

**IDAHO PLUMBING BOARD
VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

Thursday – September 20, 2018 – 9:30 a.m. (MDT)

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

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2018 MEETING

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

Chairman Matt Gardner called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. (MDT)

Board Members Present:

Matt Gardner, Chairman
Gilbert Pond, Vice-Chairman
Rick Garrett
Shaun Urwin
Debbie Oberhofer

DBS Staff Members Present:

Chris L. Jensen, Administrator
Ron Whitney, Deputy Administrator
Spencer Holm, Deputy Attorney General
Larry Jeffres, Regional Manager, Region 1
Patrick Grace, Regional Manager, Region 2
Chuck Knapp, Regional Supervisor, Region 1
Adam Bowcutt, Regional Supervisor, Region 3
Amy Kohler, Compliance Program Specialist
Laura Shankel, Licensing & Permitting Program Supervisor
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2

- ◆ Non-Reappointment – Recently retired, Board Member Debbie Oberhofer, At-Large Representative, will not seek reappointment upon the expiration of her term on April 1, 2019.

- ◆ **Open Forum**

Apprentice Registration/Schooling Requirements – Kenny Calkins, Cloverdale Plumbing, explained an employee took two years of online schooling prior to going to work in the trade, and once he began to work, decided plumbing was not for him. Mr. Calkins stated by allowing individuals to go to school without working in the trade is a disservice to the industry. In addition, contractors should sign all apprentice registration applications when registering with the DBS. Based on rule, an individual wishing to become a plumbing apprentice shall register with the Division of Building Safety prior to going to work. When asked, the Board did not see a reason to discuss this topic any further.

College of Western Idaho (CWI) Report – Steve Bennett, CWI Plumbing Program Coordinator, reported in 2017, enrolled were approximately 350 apprentices. Currently, there are 275 apprentices with 26 in fourth year. Based on the Division's 2018 First Journeyman Exam, CWI's pass rate is at 76 percent.

Test-Prep Course – In rule, if unable to pass the journeyman exam within six months, an applicant must enroll in year four of an Idaho apprenticeship course. Currently, CWI has a

test-prep course. As an option, Steve Bennett, CWI, suggested adding language to the rule to include the journeyman's test-prep course since the second semester of fourth year pertains to code anyway.

Developing Standards – Matthew Rehl, Program Quality Manager - Skilled & Technical Sciences, Career & Technical Education, is looking for participants to attend two days, September 27 and 28, at the Riverside Hotel to assist in developing standards for the plumbing apprenticeship program. Interested parties are encouraged to contact Plumbing Program Manager John Nielsen, or Mr. Rehl.

City and County Concerns – There were no new issues to address during open forum.

◆ **Approval of the September 20, 2018 Agenda and June 7, 2018 Minutes**

MOTION: Gilbert Pond made a motion to accept the September 20, 2018 agenda and June 7, 2018 minutes as presented. Debbie Oberhofer seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Schedule 2019 Board Meetings**

Recommended were the following dates for the 2019 board meetings: January 17, March 21, May 16, and September 19.

MOTION: Rick Garrett made a motion to accept the 2019 board meeting dates as presented. Shaun Urwin seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ **Practical Exam**

There have been concerns with the existing process of the practical exam. Board Member Rick Garrett brought forth the idea of incorporating the practical into the fourth year apprenticeship course. Another suggestion was for the practical exam to go to a testing site. There are a couple of entities with mock-up labs; however, it is impossible to fail if an individual has any remote training at all. Board Member Gilbert Pond recommended, through a test site or correlate through the colleges, creating applications on ABS, copper, and cast-iron.

Upon attending the Developing Standards meeting, addressed earlier, Board Members Garrett and Pond will bring ideas to the January 2019 meeting. The Division offered to pursue this issue as well.

ACTION: The Division, and Board Members Garrett and Pond, will bring suggestions for possible changes to the practical exam at the January 2019 meeting.

ACTION: The topic *Practical Exam* will be on the January 2019 board meeting agenda as an informational item.

◆ **Contractor Testing**

Currently, the contractor exam is 100% business questions. Board Member Pond likes the idea of the test being 50% code and 50% business. Included in the packet were examples of plumbing mathematical code questions and drawings of water and waste/vent sizing.

Wanting to discuss further, the Chairman asked the topic *Contractor Testing* be an informational item on the January 2019 board meeting agenda.

ACTION: The topic *Contractor Testing* will be on the January 2019 board meeting agenda as an informational item.

◆ **C.E. Broker**

The Division continues to work with C.E. Broker to fix issues. Explained was the Division's approval process for providers and their courses. The Licensing & Permitting Program Supervisor will discuss with the Plumbing Program Manager whether it should be a mandatory requirement for providers to notify C.E. Broker of the participants attending their classes. A list of approved plumbing courses in Idaho are available on the Division's website, as well as on C.E. Broker's site. C.E. Broker has a basic "no charge" account that provides individuals with their total hours completed only. Licensees are welcome to contact the Division's licensing department for a breakdown of the type of courses taken.

ACTION: The Licensing & Permitting Program Supervisor will report her findings on whether it is mandatory for providers to notify C.E. Broker of participants attending their classes and hours at the January 2019 meeting.

ACTION: The topic *C.E. Broker* will be on the January 2019 board meeting agenda as an informational item.

◆ **Program Manager Report**

Proposed Statute and Rules – The following proposed statute and rules will go to the 2019 legislature: 1) Idaho Code § 54-2611(a) - Clarifies contractors must be licensed journeymen; 2) ISPC Table 501.1(1) First Hour Rating - Matches federal standards; 3) ISPC Section 603.5.12 Beverage Dispensers - Eliminates RPB's from coffee makers and non-carbonated dispensers; and 4) Cleanouts - Approves two-way cleanouts and if the total developed length of the waste line is less than one-hundred (100) feet, a water closet shall be permitted to be substituted for an upper terminal cleanout or a base of stack cleanout.

◆ **Compliance Program Report**

There have been no major complications since the June meeting; therefore, the Compliance Program Specialist had nothing to report.

◆ **Administrator Report**

Financial Report – Briefly addressed was the Plumbing Board Fund, FY 2018 Financial Statement, as of August 31, 2018.

Transient Reactor Test (TREAT) Facility – The TREAT facility at the Idaho National Laboratory pulsed for a few seconds, subjecting a small capsule of light water reactor fuel to radiation and heat. The test marked the return of a capability that is critical to the United States' role in the development of nuclear fuels, for both the existing fleet and a new generation of advanced reactors under design.

Naval Reactors Facility – Estimation of completion on this Idaho Falls' project is four years and roughly 1,200 electricians at its peak of construction.

Small Scale Reactor Project – Groundbreaking has taken place on a 70,000 square foot expansion project with Premier Technology in Blackfoot. It will take at least 1,000 workers and ten years to complete.

Manufacturing Facility – B-2 Technology to build a new plant in Blackfoot, employing approximately 500 individuals.

◆ **Old/New Business**

There was no old/new items to address.

◆ **Adjournment**

MOTION: Gilbert Pond made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Shaun Urwin seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m. (MDT)

MATT GARDNER, CHAIRMAN
IDAHO PLUMBING BOARD

CHRIS L. JENSEN, ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

09/25/2018rb

DATE