

# McCall Townhall Plumbing Meeting

McCall Plumbing 8\_24\_2021

Transcript Prepared By:



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1 Nielsen: So my name's John Nielsen. I'm the plumbing program  
2 manager for the Division of Occupational and  
3 Professional Licenses, formerly DBS. And what we're  
4 doing is going around the state getting with  
5 contractors and everything. And just getting your  
6 input on the current code amendments as it pertains to  
7 licensing, permitting, code amendments to the, uh,  
8 code amendments to the code, that sort of thing. And  
9 explaining a little bit about ZBR, which is Zero Base  
10 Regulations. And real quick while they're still here,  
11 this is Michelle Byrd. She's our new bureau chief for  
12 Construction and Realtors, Realtors and --

13 Byrd: Building Construction and Real Estate.

14 Nielsen: Is it, is that like --

15 Byrd: BCRE.

16 Nielsen: Is that like a double --

17 Byrd: I guess.

18 Nielsen: So --

19 Byrd: I didn't name it.

20 Nielsen: She's our new boss. We got Warren Wayne, our  
21 electrical program manager. That is Mike Hyde, our  
22 HVAC program manager. So as far as ZBR goes, Governor  
23 Little issued an executive order in 2020 and the  
24 executive order was 2020-01, which he created the Zero  
25 Base Regulation and that standardizes the process by

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which we go through and amend these rules. They put us on a 5-year cycle. Every agency has to do it. This isn't just a topple executive order. So anybody that runs rules every 5 years, they will repeal and replace them. And they'll go through this process. And part of the process is it's a retrospective analysis. So we go in here. If you look -- this is the latest and gravest rules, 2021 rules. And you'll see where it says, 7121 with a T. Currently, they are temporary because when they did sign and dye, they didn't get, um, inde - -- the permanent status and stuff. So, but these are all enforce 'till the next legislative session and when we do the retrospective analysis, we have to ask whether the benefits of the rule achieve intended -- to achieve or being realized, whether those benefits justify the cost of the rule and whether they are less restrictive alternatives to accomplish the benefits. So what we want to look at is the cost of benefit of anything in here. What are the consumers paying out? What are you as contractors paying out to enforce something from a state agency that may not be life safety. It just might be a regulation. So we're out here getting your input on it. As we go through this, McCall's the last one. Today's our last of a nine day tour, a nine city tour



1 actually. Anything discussed here will not be in  
2 effect tomorrow. We still have to compile all this  
3 information. We are recording. We're gonna do  
4 transcripts. It will be public information. You can  
5 sit and go through everything. And we're collecting  
6 the pros and cons of whatever issues you guys feel are  
7 out there. We'll take it, get it compiled and  
8 starting in 2022, we'll present it to the board.  
9 They'll go through it. We'll do the negotiate rule  
10 making process which notices up. You guys send in  
11 comments, let the board know how you feel about any  
12 amendments. It'll then go to the 2023 legislative  
13 session where they give their turn at doing with it  
14 what they will. So any amendments to the rules will  
15 not happen. You won't see a change at least until  
16 spring of 2023, March. Again, dependent on when the  
17 legislature does sign and dye. So with that, what I  
18 have been doing is if you go back here into your  
19 rules, we'll start of with the code amendments on page  
20 12. Currently, we have 50 amendments to the Uniform  
21 Plumbing Code of the Idaho State Plumbing Code.  
22 That's 50 things plus the subsections that we have  
23 amended and changed one way or another. And I guess I  
24 would just start off with asking you too, is there  
25 anything code wise that you think isn't life safety,



1           there's no cost benefit to, or you would just like to  
2           see taken out? Again, it doesn't have to be in IDAPA  
3           here. It could be in the actual code itself. And if  
4           you speak or have a question, all right, just state  
5           your name. I think we're close enough. I'm put a  
6           little mark here in the middle.

7   Jerry:    Yeah. I'm Jerry with Treasure Valley Plumbing. Um, I  
8           did have -- I went to the meeting and --

9   Nielsen:  I was gonna say, I thought --

10   Jerry:    Yeah, I was there, too, but --

11   Nielsen:  Well, let me get him the colored version, too, so he  
12           can --

13   Jerry:    Yeah. I was gonna say that -- I have this one last,  
14           and it's a little bit help -- more helpful but, um, I  
15           was just hoping to voice my opinion and a couple times  
16           so that --

17   Nielsen:  Sure.

18   Jerry:    It's set up. I -- the one code that I seen that I, I  
19           have the most struggle with, uh, that had changed a  
20           few years ago was, uh, cleanouts.

21   Nielsen:  Uh-huh.

22   Jerry:    And I think it's probably been discussed a few times.  
23           But I think -- let me look here. I wrote down the  
24           code section. And that would be 707.9, uh, which is -  
25           - should of had it marked. Sorry. 707.9. The very

1 last sentence says, no under floor cleanout shall be  
2 located to exceed -- exceeding 5 feet from the access  
3 door, trapdoor or crawl hole. I -- in my personal  
4 opinion, I think it's unsafe to do any cleanouts like  
5 to clean a sewer on -- in a crawlspace period. So  
6 what I would suggest or what I'm, what I'm suggesting  
7 is either, either we completely get rid of that  
8 sentence and make it, make it -- you can put -- I  
9 guess you can put a cleanout anywhere in the crawl, I  
10 guess, or, or say, go back to the 20 feet. Because I,  
11 I -- there's only a couple of guys in here but I'm  
12 pretty sure the other plumber that's here with me is  
13 not going in a crawlspace to clean a sewer ever.

