

**IDAHO PLUMBING BOARD
VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

Thursday – May 23, 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 9:35 a.m. (MT).

Board Members Present:

Milford Terrell, Chairman
Gilbert Pond
Debbie Oberhofer
Matt Gardner

DBS Staff Members Present:

C. Kelly Pearce, Administrator
Steve Keys, Deputy Administrator, Operations
Ron Whitney, Deputy Administrator, Administration
Patrick Grace, Deputy Attorney General
John Nielsen, Plumbing Program Manager
Rod Freligh, Regional Manager, Region 1
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

Board Members Absent:

Dan Long, Vice-Chairman

Remembrance – As a tribute to DBS Inspector Cedric “Suds” Knehans, a moment of silence was observed.

Recognition – Plumbing Program Manager John Nielsen was recognized for his leadership at the recent Ground Water Association meeting.

◆ **Open Forum**

Russ Rowley Benefit – Russ Rowley, Delta Representative, has a serious illness. A fundraiser will be held at Keller Supply today from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Material Approval--Polyethylene – Bob Haycock, A-1 Plumbing, stated they provide pipe bursting for sewer line replacement. Local jurisdictions have asked A-1 Plumbing to discontinue this method. The product in question is polyethylene. Currently, polyethylene is approved nationally, but not in the state of Idaho.

The plumbing program manager has the ability to approve an alternative product if it meets the standards specified by the Board and there are no foreseeable problems.

As requested, the topic *Material Approval--Polyethylene* will be addressed at the July meeting with the plumbing program manager presenting a report.

ACTION: The plumbing program manager will report on the topic *Material Approval--Polyethylene* at the July Board meeting.

◆ **City and County Concerns**

No items or concerns were brought forth.

◆ **Approval of May 23, 2013 Agenda**

MOTION: Matt Gardner made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Debbie Oberhofer seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

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

MOTION: Gilbert Pond made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Matt Gardner seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Bonding Requirements**

With no new information, the topic *Bonding Requirements* was deferred to the July Board meeting.

ACTION: The topic *Bonding Requirements* will be placed on the July agenda as an informational item.

◆ **Witness Pressure Testing Plumbing System**

This issue was originally brought forth with regard to the time and cost to inspect pressure tested plumbing systems in rural areas. Michael Spears, The Plumber Incorporated, provided statistics.

The consensus is to leave the inspection process as is. Board Member Oberhofer will submit supporting documentation to the board secretary.

ACTION: Board Member Oberhofer will submit to the board secretary correspondence on the issue *Witness Pressure Testing Plumbing System*.

Kraig Stevenson, ICC, stated Oregon and Montana have been dealing with this issue as well. In hopes to provide insight into how to handle this situation, Mr. Stevenson will provide to the board secretary contact information of two Oregon and Montana representatives.

ACTION: ICC Representative Kraig Stevenson will provide contact information on two representatives from Oregon and Montana to the board secretary.

At the chairman's request, an exact meaning of "pressure test" will be addressed under the topic *Witness Pressure Testing Plumbing System* at the July Board meeting.

ACTION: The topic *Witness Pressure Testing Plumbing System* will be placed on the July Board meeting agenda as an informational item.

ACTION: The Division will provide clarification on the meaning “pressure test” at the July meeting.

◆ **Plumbing Program Manager Report**

Continuing Education Units (CEU) – Effective January 1, 2014, CEUs will be a prerequisite to renew a plumbing journeyman and contractor license. The Division has used several methods to inform the industry of this new requirement. An announcement is on the Division’s website at <http://dbs.idaho.gov/announcements.html>.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) – On April 26, 2013, the administrator of DBS signed an MOU with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. The MOU clarifies the boundaries of each agency.

The plumbing program manager will link the MOU to the plumbing page on the Division’s website.

ACTION: The plumbing program manager will link the MOU to the Division’s website.

Updated Rules – The International Association of Plumbing Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) is in the process of incorporating new rules in chapters three (3), four (4), and six (6) of the Idaho State Plumbing Code. Approximately 50-60 packets will be available at the Division’s three office locations, as well as online through IAPMO, DBS, and the Idaho Department of Administration’s websites.

Trenchless – The use of polyethylene is not listed in table 7-1 of the Idaho State Plumbing Code; however, it is in the adopted Installation Standards of Appendix I. The plumbing program manager will begin the negotiated rulemaking process; adding polyethylene to tables 7-1 and 6-4.

Water Heater – Effective immediately, jurisdictions where the Division handles the plumbing and the city/county manages the HVAC, a plumbing permit and inspection for the installation of a potable system water heater will be required through DBS.

This issue was addressed at the May 22nd HVAC Board meeting. It was suggested the Plumbing Board adjust its statute to allow HVAC contractors to install water heaters.

The plumbing rules have a grandfather clause for a specialty appliance license. A report showed 37 HVAC contractors have a plumbing specialty appliance license; however, 13 are closed.

The Plumbing Board does not intend to create nor present legislation at the 2014 legislative session. Therefore, no changes will be made to the Plumbing statute.

ACTION: The Division will inform the HVAC Board of the Plumbing Board’s decision to not generate or submit any legislation to the 2014 legislature; leaving the statute as is.

◆ **Operational Report**

There was no new information to report.

◆ **Administrator Report**

Vehicles – DBS recently purchased 18 new vehicles. The process used to rotate old vehicles with new vehicles and the “pooling” of old vehicles was explained.

Financial Report – The Idaho Plumbing Board Fund, FY 2013 financial statement as of April 30, 2013, was reviewed.

DBS was asked to provide a break-out, based on percentage, of the time, wages, etc. for administration, clerical staff, and field inspectors with regard to the plumbing account.

ACTION: For the July Board meeting, the Division will provide a report; itemizing the plumbing funds, time, etc., allocated to administration, clerical staff and field inspectors.

Statewide Projects – The administrator addressed 23 projects in 14 locations throughout the state of Idaho where DBS was involved.

Permits/Inspections/Licenses – The total of plumbing permits, inspections, and licenses issued in 2012 was 8,616; 15,395; and 5,455 respectively.

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

Artwork – DBS will secure artist renderings of major projects it has been engaged in across the state of Idaho for display at the Meridian office,

◆ **Adjournment**

Chairman Terrell adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m. (MT)

MILFORD TERRELL, CHAIRMAN
IDAHO PLUMBING BOARD

C. KELLY PEARCE, ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

DATE

06/26/13rb