

Meeting Minutes: Plumbing Board

Date: July 17, 2018
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Minutes by: Lyndy Logan
Location: Minnesota Room, Department of Labor and Industry
443 Lafayette Road No., St. Paul, MN 55117-4344

Members

Tom Andresen
Richard Becker
Jeff Brown
Michael Dryke – via teleconference
Grant Edwards (Vice Chair)
John Flagg
Mike Herman
Rick Jacobs (Chair)
Phillip Sterner (Secretary)
Cathy Tran (DLI Commissioner’s Designee)
David Wagner
David Weum (DOH Commissioner’s Designee)

Members Absent

Justin Parizek

DLI Staff & Visitors

Jeff Lebowski (Gen. Counsel, DLI)
Lyndy Logan (DLI)
Jim Peterson (DLI)
Brad Jensen (DLI)
Larry Justin (KFI Engineers)
Megan Henkemeyer (J-Berd)
Mike Johnson (J-Berd)

DLI Staff & Visitors continued

Adam Hanson (ABC)
Larry Johnson (MNLA)
Gary Schick (City of Rochester)
Matt Marciniak (IAPMO)
Jim Gander (PHCC)
Jim Kittelson (former Board member)
John Parizek (Mpls Plumbers JAC)
Gary Thaden (MMCA)
Sophie Thaden (MMCA)
Scott Thompson (My Plumbing Training)
Ruth Thompson (My Plumbing Training)
Tim Power (MNLA)
Tom McCarthy (Local Union 34)
Trevor Ogilvie (City of Minneapolis)
Ryan Imel (AYPO) – via teleconference
Stephanie Menning (MUCA) – via teleconference
Dean Berckes (Dept. of Military Affairs, Camp Ripley) – via teleconference
Scott Crossman (Attorney for MN Laborers Fringe Benefit Fund) – via teleconference
Tony Bowers (At Your Pace Online) – via teleconference

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jacobs at 9:33 a.m. Roll call was taken by Secretary Sterner and a quorum was declared with 11 of 12 voting members present in person or via teleconference and one non-voting member. Introductions and housekeeping announcements were made and Richard Becker, new Board member, introduced himself.

2. Approval of meeting agenda

A motion was made by Herman, seconded by Flagg, to approve the agenda as presented. The roll call vote was unanimous with 11 votes in favor; the motion carried.

3. **Approval of previous meeting minutes**

- A. A motion was made by Herman, seconded by Flagg, to approve the April 17, 2018, regular meeting minutes with a revised start time of 9:30 a.m. The roll call vote was 10 votes in favor with 1 abstention; the motion carried.
- B. A motion was made by Flagg, seconded by Herman, to approve the June 12, 2018, special meeting minutes as presented. The roll call vote was 8 votes in favor with 3 abstentions; the motion carried.

4. **Regular Business**

Approval of expense reports – Jacobs approved the expenses as presented.

5. **Committee Reports**

A. **Department Updates**

Nothing to report

B. **Executive Committee**

The Committee met this morning and approved the Plumbing Board agenda as presented.

C. **Construction Codes Advisory Council**

Edwards gave an update from the last meeting on June 21, 2018. Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) met and a report will be sent to the Commissioner of DLI for his approval. There is not another meeting scheduled at this time.

D. **Inspection Uniformity Committee**

Edwards said they met on May 30, 2018 and he was tasked with making a presentation to the Board on increasing inspection consistency.

6. **Special Business**

A. **Request for Interpretation – PB0096 – see Attachment A**

RFI received from Peter Daniels, PE, regarding MN Plumbing Code Sections 710.3-710.12 & 906.4. Jacobs summarized the RFI; Peter Daniels was not present.

Initial Dispute: Requirement #5 in the DLI plan review letter dated June 1, 2018 (PLB 1805-00156) requires a 10-ft tall vent pipe to be added to a proposed grinder pump lift station located outside a building, in green space. Installing a vent pipe in this manner is not feasible, and not necessary, given the design and location of the grinder pump station.

Discussion followed regarding MPCA regulations, plumbing code requirements for grinder pumps, and the diagrams submitted.

Peterson said the question from the submitter should be more specific before the Board provide an answer. Is this a municipal system, what is the discharge rate, is the tank air

tight or water tight and what does the manufacturer offer in these installations? If after the septic tank then this would not be a question for the Plumbing Board.

The Chair said he would ask the submitter for additional information on the RFI.

A motion was made by Becker, seconded by Flagg, to authorize the Chair to ask the submitter of the RFI for additional information on design specifics, such as: water tightness, additional venting options as indicated by the manufacturer, how close it is to the building, and if the grinder pump is on the discharge of the septic tank then it would not fall under the jurisdiction of the Plumbing Code; it would be bound by the MPCA requirements. The roll call vote was unanimous with 11 votes in favor; the motion passed.