14 Speaker: Ever.

15 Jerry: Would be my guess.

16 Speaker: And I'll never pull a cleanout plug either.

17 Jerry: Ever, right?

18 Speaker: You can pull it. You either trap under a sink or a  
19 toilet.

20 Jerry: So I, I would also like to suggest if there's a way to  
21 make -- like take that sentence out and then put the  
22 sentence in some -- you know, I, I, I don't make the  
23 codes, I don't write them, but some, someone could  
24 make the adjustment to say that pulling a fixture  
25 would be, would be a cleanout, considered a cleanout.

1 Plugged toilet, pulling the sink, um, whatever, what  
2 have you, right?

3 Nielsen: Okay.

4 Jerry: Um, instead of having the 5 feet from the access door.

5 Nielsen: All right.

6 Jerry: So that would be my suggestion.

7 Nielsen: No, I appreciate it. And there's been lots, you know.

8 Jerry: Yeah.

9 Nielsen: And what you have there in purple is just me sitting  
10 at my desk going through and the code amendments and  
11 saying, oh, you know. We could pro -- in my world,  
12 delete these. And also, when we delete them, if we  
13 deleted any of these, it would revert back to the  
14 original language in the code.

15 Jerry: Okay.

16 Nielsen: So it, so it doesn't really get rid of, of the code  
17 section per se.

18 Jerry: No, right.

19 Nielsen: But it would just read verbatim what the uniform  
20 plumbing code says.

21 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

22 Nielsen: The Idaho State Plumbing Code.

23 Jerry: Yeah. 'Cause, 'cause -- Jerry again. Is that --  
24 'cause at some point, that was 20 feet.

25 Nielsen: Yes.

1 Jerry: And I, and I don't remember what, what code it  
2 changed, like what year.

3 Nielsen: We adopted the '15 and 70. So it changed in '17.

4 Jerry: '17, right?

5 Nielsen: Yeah.

6 Jerry: And so we can go back to the verbiage that was in '15  
7 would be what you're saying?

8 Nielsen: Yes.

9 Jerry: Possible? Okay. All right. That, that, I guess that  
10 would be fine. You know, that -- it's just my  
11 suggestion anyways. Um, I also, I also, uh, read in  
12 here, is that 707.4 in the purple on the, on the sheet  
13 you gave us? Was that mean to delete that or was  
14 there a change in there?

15 Nielsen: So, you know just knowing the cleanouts were an issue  
16 --

17 Jerry: Yeah.

18 Nielsen: -- either getting rid of that whole section because if  
19 you read the rule --

20 Jerry: Okay.

21 Nielsen: -- compared to the code --

22 Jerry: Yeah.

23 Nielsen: Code doesn't say anything about base of stack above  
24 the floor. It doesn't say anything about 2 inch  
25 crosses. We have added, and when I say we, the IDA -



1 -- the board --

2 Jerry: Yes.

3 Nielsen: -- has added a lot of these, you know --

4 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

5 Nielsen: -- things to help people. And again, this is where  
6 it's like, did we really do anything to help anybody?

7 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

8 Nielsen: Or did we just cause some plumbers to get mad which  
9 I've got pictures of because the cabinet guys slides  
10 in the cabinet. The cleanout's over here but it has  
11 to be accessible and we've got sick of hearing about  
12 it so he made that cleanout accessible.

13 Jerry: Yeah.

14 Nielsen: Don't know how much the cabinet cost him, but --

15 Jerry: Right.

16 Speaker: Or you don't get a final until it's exposed.

17 Jerry: So with that said, I, I also would suggest basically  
18 getting rid of a base stack cleanout completely. It's  
19 -- to me, it's an absolutely pointless cleanout that  
20 has no use whatsoever, especially being accessible  
21 above the floor. Because number one, no one's pulling  
22 that cleanout if it's -- if you're, if your blockage  
23 is below that, right? If you do, you should probably  
24 think about your career, right?

25 Nielsen: Well, and previously, too, there was -- we were -- I

1           can't remember. I don't think it was spelled out  
2           above the floor. It was, you know.

3 Jerry:     Right.

4 Nielsen:   'Cause they'd drop down and get into the crawl --

5 Jerry:     Right.

6 Nielsen:   -- and throw a 3 inch cleanout somewhere to the --

7 Jerry:     Just a basic stack, right?

8 Nielsen:   Yes.

9 Jerry:     Before it turns horizontal, right?

10 Nielsen:   Yeah.

11 Jerry:     So in the case of the 5 feet, right? So that adds  
12           that scenario where it has to be above the floor if  
13           you're not within 5 feet of a crawlspace, right?

14 Nielsen:   Yes.

15 Jerry:     Current -- and most houses have two crawlspaces at  
16           best, you know. Very little have three. To get 5  
17           feet you're, you're just -- it's way tough. You know,  
18           you're, you're creating more of a hazard, I think.

19 Speaker:   And it also increases the cost of the framing 'cause  
20           they have to switch 2 x 6 walls.

21 Jerry:     Yeah.

22 Nielsen:   Mm-hmm.

23 Speaker:   'Cause we have to have a full size cleanout at the end  
24           of the run.

25 Jerry:     And then it doesn't fit in the wall, right? So --

1 Nielsen: But to add to your original question about deleting it

2 --

3 Jerry: Yes.

4 Nielsen: I mean, it's -- was kind of either/or knowing we do  
5 need cleanout to a certain extent.

6 Jerry: Yeah.

7 Nielsen: But does it really need to be to this extent?

8 Jerry: Right.

9 Nielsen: In, in which case we amend it and because the  
10 legislature does, you know. They'll take this whole  
11 document and they'll do a word count.

