Reference, as revised for the Pressure Welders Working Group, the Power Engineers Working Group, the PESR – Codes & Standards, Design Survey/Registration and New Equipment Inspection Working Group and the PESR – In-Service Inspections, Repairs & Alterations and PEIM Working Group, as revised; CARRIED**

A brief update was provided on the Council's web portal and it's relocation to a server maintained by the Council.

## **H. Correspondence**

The Chair reminded everyone of the upcoming AGM and Conference in Banff from June 3 to 6, 2014. New members were advised that the conference fees, accommodations and travel expenses are paid by the Council.

It has yet to be confirmed whether the incident report resulting in multi-fatalities in Europe can be shared publicly. The report will be circulated to sub-council members but it was asked that rather than sharing the email, individuals paraphrase the contents.

A brief discussion was held regarding the September meeting and although the Recorder is not available, this was scheduled in conjunction with Dr. Lau's retirement function and thusly, no date change was considered.

## **I. ABSA/Administrator Report**

### ***CSA Committee Report***

There was nothing new to report.

### ***ASME Boilers & Pressure Vessel Code Proposals***

There was nothing new to report.

### ***ABSA Report***

The following was reported:

- Industry continues to be reminded of cold temperature issues and failures
- Recent boiler tube failure believed to be an issue with operating culture
- Individual caught cheating on the Power Engineers examination
- Guidelines are being working on for Thermal Liquid Heating Systems



## **J. Technical Coordinating Committee Update**

There was nothing new to report.

## **K. Next Meeting**

The following meetings were reconfirmed:

- June 3 to 6 – SCC Conference and AGM, Banff
- September 12 – Regular session
- October 17 – Special meeting
- November 21 – Regular session

The Chair provided a brief update on a propane facility explosion in Ontario and an incident at an LNG facility along the Washington/Oregon border.

It was questioned regarding any issues with carbon steel 105 and 106. The Administrator and Chief Inspector reported on recent changes in the ASME Code but nothing relative to this specific concern. It was suggested that the PESR – Codes & Standards, Design Survey/Registration and New Equipment Inspection Working Group look into this issue further. [Lade]

**Brian Lade / John Valens moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

**--- ACTION ITEMS ---**

**D. Adoption of Minutes**

With regard to the December 2013 minutes, the Recorder will revise the draft for circulation by email for adoption at the September 2014 meeting. [S.Orr / Lade]

**F.5.02.10 Clarification on the use of “Overpressure Protection by System Design” as provided for under the Regulation vs. Code provisions by the Administrator – update**

The Director of Codes and Standards for Building, Fire and Accessibility will have the letter to the Council Chair later in the day. [J.Orr]

It was noted that the guidelines still need to be revised from the term “directive” to an information bulletin. [Lau]

**F.4.01.11 Apprenticeship and Industry Training and B Pressure Welders**

The Technical Advisor will bring forward proposed wording, background information and a 3-column document for discussion. [Hantelmann]

**F.4.03.11 Municipal Affairs Legislation Process**

**b) AWOC – Page 17 Listing of Key Issues**

These issues have been addressed and this item will be removed from the agenda. [Paches]

**F.1.03.13 Expiry of Variance for Gas Fired Process Equipment**

A letter of concern is to be forwarded to the Chair of the Gas Technical Council with a copy to the TCC Chair and AMA. [Lade/Roux/Loran]

**F.1.03.14 Heritage Boilers Association of Alberta**

It was suggested that the Power Engineers Working Group review this issue and bring forward a recommended to the sub-council. [Miller]

**K. Next Meeting**

PESR – Codes & Standards, Design Survey/Registration and New Equipment Inspection Working Group look into the issue regarding carbon steel 105 and 106. [Lade]

**--- M O T I O N S ---**

**C. Adoption of Agenda**

**Brian Lade / John Wolff moved to adopt the agenda as amended; CARRIED**

**D. Adoption of Minutes**

**Brian Grantham / Mike Clancy moved to approve the minutes of April 11, 2014, as corrected; CARRIED**

**John Valens / Brian Lade moved to approve the minutes of January 23-24, 2014, as redrafted; CARRIED**

**Mike Clancy / Brian Lade moved to approve the minutes of March 7, 2014, as corrected; CARRIED**

**F.2.03.14 Pressure Equipment Exemption Order**

**Mike Clancy / Jim Weiss moved to accept the draft Pressure Equipment Exemption Order in principle, as revised, with the final version to be circulated for approval by Letter Ballot; CARRIED**

**G. Standing Agenda Items**

**Mike Clancy / John Valens moved to adopt the Terms of Reference, as revised for the Pressure Welders Working Group, the Power Engineers Working Group, the PESR – Codes & Standards, Design Survey/Registration and New Equipment Inspection Working Group and the PESR – In-Service Inspections, Repairs & Alterations and PEIM Working Group, as revised; CARRIED**

**K. Next Meeting**

**Brian Lade / John Valens moved that the meeting be adjourned; CARRIED**