

For more information, call Andy Gallagher
(304) 415-4187, or andy@wvhi.org
Dec. 4, 2014

Cease and desist legislation OK'd by state regulatory board

CHARLESTON -- Legislation to make it simpler to close down unlicensed contractors in the manufactured housing industry was approved by state regulators on Thursday. The proposal will be submitted to the Legislature in January by the state Division of Labor.

The West Virginia Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Board also approved licenses for five manufactured housing contractors.

The State Board has been seeking unsuccessfully for years to prosecute an unlicensed contractor who is illegally hauling and setting up manufactured homes. Mitch Woodrum, deputy labor commissioner who oversees the industry's regulation, said his office has been unsuccessful in prosecuting some unlicensed contractor cases in certain counties. The cases are not of sufficient magnitude to be handled in circuit court, Woodrum said.

The proposed legislation would allow the State Board to enforce a cease and desist order in magistrate court.

It would also permit a home transporter to only temporarily stabilize a home being delivered to a site without the person having to have a complete setup license and the training that involves.

Contractor licenses were issued to: B&G Heating and Cooling LLC of Evans; Rozelle Enterprises LLC, doing business as DBA Tradeworx, of Buckhannon; K.Z. Electrical LLC of Elkins; Joseph Price, doing business at Cedar Hill Construction, of Bunker Hill; and T and C Investments LLC of Bunker Hill.

The State Board imposed fines of \$50 and \$25 against 17 companies for failing to file reports listing their business operations for the second quarter of the year.

In other action, the State Board:

--Approved reconstruction work on homes in Morgantown, Lester and Delbarton, where the manufacturer or contractor went out of business before completing the work. The money comes from a fund voluntarily established by the industry to complete work pending when the responsible party is out of business.

Woodrum said the state has been unable to attract companies to do the work and encouraged the board to provide the state with the names of companies interested in making the repairs.

--Noted the recovery fund now totals \$1.5 million.

--Set its next meeting for 10 a.m. March 26 in Charleston.