12 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

13 Nielsen: And they'll look for restrictive words, must --

14 Jerry: Shall.

15 Nielsen: -- must not, shall, and they will -- when we hand them  
16 our proposed legislature, proposed rules in 2023,  
17 they'll look at it and they'll do a word count and  
18 everything. So even if, you know, there's some words  
19 out of here and we still get what we want and ease  
20 some of the burden --

21 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

22 Nielsen: -- it looks good downtown.

23 Jerry: Yeah. The --

24 Nielsen: So keep that in mind, you know, as you're going  
25 through these here post changes.

1 Jerry: And I know -- Jerry again. I know that you had just  
2 spent some time the last time any of the, the -- we  
3 spoke. You had just spent some time and went through  
4 a few of them and you knew probably would want to be  
5 changed and that's what you did, right?

6 Nielsen: Yes.

7 Jerry: And so --

8 Nielsen: Yes, or like I said --

9 Jerry: Whether the verbiage is perfect, they'll figure --  
10 like somebody will be writing that, right? Like,  
11 like, like --

12 Nielsen: Yes.

13 Jerry: -- you yourself would say, this is how I think it  
14 should be and then you hand it to whoever the, the  
15 case is, right?

16 Nielsen: Correct.

17 Jerry: Okay. That's --

18 Nielsen: And what that case would be is when we get this all  
19 compiled, come up with a rough draft --

20 Jerry: Yeah.

21 Nielsen: When it's in legislative format, it'll be, be blue  
22 strike through red underline. So anything --

23 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

24 Nielsen: -- struck through is going away. Red underlined we're  
25 adding. And you will see the red and blue drafts of -

1 -

2 Jerry: Yeah.

3 Nielsen: -- the whole packet.

4 Jerry: Okay. I appreciate you saying that 'cause I just  
5 didn't -- I didn't understand that in the last  
6 meeting. That's kind of why I'm here.

7 Nielsen: Sure. No.

8 Jerry: I didn't get the opportunity. Uh --

9 Nielsen: Yes, sir.

10 Hanson: You know I'm not a plumber, but I can't help but agree  
11 with these two guys on that cleanout.

12 Nielsen: And your name, please?

13 Hanson: Eric Hanson (ph) with Lever (ph). It just makes no  
14 sense. You sit here from a different (inaudible -  
15 00:13:22). I know a clean, cleanout and everything.  
16 Why in the hell would you put it down there? It just  
17 -- it makes no sense, so.

18 Nielsen: And you know as you say, it makes no sense, everything  
19 else. That's what we got to look at, too, as we go  
20 through this whole packet. Does it make sense? You  
21 know, has it just been in there because 30 years ago,  
22 we wrote it and we get used to doing it and don't  
23 think much of it.

24 Jerry: Got it. Jerry again. But I, I think this whole idea  
25 is for that reason, it's so every 5 years you're

1 getting rid of things that don't matter. And you're  
2 fixing them, you know, to where it doesn't go 20 years  
3 then and stay the same, right? Is that the goal  
4 behind --

5 Nielsen: Well --

6 Jerry: -- zero based --

7 Nielsen: That is 'cause we're taking and looking at it and  
8 going through it.

9 Jerry: Yeah. Right.

10 Nielsen: But pretty much line by line.

11 Jerry: Yeah.

12 Nielsen: And having to justify why we want it back in the next  
13 proposal package.

14 Jerry: Okay.

15 Nielsen: Anything else?

16 Jerry: Uh, yeah. Jerry, Treasure Valley Plumbing again. Uh,  
17 I also would like to figure out a way in code section  
18 909, it talks about special venting for island  
19 fixtures.

20 Nielsen: Mm-hmm.

21 Jerry: Um, which is great. You know, that's something that  
22 came up in the last 10 years or whatever, of people  
23 want islands, right? But they also, also what happens  
24 is in my experience is we end up with what's called a  
25 peninsula, right? So it's an is -- the, the sink is

1 in an island 'cause it's not hooked to the framing but  
2 yet the cabinets end up hooking to the wall. And, and  
3 I found that sometimes in the course of construction,  
4 that can change. And so like, you know, let's say  
5 it's an island and all of a sudden, they're like, oh,  
6 no. We're just gonna run those cabinets all the way  
7 in. Well then you get down to trim, have no idea, and  
8 then my inspectors making me figure out a way to get a  
9 vent in there. He's letting me go a couple of times  
10 because I, I, I didn't -- like I honestly didn't know  
11 that. But from now moving forward, he -- that will  
12 not happen. And I still can't control that, um, in  
13 the construction process. It still happens. And so  
14 then, but then that ends up being really costly in  
15 some cases. In one case, it was very costly for me.

16 Speaker: If it's -- I was told that if it's cabinets, the  
17 sink's out here and there are cabinets attached to the  
18 outer wall and it's just cabinets, you can still use  
19 that vent, the mechanical vent. If there is a wall  
20 built to attach the cabinets to, then you run, run a  
21 vent all the way absolutely to that. And I vent that.  
22 And I, you know, you know, knowing that ahead of time,  
23 there's time to stub it off the wall away from the  
24 frame of the wall 'cause it's never done right away.  
25 But yeah. I've had one happen, too.

1 Jerry: So it's -- so from my, my inspector in my area, does  
2 not allow that to happen on just cabinets. So I, I --  
3 that's all I ever know now.

4 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

5 Jerry: Is what he -- you know what I mean? I've, I've  
6 brought to attention to a couple of different  
7 inspectors, but -- and I don't know what the, what  
8 the, what the rule states as far as a peninsula or  
9 does it even say that?

