

PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTORS LICENSE BOARD MEETING

Monday – January 11, 2021 – 9:30 a.m. (MST)

Division of Building Safety
1090 East Watertower Street, Suite 150, Meridian
1250 Ironwood Drive, Suite 220, Coeur d'Alene
155 North Maple Street, Blackfoot

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 11, 2021 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 Jim Roletto called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. (MST)

Board Members Present:

Jim Roletto, Chairman
Joe Jackson, Vice-Chairman
Larry Geyer
Chuck Graves
Jake Claridge
Evan Goodwin
Karen Echeverria
Robbie Austin

DBS Staff Members Present:

Ron Whitney, Administrator
Patrick Grace, Deputy Administrator
Spencer Holm, Deputy Attorney General
Jeff Egan, Building Program Manager
Adam Bowcutt, Regional Manager
Lisa Stover, Building Program Supervisor
Gary Sonnen, Regional Supervisor, Region 1
Renee Bryant, Administrative Assistant 2

◆ Open Forum

There were no new issues to discuss under open forum.

◆ Approval of the January 11, 2021 Agenda and October 5, 2020 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Joe Jackson made a motion to approve the January 11, 2021 Agenda and October 5, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented. Larry Geyer seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

◆ Modular Buildings Manufacturers and PW Contractor License

A question was posed to DBS on whether a manufacturer of modular buildings needs a public works contractor license (PWCL) for structures sited or incorporated into public works projects. A license is required to build a stick-built structure on site for a public works project; however, it is not clear if a license is required if structures are built at one location and moved to another location as part of a public works job. Upon researching, the Division determined structures built in a factory, and not affixed to the public works site, is personal property for which there is an exemption in statute. The property exemption goes back to 1941 when the Public Works Licensing Act was put into law.

Upon further discussion, it became apparent there were two issues being discussed; license provisions and code provisions. Deputy Attorney General Spencer Holm read the legal definitions of personal and real property from Black's Law Dictionary. To determine if there is a need for modifications to the statute, Deputy Administrator Patrick Grace agreed to

contact the modular industry, as well as meet with the Factory Built Structures Advisory Board prior to April 19, 2021 PWCL Board meeting.

ACTION: The topic *Modular Buildings Manufacturers and PW Contractor License* will be placed on the April 19, 2021 PWCL Board meeting agenda as an informational item.

◆ **Universal Licensure**

In 2017, an executive order was issued asking each agency to generate a report on how to reduce barriers of entry for licensure and eliminate unnecessary regulations. At the 2020 legislature, Senate Bill 1351 *Occupational Licensing* passed and became effective July 1, 2020. The two main roles of the bill that affects the Division's boards are Idaho Codes §§ 67-9408 *Occupational and Professional Licensure Review Committee* and 67-9409 *Universal Licensure*. The legislature set up a subcommittee comprised of senators and representatives to review all new proposed regulation/licensure and make non-binding recommendations to the House and Senate. In addition, it establishes a universal licensure process to facilitate the efficient transfer of licenses between states.

◆ **Administrator Report**

Board Vacancies – Idaho Code § 54-1905, states in part, "... no member shall be appointed to more than two (2) consecutive terms. ..." As of January 1, 2021, the terms of the current board members representing building, heavy equipment and highway construction have expired. The members have agreed to remain on the Board until the Governor fills those positions.

Licensing Activity – In 2020, the Division issued 308 new original licenses, an increase of 12% compared to the last nine years, which averaged 270 licenses. Renewals are less; however, the activity is still there.

Financial Report – Reviewed was the Fiscal Year 2021 Financial Statement, as of November 30, 2020, of the Public Work Contractors Licensing Fund. Each of the Division's boards pay a pro-rata share of the major expenses accrued by DBS. Two upcoming expenses are: 1) Tenant improvements and move of DBS to the Chinden Campus in 2021, and 2) FY 2022, upgrade the Division's TRAK-iT system.

Volume of Public Works Construction – The Division has 44 pending plan reviews in the system and 65 active public works permits. The following ten projects, totaling approximately \$63 million, are being built throughout the state of Idaho: 1) State Hospital North, Orofino, patient observation area, \$640,000; 2) JR Williams State Building, Boise, restroom remodel, \$681,000; 3) State Military Division, Gowen Field, Boise, office remodel on buildings 500 and 600, \$835,000; 4) Idaho Youth Challenge Academy, branch of National Guard, Pierce, roof on facility, \$1.8 million; 5) Idaho Chinden Campus, Boise, boiler for Building Eight, \$1.8 million; 6) LBJ Building, Boise, water service, \$1.4 million; 7) Idaho State Parks and Recreation, Hagerman, visitor center, \$1.8 million; 8) Department of Agriculture, Boise, lab facility, \$7 million; 9) Idaho State Veterans home, Post Falls, 64 bed skilled nursing facility, \$7.6 million; and 10) University of Idaho, Moscow, basketball arena, \$50 million.

Covid Status – The licensing staff is now fully equipped and will begin a two-week rotation schedule between office and home. Across the State, the Division’s activity for permitting and inspections has stayed ten percent above 2019.

Recognition – Adriana Burton, Technical Records Specialist 2, and support for the PWCL Program, was acknowledged for maintaining a higher volume of work under the current conditions while at home.

Idaho Department of Occupational and Professional Licenses (IDOPL) – The Administration has approved the first draft of the building plan for Building Four. For presentation at the 2021 legislature, Admin is working with Legislative Services on the final drafts to define the future of the agency. Employee organizational charts are still a work in progress and anticipated to be complete within the next couple of months.

◆ **Adjournment**

MOTION: Joe Jackson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Larry Geyer seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m. (MST)

JIM ROLETTO, CHAIRMAN
PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTORS
LICENSE BOARD

RON WHITNEY, ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY

DATE

03/09/2021rb

DATE