

**IDAHO PLUMBING BOARD
VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

Thursday – February 28, 2013 – 9:30 a.m. (MT)

**Division of Building Safety
1090 East Watertower Street, Suite 150, Meridian, Idaho
1250 Ironwood Drive, Suite 220, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho
2055 Garrett Way, Building 1, Suite 4, Pocatello, Idaho**

*NOTE: The following report is not a verbatim transcript of the discussions at the meeting,
but is intended to record the significant features of those discussions.*

Chairman Milford Terrell called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. (MT).

Board Members Present:

Milford Terrell, Chairman
Dan Long, Vice-Chairman
Gilbert Pond
Debbie Oberhofer
Matt Gardner

DBS Staff Members Present:

C. Kelly Pearce, Administrator
Steve Keys, Deputy Administrator, Operations
Patrick Grace, Deputy Attorney General
John Nielsen, Plumbing Program Manager
Rod Freligh, Regional Manager, Region 1
Chris Jensen, Regional Manager, Region 3
Terry Blessing, Regional Supervisor, Region 1
Adam Bowcutt, Regional Supervisor, Region 3
Kathleen Watkins, Financial Manager
Bill Hatch, Public Information Officer
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2/Board Secretary

◆ **Open Forum**

Plumbing Code – Allen Wilder, Co-owner of Backflow Assembly Testing and Supply, expressed concern with the plumbing code. Specifically, potential updates utilizing the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials' (IAPMO) programs and the definition of cross connection and approval of devices and/or assemblies used in the backflow cross connection control.

Mr. Wilder was advised to discuss this issue with the plumbing program manager for possible future consideration by the Board.

Bonding Requirements – Surrounding states only require an insurance certificate of liability to renew a license. Gilbert Pond requested the bonding requirements for licensure be discussed at the May meeting.

ACTION: The topic *Bonding Requirements* will be placed on the May 23, 2013 Board meeting agenda as an informational item.

◆ **City and County Concerns**

No items or concerns were brought forth.

◆ **Approval of February 28, 2013 Agenda**

MOTION: Gilbert Pond made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Dan Long seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Approval of October 25, 2012 Minutes**

MOTION: Debbie Oberhofer made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Dan Long seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Continuing Education Unit (CEU)**

The following modifications were made to the CEU requirements: Minimum number of hours for code update classes reduced to two, and industry-related classes to be at least one hour.

Each contractor and journeyman plumber with a license expiration date of January 1, 2014 or later must provide required hours of continuing education in order to renew their license.

Course approval requirements for instructors and courses are on the Division's website.

MOTION: Dan Long made a motion to accept the changes as presented. Matt Gardner seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Unlicensed Companies Advertising for Plumbing Services**

March 11th is *World Plumbing Day*. Industry bodies throughout the world actively engage in organizing activities that will help people to realize plumbing is vital to global health.

Non-licensed individuals/companies are advertising and providing plumbing services, thus jeopardizing the safety of the citizens of Idaho. As a tool for possible use to investigate, it was suggested an app be created for phones to report individuals/companies in violation of the law to DBS.

Kenny Calkins will work with Dan Long to create a system using current technology and will bring their findings to a future Board meeting. Mr. Calkins will also attempt to form a committee through the Treasure Valley Master Plumbers Association and place ads in phone books with warnings.

DBS and the Better Business Bureau have collaborated on a public service announcement and trade specific brochures titled *Choosing a Contractor*.

ACTION: Kenny Calkins and Dan Long will bring their findings with regard to creating a system to investigate violators to a future Board meeting.

◆ **Apprenticeship (David Davidson)**

The circumstances surrounding Mr. Davidson's apprenticeship/schooling were briefly addressed and IDAPA 07.02.05.011.02 "Apprenticeship Registration – Schooling Requirements" was read.

The plumbing program manager was advised to continue to follow the direction the Board has set forth and the rules that have been promulgated in the state of Idaho.

◆ **SureSeal (Update)**

There have been no changes since the original discussion in February 2012. Trap primers must meet all code requirements in order to be approved and installed in the state's jurisdiction.

◆ **Tentative Interim Amendments (TIAs)**

This topic was originally addressed at the October 2012 meeting. The Board chose not to adopt the TIAs. The Idaho State Plumbing Code will remain as is; allowing two bathroom groups to be run on one horizontal wet vent.

◆ **Renting of Contractor License**

A proposed statute change to allow the Plumbing Board, at the recommendation of the Administrator, to revoke, suspend, or refuse to renew a license was presented. The Board supports the proposal. All proposed statute changes will be held for the 2015 legislature.

The committee will meet to prepare the changes, in legislative format, for discussion over the next 18 months.

ACTION: The committee will continue to work on the issue *Renting of Contractor License*.

◆ **Witnessing Pressure Testing on Plumbing Systems**

Suggestions for possible expedition on the verification of pressure tests are: A form for contractor to complete and leave at jobsite for inspector to scan/attach to permit; OR an app for phones to take and submit picture(s) of pressure test to DBS for attachment to permit.

Board members, city officials, owners, and inspectors will continue to study this issue; submitting thoughts/ideas to the Board for the May meeting.

ACTION: The topic *Witnessing Pressure Testing on Plumbing Systems* will be placed on the May 23, 2013 Board meeting agenda as an informational item.

◆ **Plumbing Program Manager Report**

IAPMO Technical Committee – John Nielsen has been appointed to IAPMO's technical committee.

Journeyman License Requirements – Out-of-state plumbers have been allowed to test for a journeyman license by providing the required trade hours only. IDAPA 07.02.05, "Rules Governing Plumbing Safety Licensing", also mandates a plumbing apprentice must complete an Idaho Plumbing Board approved related course of instruction to take the journeyman exam. The Board ordered the plumbing program manager to follow the rules; requiring both criteria.

Invitation to Texas – Staff has been invited to Texas to tour commercial sites built with cast iron. There would be no cost to the Division. The Board gave its blessing as long as everything is within the parameters of the law.

◆ **Operational Report**

Legislation – All plumbing rules have been reviewed and approved with the exception of the code amendment banning water heaters in crawl spaces. A representative wants the definition of crawl space included in the rule.

House Bill 26 amends the existing law relating to the installation of HVAC systems. The provision allows individuals holding either an HVAC or plumbing certification to install certain piping. The bill unanimously passed the House Business Committee.

House Bill 27 amends the existing law as it pertains to a plumbing contractor license for new work in industrial or non-maintenance settings. This bill was returned to the House Business Committee without a floor vote.

A bill to include medical gas and medical vacuum systems in the definition of a plumbing system did not pass out of committee.

◆ **Administrator Report**

Financial Report – The Idaho Plumbing Board Fund, FY 2013 financial statement as of January 31, 2013, was reviewed.

Upon comparison of the first seven months of FY 2013 to the first seven months of FY 2012, division wide, inspections are up 12% and revenue by 20%.

MOTION: Gilbert Pond made a motion to accept the financial report as presented. Dan Long seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

City of Meridian – In October 2012, DBS began providing mechanical inspections for the city of Meridian.

Budget Presentation – Administrator Pearce provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Division's FY 2014 budget.

Changes in the Workforce – A PowerPoint presentation titled *Changes in Workforce* was delivered by the Administrator.

◆ **New/Old Business**

No new/old business was brought forth.

◆ **Adjournment**

Chairman Terrell adjourned the meeting at 2:07 p.m. (MT)

MILFORD TERRELL, CHAIRMAN
IDAHO PLUMBING BOARD

C. KELLY PEARCE, ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

DATE

05/07/13rb