10 Nielsen: Well see, and that's just it. It doesn't state  
11 anything about a peninsula, but --

12 Jerry: Right.

13 Nielsen: That's, you know. You go through it and you got my  
14 colored copy.

15 Jerry: Yeah.

16 Nielsen: A, residential buildings, you know, because they do  
17 serve a purpose and, and again --

18 Jerry: So, so --

19 Nielsen: -- that's up for discussion 'cause there's some people  
20 that, well, what about commercial?

21 Jerry: Right.

22 Nielsen: Yes, no, maybe.

23 Jerry: Commercial, I'd say no.

24 Nielsen: Okay.

25 Jerry: But that's just my opinion. Residential, yes.



1 Nielsen: But then, you know, down here at C, new construction  
2 may be used on island fixture sinks, peninsula.

3 Jerry: That's what I'd love to see. Thank you. That'd,  
4 that'd be my suggestion. Peninsula.

5 Nielsen: Now to add that one word, we've got to take out five  
6 rules, so.

7 Jerry: Okay.

8 Nielsen: That's getting work --

9 Jerry: Let's find some. I -- let's do it because that one  
10 cost me a ton of money one night, so.

11 Speaker: That's so bad, bad.

12 Nielsen: Do you --

13 Speaker: The exchange rates getting --

14 Speaker: Right?

15 Nielsen: Well you -- now that I got the, you know, momentum  
16 going here, the last one I can wheel and deal. Um,  
17 you know, and also here again just in John's world,  
18 you know, I took out D, E, F because again, in my  
19 theory, you know, the cross sectional area, if you  
20 have a sump, everything, that doesn't count 'cause  
21 there's a check valve.

22 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

23 Nielsen: So if you in there a mince valve, you know, do we need  
24 to spell out that if that vent's not going through the  
25 roof, can you count it as cross sectional?

1 Jerry: Right.

2 Nielsen: How about 48? This one's come up. Everybody knows  
3 your mechanical trap primers for the most part last a  
4 year or two if that long depending on how well the  
5 system's flushed out.

6 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

7 Nielsen: There are devices out there. They'll advertise that  
8 you can replace, you know. You don't need a trap now.  
9 Not going that far, but as a trap seal or you know, a  
10 trap seal protection device, 'cause here about in the  
11 middle of it it says, or other approved trap seal  
12 device. Currently, there are no approved devisees  
13 from this standpoint or the board's standpoint.

14 Jerry: Mm.

15 Nielsen: They have thrown out there that okay, if it's a  
16 remodel or something, it's up to the inspector, you  
17 know, discretion to work with the contractor if they  
18 would allow, you know, a sure seal or a cow tongue in  
19 there.

20 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

21 Nielsen: But it's not law.

22 Jerry: Not -- yeah. Well I -- yeah. I, I agree with that.  
23 I agree with what you're trying to accomplish there.

24 Nielsen: Have a seat.

25 Speaker: Thank you.

1 Speaker: Yeah. Those mechanical ones, they don't, they don't  
2 last for very long before they fail and just start  
3 dumping. I just go off the drain off the sink. Screw  
4 in a little 3 inch, uh, deal, this compression deal on  
5 the side of the top of the floor drain above the seal.

6 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

7 Speaker: Run a 3/8 line to the nearest lave or something and  
8 then stud it out and, and get a drain that near, uh,  
9 your tailpiece that dumps water into that, and that  
10 way it would -- it's not mechanical and it's just  
11 whenever the seal -- whenever the sink's used, it  
12 already spits water in there. Is that -- yeah. I've  
13 had to replace --

14 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

15 Speaker: -- those other ones where every time there's a  
16 pressure change, what is it? Two pounds or something.  
17 So every time basically you turn a faucet on, it's  
18 supposed to spit water into it, but they fail so damn  
19 much that --

20 Speaker: Yeah.

21 Speaker: Just take them out.

22 Speaker: For sure.

23 Speaker: Yeah.

24 Nielsen: So my question, I guess, would be to, you know, your  
25 two's opinion, something to look into. Again, even

1           amending it to say something or working with the board  
2           and kind of get a more official, hey, let's get some  
3           other devices out there. Or, and I don't know if I  
4           said it in Meridian, with the thought of permission  
5           lists innovation, that theory being you leave the door  
6           wide open say on some sort of trap seal and what it --  
7           you know. We sit there and play with it, you know.  
8           Industry, it goes through there and until we see  
9           something happening or a reason to regulate it, even,  
10          you know, just strike that out and pretty much say,  
11          yeah. You know? Because you see a lot of times  
12          products with cap polypropylene, you know. It's been  
13          being used in Europe forever for domestic water and we  
14          just got it in here, you know, 5, 6 years ago.

15   Jerry:     Mm-hmm.

16   Nielsen:  So that's what that permission, permission list  
17              innovation allows is for new ideas and products to  
18              come in, you know with -- and discuss. Not  
19              necessarily just thrown in there but not being  
20              regulated by law right off the bat.

21   Jerry:     Mm-hmm. Yeah, right. So like so put it into the,  
22              into the hands of maybe the, the jurisdiction having  
23              authority, right? Saying if I use this device, he can  
24              -- he basically the inspector can yay or any it? Is  
25              that what you're getting at?

1 Nielsen: Sure. So --

2 Jerry: Because it --

3 Nielsen: So like in this section, you know, uh, floor drains  
4 are similar to traps directly connected to drains  
5 subject to infrequent use must use -- must be  
6 protected with a trap seal primer or other approved,  
7 you know, word deemed necessary.

8 Jerry: So that word approved makes that law more or less,  
9 right?

10 Nielsen: Yes.

11 Jerry: So you take that word out, right? And it just says,  
12 or other trap seal protection device.

13 Nielsen: Or yeah. Or you just put, you know, if it must be  
14 protected with a trap seal.

15 Jerry: Yeah. Right.

16 Nielsen: And then what the authorities or you guys come up  
17 with, you know, can be worked out out there and not  
18 dictated by law.