B. Discuss proposed amendments to Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4714 – Plumber Licensing and Apprentice Registration – and comments received.

No discussion.

C. Officer Elections – the meeting was turned over to Cathy Tran, Commissioner’s Designee, for election of officers.

a. **Chair** – Edwards made a motion, seconded by Flagg, to nominate Rick Jacobs. No other nominations were given. The roll call vote was unanimous with 11 votes in favor; the nomination passed. Jacobs was re-elected as Chair.

b. **Vice-Chair** – Flagg made a motion, seconded by Herman, to nominate Grant Edwards. No other nominations were given. The roll call vote was unanimous with 11 votes in favor; the nomination passed. Edwards was re-elected as Vice-Chair.

c. **Secretary** – Flagg made a motion, seconded by Edwards, to nominate Phil Sterner as Secretary. No other nominations were given. The roll call vote was unanimous with 11 votes in favor; the nomination passed. Sterner was re-elected as Secretary.

The meeting was turned over to re-elected Chair, Rick Jacobs.

D. Committees and Committee appointments

No discussion

7. Complaints

Nothing to report

8. Open Forum

A. Tony Bowers, At Your Pace Online.com, addressed the Board via teleconference to voice their support of the proposed revisions to Chapter 4716 regarding the licensing and apprentice registration. They support the code change and give their support.

- B. Larry Justin, representing KFI Engineers and the Minnesota Chapter of the American Society of Plumbing Engineers. Justin addressed the Board regarding Chapter 4714, Section 421.2 Limitation of Hot Water Temperature for Public Lavatories and DLI's interpretation regarding CSA B125.3 being superseded by CSA B125.70. KFI Engineers has a project where they are installing a valve in a boiler room that meets CSA B125.3. The intent of the design is to distribute 110 degrees throughout the building and public lavatories meeting code Section 421.2. The inspector, Jim Peterson, said it was rejected based on an interpretation from the department that the CSAB125.3 was superseded by CSA B125.70. DLI made an interpretation that because of this change they will no longer accept the CSA B125.3. Justin said he doesn't see in the code where CSA B125.3 isn't allowed. Tran said that a CCLD newsletter communication was sent out that provided clarification and Grant Brekke was contacted.

9. Correspondence

- RFA from Joel Hoistad/NW Chapter of Building Officials – will be addressed when Chapter 4714 rulemaking opens.
- Farr Plumbing & Heating letter – will be addressed when Chapter 4714 rulemaking opens.

10. Board Discussion

None

11. Announcements

Next regularly scheduled meetings in 2018/2019 – all meetings will be held at 9:30 a.m. in the Minnesota Room. The Executive Committee meetings occur at 8:30 a.m. prior to each regular meeting in the Minnesota Room.

- A. October 16, 2018
- B. January 15, 2019
- C. April 16, 2019
- D. July 16, 2019
- E. October 15, 2019

12. Adjournment

A motion was made by Flagg, seconded by Edwards, to adjourn the meeting at 11:37 a.m. The vote was unanimous with 11 votes in favor of the motion; the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Sterner

Phil Sterner, Board Secretary

Plumbing Board Request for Interpretation

PRINT IN INK or TYPE

NAME OF SUBMITTER Peter Daniels, PE	Rule(s) to be interpreted (e.g., 4714.0330) MN Plumbing Code Sections 710.3-710.12 & 906.4
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The Minnesota Plumbing Code (MN Rules, Chapter 4714) is available at www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/PlumbingCode.asp
Has a request for interpretation been submitted to Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) staff, either as a verbal request or a written request? Yes No
If "No," contact DLI staff at 651-284-5187. The DLI is responsible for administration and interpretation of the Minnesota Plumbing Code, and all requests must be processed and provided a DLI interpretation before being referred to the Plumbing Board. This form is intended to be used to request an interpretation from the Plumbing Board only as a resolution of dispute with DLI interpretation.

CODE/RULE to be interpreted: MN Plumbing Code Sections 710.3-710.12 & 906.4	NAME OF DLI employee gave interpretation: Corey Frain	DATE interpretation originally requested: Plans submitted May 10, 2018
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Provide a copy of the DLI interpretation with this request (a copy must be provided as reference).

Is there a local dispute with an Inspector of other official? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If Yes, state the name or type of official
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State the circumstances of the initial dispute:

Requirement #5 in the DOLI plan review letter dated June 1, 2018 (PLB1805-00156) requires a 10-ft tall vent pipe to be added to a proposed grinder pump lift station located outside a building, in green space. Installing a vent pipe in this manner is not feasible, and not necessary, given the design and location of the grinder pump station.

Explain why you disagree with the interpretation given to you by DLI staff:

There are thousands of grinder pump stations installed in Minnesota at commercial, residential, industrial, and institutional facilities. We are not aware of any of these grinder pump stations that are equipped with 10-ft tall vent pipes. These grinder pump stations are often located in yards or green space outside of homes and buildings. The grinder stations themselves are designed with several venting options. Adding an additional 10-ft tall vent is not needed. There is also not a practical way to install a 10-ft tall vent pipe on a buried grinder pump station located in a property's backyard. We are also concerned that a 10-ft tall exterior vent could freeze with condensation in the winter.

