

Meeting Minutes: Plumbing Board

Date: October 16, 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 – via teleconference
Michael Dryke – via teleconference
Kent Erickson
John Flagg
Mike Herman
Rick Jacobs (Chair)
Justin Parizek
Phillip Sterner (Secretary)
Cathy Tran (DLI Commissioner’s Designee)
David Weum (DOH Commissioner’s Designee)

Members Absent

David Wagner

DLI Staff & Visitors continued

Suzanne Todnem (Gen. Counsel, DLI)
Lyndy Logan (DLI)
Jim Peterson (DLI)
Brad Jensen (DLI)
Ashley Buck (DLI)
Larry Justin (KFI Engineers)
Megan Henkemeyer (J-Berd)
Mike Johnson (J-Berd)
Jami Neiber (Scott County)
David Radziej (Metro PHCC)
Adam Hanson (ABC)
Gary Schick (City of Rochester)
Matt Marciniak (IAPMO)
Sophie Thaden (MMCA)
Scott Thompson (My Plumbing Training)
Tom McCarthy (Local Union 34)
Alex Bartley (MDH)
Gary Simmons (Pipe Masters, Inc.)
Jim Gander (PHCC)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jacobs at 9:39 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.

2. Approval of meeting agenda

A motion was made by Flagg, seconded by Becker, to approve the agenda with changes noted in italics below. The roll call vote was unanimous with 11 votes in favor; the motion carried.

6. Special Business

- C. Committees and Committee appointments
 - 1. CCAC representative
 - 2. Inspection Uniformity Committee
- D. *Final Interpretation update*

3. **Approval of previous meeting minutes**

- A. A motion was made by Flagg, seconded by Herman, to approve the July 17, 2018, regular meeting minutes as presented. The roll call vote was 11 votes in favor; the motion carried.
- B. A motion was made by Flagg, seconded by Becker, to approve the August 28, 2018, special meeting minutes as presented. The roll call vote was 11 votes in favor; the motion carried.
- C. A motion was made by Sterner, seconded by Herman, to approve the October 8, 2018, special meeting minutes as presented. The roll call vote was 10 in favor and one abstention; the motion carried.

4. **Regular Business**

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

5. **Committee Reports**

A. **Department Updates**

iMS / ProjectDox – Ashley Buck (CCLD) briefly summarized what iMS and ProjectDox are and that the department’s new electronic Building and Plumbing Plan Review and Inspections system will interface with each other. The target “go live” date is February 1, 2019 . For more information, visit the department’s website at:

<http://www.dli.state.mn.us/business/get-licenses-and-permits/online-plan-review-and-permit-applications>

B. **Executive Committee**

The Committee met this morning and discussed the open Board seat and the appeal on the Hobart Final Interpretation issued on 10/8/2018.

C. **Construction Codes Advisory Council**

Has not met – nothing to report

D. **Ad-Hoc Code Review and Rulemaking Committee update**

Members: Flagg, Becker, Tran, Herman, and Jacobs

Todnem said that the Committee reviewed options regarding rulemaking and made a decision to make a recommendation to the Board to review and amend the 2018 UPC.

A motion was made by Becker, seconded by Sterner, for the Ad-Hoc Code Review and Rulemaking Committee to review the 2018 UPC and create recommended amendments to bring forward to the Board. The vote was unanimous with 11 votes; the motion carried.

Todnem said that RFAs should be completed and submitted for the Ad-Hoc Code Review and Rulemaking Committee to review. RFA forms can be found online at:

<http://www.dli.state.mn.us/about-department/boards-and-councils/plumbing-board-requests-action>

6. Special Business

A. Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4716 – Plumber Licensing and Apprentice Registration update

Todnem said the Board is currently waiting to hear back from Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) and the Governor's office regarding the licensing rule. The plan is to publish a dual notice of intent to adopt the rule by the end of the year. The Board is still on track to do this.

B. Officer Elections – the meeting was turned over to Cathy Tran, Commissioner's Designee, for election of one officer.

1. **Vice-Chair** – Sterner nominated John Flagg. No other nominations were given. The roll call vote was unanimous with 11 votes in favor; the nomination passed. Flagg was elected as Vice-Chair. The meeting was turned over to Chair Jacobs.

C. Committees and Committee appointments

1. CCAC representative (and alternate)

Flagg nominated Mike Herman. No other nominations were given and Herman was elected as the Plumbing representative to the CCAC. Flagg remained the alternate.

2. Inspection Uniformity Committee

Tran and Parizek volunteered for the Committee resulting in 5 members. Andresen volunteered as Chair. Members are now: Andresen (Chair), Sterner, Jacobs, Tran, and Parizek.

D. Final Interpretation update

Todnem said the Final Interpretation was issued on October 8, 2018, following the Special Board meeting and the appeal was received October 15, 2018.

7. Complaints

Nothing to report

8. Open Forum

- Scott Thompson, My Plumbing Training, addressed the Board regarding Table 702.1, Drainage Fixture Unit Values (DFU). Thompson asked the Board for the definition of Emergency Floor Drain. Tran referred to Section 418.3 Location of Floor Drains and said the department has considered floor drains located in restaurants as emergency floor drains and they are not intended to receive indirect waste. Most other floor drains will receive some sort of indirect discharge. Peterson said there is a lot of spilled content and the floor is washed to take care of issues. Thompson asked how the department's definition is relayed to plumbing contractors and Flagg replied through inspectors.
- Scott Thompson addressed the Board regarding 706.3, Horizontal to Horizontal and asked "Is it ok to use a long radius P.V.C. 90 degrees when making a horizontal to horizontal change of direction?" Peterson said he would send Thompson the department's response via email.

- Jim Gander addressed the Board:
 - Gander strongly encouraged statewide, uniform inspections and code enforcement.
 - Gander is in favor of training registered, unlicensed plumbers; although, two hours of training is not enough. He has no problem with mandating training but he doesn't like that it is called continuing education. He would like to have an open and transparent discussion about this issue.
 - Gander said adopting a national code was the goal of the Plumbing Board back in 1994 when he was a member in order to make the code uniform and easier for plumbers and inspectors to enforce. The Plumbing Code today is not easy. As the Ad-Hoc Code Review and Rulemaking Committee moves forward, he strongly encourages minimizing amendments as much as possible to make it easier on the industry. UPC and IAPMO are proven organizations, a proven code, and IAPMO would give more support if the code in Minnesota looked more like the UPC. The Minnesota amendments, in many cases, are different than what the UPC is. He is a strong proponent to making the MN Plumbing Code as much like the UPC as possible.

9. Correspondence

None

10. Board Discussion

None

11. Announcements

Next regularly scheduled meetings in 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. January 15, 2019
- B. April 16, 2019
- C. July 16, 2019
- D. October 15, 2019

12. Adjournment

A motion was made by Flagg, seconded by Sterner, to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 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