19 Jerry: Yeah. Yeah. I agree. I like that idea.

20 Nielsen: Anything else as far as the codes here?

21 Jerry: Um, Jerry again with Treasure Valley Plumbing. All  
22 right. And Marie and I had talked a little bit about  
23 Fogo's for test purposes.

24 Nielsen: Mm-hmm.

25 Jerry: Um, or you know, anyways. I talked about not having

1 to see the physically be there for the test. Like you  
2 know, water and drain lines.

3 Nielsen: Yeah. Wit - -- witness the test.

4 Jerry: I, I am not sure how that, um, how that would be  
5 worded, but I agree with the fact that it should be --  
6 it could be more, it could be, uh, it -- there could  
7 be better ways to do it. How's that? Than to have to  
8 physically see it because in the real world, most of  
9 the time, not my inspector for the most part but the  
10 ones in other areas will allow that to happen anyways.  
11 They're doing it all the time. You know, like, you  
12 know, you might have a -- the test down on the waste.  
13 Either -- he either makes a phone call or he just  
14 notes on there, self-verify, uh, to, to myself or  
15 whatever. Take a picture of it. You send him the  
16 picture. He's good with it, right? So --

17 Nielsen: So along those lines, Jerry --

18 Jerry: Yeah.

19 Nielsen: Uh, I'd have to look. Somewhere in here it says that  
20 flue pipe will be tested.

21 Jerry: Oh, yeah.

22 Nielsen: Uh, number 11.

23 Jerry: Yeah, yeah. I do read that.

24 Nielsen: So it says, uh, water heating appliances that use a  
25 category 3 or 4 must be tested its entirety with 5

1 pounds of air for less -- or for 15 minutes. See, and  
2 this doesn't say it shall be witnessed. And we allow  
3 exactly that on something that, you know.

4 Jerry: Yeah.

5 Nielsen: The, the -- that is a life safety issue so really, you  
6 know, your sewer and waters and rough ends, if we  
7 just, you know -- you still test it.

8 (Crosstalk)

9 Jerry: Yeah.

10 Nielsen: But you self-verify or pictures or -- and again --

11 Speaker: Is this yours?

12 Nielsen: You know.

13 Jerry: Yeah.

14 Speaker: Oh, sorry.

15 Nielsen: If an inspector knows this guy's not, you know, he  
16 won't allow it.

17 Jerry: Yeah.

18 Nielsen: But it doesn't specify.

19 Speaker: See you, Mike.

20 Jerry: I guess, well I guess some of my frustration is in, is  
21 the fact that different inspectors are sometimes a  
22 little more stringent than what's actually like, um,  
23 actually done like does in other areas. Put it that  
24 way. So you get one guy that's this way, one guy  
25 that's this way. When really, like you said, it's the

1 -- if the -- if it specifies in the code that it  
2 doesn't have to be witnessed, then that inspector  
3 should be able -- should allow it no matter what. You  
4 know, even if like if -- do you know I'm -- like if I  
5 should be allowed to do that until I prove something  
6 wrong, right?

7 Nielsen: Mm-hmm.

8 Jerry: Not, not basically be guilty before, right?

9 Nielsen: And that's --

10 Speaker: I've had it come down to trust. If your inspectors  
11 especially you know, when we get a new one up here,  
12 they'll see what you do, how you do it, and then  
13 pretty soon, it's like, hey. Something's super easy,  
14 super small, take a picture, send it to me.

15 Nielsen: Yeah.

16 Speaker: And then they'll sign off on it and -- but otherwise,  
17 yeah. I know guys up here that'll try to screw with  
18 you, the inspector, and it's like, well how come you  
19 didn't take a picture? And I can't. It's like,  
20 'cause I haven't screwed with him.

21 Speaker: Right.

22 Speaker: So sometimes that's it and --

23 Speaker: You know, trust me. I, I --

24 Jerry: And I'm not -- like I've been doing it 20 years and I  
25 have been -- I've been doing it for 15 that way and



1 then as soon as I get a new guy and it's still that  
2 way for like 2 years, and I haven't -- like I'm just  
3 frustrated with -- so I'm, I'm looking at having words  
4 in place or something that, that doesn't allow the  
5 inspector to be -- to have more jurisdiction that  
6 needs -- that he's allowed. How's that? In this case  
7 because I don't mind going back and pulling my test,  
8 but let's say, let's say he doesn't get there 'till  
9 4:00 and I've pumped it up at 8:00. Well, over the  
10 course of the day, we'd all know that, that, that like  
11 a test ball can leak down and then allow that air to  
12 go out. Yeah, I verified it for an hour the day  
13 before and the morning of, yet I, I get denied at 4:00  
14 the next day. Right? With no phone call half the  
15 time and just take off and leave and whatever. And I  
16 -- the next day I'm like, what happened? Oh, test  
17 failed. Really? No. Okay, I'll drive back to my  
18 call or I'll drive back to Emmett or I'll drive -- you  
19 know what I mean? To go check it again and call it  
20 back in when I've like -- all it is is this -- you  
21 know, all, all I can say I self-verified it, sent him  
22 a picture. Well, some guys allow it and some guys  
23 don't. And that's my frustration. So I'm looking  
24 towards verbiage that doesn't off -- that allows that  
25 to happen without having such a, you know. I feel

1           like I've, I feel like I should have earned the trust  
2           already, but yet it seems like I haven't, right? And  
3           so --

4 Nielsen: No. I appreciate that and that's over here to find  
5           out and discuss.

6 Jerry: Yeah.

7 Nielsen: Anything else? Any full disclosure when I do these  
8           classes here, townhall meetings. Number 12. Seismic  
9           restraints.