What is your interpretation of the language:

Venting of exterior grinder pump stations should be allowed through the grinder pump station's standard design options, as has been done for thousands of grinder pump stations in the past. An additional 10-ft tall vent pipe should not be required.

List any other information you would like the Board to consider:

See attached for photos of typical grinder pump station installation. Also attached is a letter from a vendor that sells packaged grinder pump stations.

Information regarding submitting this form:

- Submit any supporting documentation to be considered electronically to DLI.CCLDBOARDS@state.mn.us. Once your Request For Interpretation form has been received, it will be assigned a file number. Please reference this file number on any correspondence and supplemental submissions.

Information for presentation to the Board.

- You will be notified with the date of the Board Meeting in which your Request For Interpretation will be heard.
- Limit presentations to 5 minutes or less.
- Be prepared to answer questions regarding the Code, the circumstances that led to the dispute and please bring copies of any documentation.

What you can do if you disagree with the Board's determination:

- You may appeal the Board's determination pursuant to Minn. Stat. Chapter 14.

RFI File No. PB0096	Date Received by DLI June 15, 2018	Dated Received by Board July 17, 2018	Date of Board Meeting July 17, 2018
Title of RFI	By: _____ Attachment A		

This material can be made available in different forms, such as large print, Braille or on a tape. To request, call 1-800-342-5354 (DIAL-DLI) Voice or TDD (651) 297-4198.

Submitted by:

NAME Peter Daniels		FIRM NAME Wenck Associates, Inc.	
ADDRESS 7500 Olson Memorial Highway Suite 300		CITY Golden Valley, MN 55427	STATE ZIP CODE
PHONE 763-252-6838	SIGNATURE (original or electronic) 	DATE June 13, 2018	

For assistance or questions on completing this form, please call 651-284-5898 or 651-284-5889.

Mailing address:

Plumbing Board
c/o Department of Labor and Industry
443 Lafayette Road North
St. Paul, MN 55155-4344

*** Please remember to attach all necessary explanations and supporting documentation*** Page 2 of 2









WWGOETSCH

ASSOCIATES, INC.
800-831-7914

5250 WEST 74TH STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55439-2226
952-831-4340/FAX: 952-831-2357

7674 COLLEGE ROAD, SUITE 105
BAXTER, MN 56425
218-829-6890/FAX: 218-829-6972

June 13, 2018

WENCK ASSOCIATES, INC.
7500 Olson Memorial Highway, Suite 300
Golden Valley, MN 55427

Attention Peter Daniels, PE

Dear Peter,

Per our conversation please find my correspondence regarding the question of using vent stack pipes according to MN Plumbing Code Sections 710.3-710.12 & 906.4.on a lift station outside of a building.

I have been selling submersible sewage grinder stations for 23 years. We have provided literally thousands of residential, commercial and municipal simplex and duplex grinder stations over this time and we've never seen a requirement for vent stack on the lift station cover for sumps that have been installed outdoors.

I have downloaded the 2015 MN Plumbing Code 11 Chapter 7 and have read 710.3 through 710.12 and have reviewed it. I feel there is confusion on the review as to the location of this grinder station with specific regard to 710.10

710.10 reads in part ["Sumps and receiving tanks shall be provided with substantial covers having a bolt-and-gasket- type manhole or equivalent opening to permit access for inspection, repairs, and cleaning. The top shall be provided **with a vent pipe that shall extend separately through the roof or, where permitted, be combined with other vent pipes. Such vent shall be large enough to maintain atmospheric pressure within the sump under normal operating conditions** and, in no case, shall be less in size than that required by Table 703.2 for the number and type of fixtures discharging into the sump"] Table 703.2 is for vent sizing for the number and type of fixtures discharging into the sump and is referencing gasketed sump covers inside a building.

After reading 710.10 the reason we've have not been required to install vents in sump covers **installed outdoors** over the past 23 years is because vents are not required. [Per 703.2 ["such vent shall be large enough to maintain atmospheric pressure within the sump under normal operating conditions"]. Also, sump covers installed outside of a building are typically not airtight. This would include a typical septic tank system. The sump is open to atmosphere and also uses the gravity invert piping and the vent stacks inside the building to vent the sump to atmosphere which is 100% applicable to 710.10.

With these observations it is my opinion that the code does read correctly for sump covers inside a building. However, it is ambiguous and implies all sumps and covers are installed inside a building. 710.10 does not specifically address sump covers or lift station covers installed outside of building which is applicable to the type of installation you are specifying and should be revised.

Thank you,

Steven P Green
Sales Engineer
W.W. Goetsch Associates, Inc.