10 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

11 Nielsen: Currently, it's deleted from the code. So if we  
12           deleted this rule, it goes back to the code which  
13           would make it mandatory that you strap water heaters.  
14           How does -- so a little history. Twenty something  
15           years I've been plumbing. We met nobody ever enforced  
16           strapping water heaters.

17 Jerry: Right.

18 Nielsen: So then finally it got to, to the point, I'm like,  
19           well if we're not enforcing it shouldn't we just get  
20           rid of it because it's in here, buildings, you know,  
21           does it to a point. So we deleted it. Then we had  
22           the earthquake a year or two ago that pretty much the  
23           whole southern part of the state fell. And some  
24           people want it back now. How do you two feel or  
25           anybody feel?

1 Speaker: I say yeah because that's an easy \$200, \$250 deal that  
2 you can make money on right there. Simple.

3 Nielsen: Does the cost, the benefit?

4 Jerry: Jerry, I'm Treasure Valley Plumbing. I, I, I agree  
5 with deleting it again, or leaving it out because I,  
6 I, I -- if, if an earthquake is big enough that a  
7 water heater falls, you've got probably some pretty  
8 big issues.

9 Speaker: You're gonna have structural issues.

10 Jerry: And even with that earthquake was a -- what was it? A  
11 or something? I don't know. I can't remember what it  
12 was. I felt it but it barely moved my lights, right?

13 Speaker: I knocked the hell of us.

14 Jerry: Really?

15 Speaker: Yeah.

16 Jerry: Where? Up here?

17 Speaker: Yeah.

18 Jerry: Yeah. So --

19 Speaker: Yeah. By the --

20 Jerry: Did, did any water heaters fall over that you know of?

21 Speaker: Huh-uh.

22 Jerry: So that would be my argument.

23 Speaker: And these --

24 Jerry: And, and I've seen some strap but that's shit. The  
25 water heaters, you know, 20 some years old.

1 Nielsen: Sure. And so when we do these, when we do this again,  
2 you know, if we added that back in, you know, one of  
3 the questions is what evidence is there that the rule  
4 as proposed will solve the problem? And they will  
5 want to know what could have happened, what might  
6 happen. They're gonna want us to bring hard data to  
7 the party and say, okay. In '19 when we had, you  
8 know, that earthquake, 18 people were hospitalized  
9 'cause a water heater fell on their head. Now again,  
10 Jason's been here for all these parties and the  
11 discussion came, you know, getting hard data hard to  
12 do because 99 -- unless the house blew up 'cause the  
13 gas line broke, you will never hear about a water  
14 heater falling over.

15 Speaker: Right, yeah.

16 (Crosstalk)

17 Speaker: Yeah, plumbing broke and you've got more issues  
18 anyway.

19 Nielsen: But I did want -- you know, like I said, I put it in  
20 there just as, hey, look it. We're getting rid of  
21 some rules, but that rule deletion would go, revert  
22 back to the section in the code book.

23 Speaker: Are you here for the hearing?

24 Speaker: No. I'm here to drop off a tattered flag.

25 Speaker: Oh.

1 Nielsen: I'm assuming right there will work.

2 Speaker: Okay. Got my new one. Have a good day.

3 Nielsen: Thanks.

4 Jerry: So, so maybe I'm not understanding. I'm sorry, John.

5 Nielsen: Sure.

6 Jerry: So as, as this says delete, that means it will not be  
7 in the code if like -- that means if, if this gets, if  
8 this gets approved, number 12, then it's gone. Is  
9 that correct?

10 Nielsen: If it stays, take away my blue or purple --

11 Jerry: Yeah.

12 Nielsen: -- and it's still black, as you read this it says,  
13 section 705.2 of your code book is deleted.

14 Jerry: Oh.

15 Nielsen: So that you just --

16 Jerry: So you --

17 Nielsen: And I think it might even be scratched out in there.

18 Jerry: I think 507?

19 Nielsen: Any time a rule says delete, at least the way we've  
20 done it on plumbing and --

21 Jerry: Yeah.

22 Nielsen: -- and our deputy AG. You know, it just means that  
23 you're gonna scratch this 'cause some of it, too, says  
24 delete and replace with the following. So you take  
25 that whole section out.

1 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

2 Nielsen: You delete and then you replace with the verbiage of  
3 the rule.

4 Jerry: So, so like --

5 Speaker: I would leave, I would leave the fact that it says  
6 delete in there.

7 Nielsen: Yeah. So if we leave that rule --

8 Jerry: Okay. Leave it.

9 Nielsen: -- it keeps that section out of our code.

10 Jerry: Okay. That would be my suggestion is to leave it the  
11 way it -- right. Leave it that way.

12 Nielsen: Okay.

13 Jerry: But you could leave out your administrative rules  
14 count by eliminating the rule that eliminates the rule  
15 and the code? I mean, I get it.

16 Speaker: Oh, boy.

17 Jerry: There's probably a goal in mind, right? To, to -- for  
18 these rules, some to, to get rid of some of them  
19 because if you don't, then you didn't do your job,  
20 right? Or somebody didn't do their job, correct?

21 Nielsen: Correct.

22 Jerry: So yeah. We need to find some more to delete, right?  
23 Is what the deal is if we're not --

24 Nielsen: And, and you know, again, it doesn't have to be today.

25 Jerry: Yeah, right.

1 Nielsen: Um, you know, we're probably -- we'll probably want to  
2 compile a rough draft November and October, November.  
3 Something that I can kind of piece together for the  
4 board.

5 Jerry: Mm-hmm. Okay.

6 Nielsen: And then -- but we still have time even after that,  
7 like I said. Just because we get a rough draft is  
8 exactly that. It's a rough draft that can be amended.

9 Jerry: Yeah.

10 Nielsen: And the board might just be like, yeah. You -- I  
11 don't know what you were smoking that day, Jhon, but -  
12 -

13 Jerry: Right.

14 Nielsen: This is staying and this is staying, but again we have  
15 to justify it.

16 Jerry: Okay. And, and our comments like today that I'm  
17 commenting will help justify, right?

18 Nielsen: Yes.

19 Jerry: Anyone that comments to or for or against will be the  
20 justification on how this happens?

21 Nielsen: Yes.

22 Jerry: Like before when --

23 Nielsen: Because I will literally be, you know, McCall, okay.

24 Somebody brought up seismic. Jerry was for it.

25 Nobody really opposed it, so.

1 Jerry: Yeah.

2 Nielsen: There's that argument, McCall. Idaho Falls might be a  
3 difference story.

4 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

5 Nielsen: But you know, complied all into one, kind of see where  
6 it goes.

7 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

8 Nielsen: And comes out and again, kind of like the legislature  
9 or anybody else. Yeah, I heard you. We're still  
10 going this route.

11 Jerry: Right.

12 Nielsen: So --

13 Jerry: Yeah.

14 Nielsen: But it does have to go through a lot of steps and a  
15 lot of people looking at it.

16 Jerry: Yeah.

17 Reynolds: Um, number 11. Dan Reynolds, plumbing. Um, running a  
18 PVC pipe for -- so you can run CPD seals. So but for  
19 like the water heaters and stuff, the tankless ones,  
20 no problem. Care testing that. We have fittings that  
21 will go into PVC pipe. A piece of cake for the test.  
22 But on some of these boilers, they have their own type  
23 of pipe, uh, a different type of poly pipe, nothing  
24 adapts to it. And it's a ring type deal and I asked  
25 Tim here a while back. I said, you know, I'm running



1           one of these -- I'm running the exhaust to my own damn  
2           house. I said, how in the hell am I supposed to test  
3           this? And he goes, you don't.

4 Nielsen: And along --

5 Reynolds: So how -- I mean, there's -- I don't know if it's a  
6           category 3 or 4, which one they classify it as, but --

7 Nielsen: So if there's a listing on it, you can get with the  
8           manufacturer, see what that listing says 'cause some  
9           listings say don't test it because it's, you know, the  
10          --

11 Speaker: Be asking yourself.

12 Nielsen: Yeah.

13 Reynolds: If you've got a gasket, now you're gonna have a leak.

14 Nielsen: Yeah.

15 Reynolds: So --

16 Nielsen: So when you got to kind of take them, you know, one  
17          offs and see what you have because we've got that now  
18          with, uh --

19 Speaker: 1738.

20 Nielsen: You know, these do --

21 Reynolds: 1738.

22 Nielsen: -- listed blues and they will tell you, nope. It's  
23          test listed and tested to these standards.

24 Reynolds: Right.

25 Nielsen: Don't put a test on it 'cause --

1 Reynolds: Yeah. PVCs is easy like I said, but yeah. The other  
2 stuff, I'm just like how in the hell am I supposed to  
3 -- and I don't know if, you know, 5 pounds, will I  
4 blow a gasket? Do I --

5 Nielsen: Jerry's heading to another section. I'll take what  
6 you got.

7 Jerry: I am. Thank you, John. Um, I'm trying to find --  
8 maybe you can just help me figure this out. But in  
9 recent years, it has been -- it was changed, um, from  
10 you could install a double check on an irrigation  
11 system --

12 Nielsen: Mm-hmm.

13 Jerry: -- to a PVB only. Or not only, but PBV or reader's  
14 pressure. I, I guess my question would be where did  
15 that -- what changed in the code to make that  
16 different? Where?

17 Nielsen: So previously, we had adopted the AWWA cross  
18 connection control manual for backflow prevention.

19 Jerry: Okay.

20 Nielsen: In our rules.

21 Jerry: Yeah. Oh.

22 Nielsen: So then you had a conflict between the plumbing code  
23 and then we adopted another code basically dealing  
24 with backflow. And then actually the backflow testers  
25 are going off a totally different one.

1 Jerry: Yeah.

2 Nielsen: So what we did is we eliminated the AWWA and went to  
3 the code. So the AWWA was the only backflow manual  
4 out there that allowed for a doublecheck on lawn  
5 sprinkler systems.

6 Jerry: Hum.

7 Nielsen: And so the testers test to get certified on the USC  
8 backflow manual, which says no doublechecks. The  
9 plumbing code, no doublechecks for sprinklers. So  
10 that's what changed.

11 Jerry: USC says that also? Okay. Then, then the state of  
12 Oregon must have amended their code to allow it to  
13 happen.

14 Nielsen: And they may have 'cause I mean --

15 Jerry: 'Cause I looked that up.

16 Nielsen: It, it was quite a throw down, drag out, you know,  
17 when this first was proposed, but everybody but the  
18 AWWA, and the AWWA was never really adopted by anybody  
19 else but the plumbing side. So I wouldn't doubt if  
20 they did amend it. I don't know, but I wouldn't be  
21 surprised.

22 Jerry: To amend it to allow --

23 Nielsen: To allow for doublechecks.

24 Jerry: Yes, yes. 'Cause it -- in my experience, I've been a  
25 double -- or doublecheck. I've been a backflow tester

1 for -- I don't know, 15, 10, 15 years whatever. And  
2 the, the PVBs have much higher rate of failure.

3 Speaker: Hum.

4 Jerry: Um, especially on irrigation systems because they,  
5 they are out in the elements all the time and they  
6 tend to freeze, they tend to -- I mean, they just --  
7 it's just the way it works. where a doublecheck is  
8 actually underground, right? In a box normally in, in  
9 most installations. Um, and somewhat protected from  
10 freezing and especially in McCall, no. Not so much  
11 but in, you know.

12 Speaker: If it's dug -- it can be put outside.

13 Jerry: Yeah, right.

14 Speaker: If it's not, then yeah. You have issues.

15 Jerry: Right. And so -- and I think I now that -- I know  
16 it's -- it, it comes down to the degree of hard,  
17 right? Um, whether or not they can be installed  
18 anywhere, wherever it -- you know, wherever it can be.  
19 And in a doublecheck is I guess in the low hazard, um,  
20 category. Yet, I guess sprinklers in the, in maybe  
21 the AWWA is in the -- and maybe in this code, I guess  
22 is --

23 Nielsen: Well, there's actually not on the chart. There's this  
24 code section that --

25 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

1 Nielsen: -- risked out that talks about sprinklers. And I  
2 might be further -- yeah, that way. Probably the next  
3 page. Seems like it's on, uh, left-hand page.

4 Jerry: Oh, right there. Okay. Yeah. It doesn't, it, it  
5 does not allow in here to even have a doublecheck. So  
6 I'm wondering, uh, it must be -- Oregon must have  
7 amended that somehow or included it because I can  
8 still do it in Oregon.

9 Nielsen: Yeah. And they use the UPC.

10 Jerry: They do.

11 Nielsen: So --

12 Jerry: I don't know. I'd have to look at that. Maybe that's  
13 in the Oregon -- they've added that, amended that.

14 Nielsen: But that's why doublechecks were basically eliminated.

15 Jerry: Yeah. Huh. It seems to me like the -- I mean, I  
16 guess it's, I guess at some point somebody's gonna  
17 argue that it's -- that would be a public health, um,  
18 issue. You know? But on the same end, how long were  
19 that -- have they been installed in the state of Idaho  
20 for, you know. And how many times has it actually  
21 does that happen, right? The backflow happens on an  
22 irrigation system and, uh, pro - -- produces a, an  
23 unhealthy situation for the owner. Or the city of,  
24 you know, a city municipal water, um, system, I guess.  
25 I, I, I, like I would have to look those numbers up I

1 guess, bring that to attention, but I -- my suggestion  
2 would be that somehow, however it works out that back  
3 -- the doublecheck backflows would be allowed to be on  
4 irrigation systems. I would say maybe keep that to  
5 residential, not so much commercial, because I think  
6 in commercial applications you can -- the RP is  
7 definitely doable in a lot of places. But in  
8 residential --

9 Speaker: It's really tough in residential.

10 Jerry: Very tough. Even, even with, even with the PVB  
11 because it sticks up out of the ground. You got to be  
12 12 inches above the highest head. You get houses  
13 where the meter comes in at the bottom or, or  
14 wherever, whatever the case is, the water supply. And  
15 the house is, you know, up a hill 10 feet, whatever  
16 the case is. And then you got to have that transect  
17 clear up to the house or wherever to be 12 inches  
18 above the highest head, which the backyard has a hill,  
19 right?

20 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

21 Jerry: I mean, at that point, you're flag poling a -- I mean,  
22 it create -- creates a trip hazard. How's that? I  
23 mean, I don't know what to say, but I mean for life  
24 safety, uh, you know, there's two different ways to  
25 look at that. Yes. Or cost-wise, you know? Um, I, I

1 test a lot of backflows and PVBs by far fail more  
2 often than, than doublechecks.

3 Nielsen: All right.

4 Jerry: So that's my --

5 Nielsen: So I appreciate it. Put it down, take it under  
6 consideration.

7 Speaker: Number 20, are we going back to 160 versus 200 PSI?

8 Nielsen: So I highlighted this one just because if you go into  
9 the code, it doesn't specify anything.

10 Speaker: Okay.

11 Nielsen: It says that the polyethylene can be used but it  
12 doesn't say the pressure or anything else. And again,  
13 going into some of these and excavation is another one  
14 of the rules that we just added a bunch of stuff, you  
15 know, to try and spell out every little thing you can  
16 do.

17 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

18 Nielsen: So, you know, it was just out there saying, you know,  
19 do we really need to spell all this out when it comes  
20 to a polyethylene line running in? Something to  
21 consider.

22 Speaker: So we could go back to 160 of this as well? Nobody  
23 carries it anymore, but, um, the 160 PSI versus the  
24 200.

25 Nielsen: Well right now, it says 1 -- you know 160's minimum.

1           You can throw a 200 in. You just can't go 100.

2 Speaker: Right.

3 Nielsen: Which do guys feel, you know. Is this a legit thing  
4 to leave in here that, you know, 160 should be --

5 Speaker: I thought it changed at least two, three, four years  
6 ago when everyone's -- 'cause our supplier switched  
7 from -- they no longer carry 160. They go from 100  
8 for irrigation guys to 200 for excavators and that's  
9 running water mains. So they don't even carry 160  
10 anymore.

11 Nielsen: So is this rule out of date?

12 Speaker: Yeah. I agree.

13 (Crosstalk)

14 Speaker: I don't think so. Yes.

15 Nielsen: I mean, honestly, 'cause I -- you know, I might go  
16 into a wholesale house and have a cup of coffee or  
17 something but again, I'm not out running water  
18 services.

19 Speaker: I haven't seen them. I -- to my knowledge, you don't  
20 carry 160 up here anymore. And that's Ferguson, so.

21 Nielsen: All right.

22 Jerry: And there, there was design behind that, uh, when it  
23 happened. And I -- like you said, I don't remember  
24 exactly what that, what that was, but yeah. I, I've  
25 never ran into a situation where I needed any like 160



1 over 200. You know what I mean? Like 200's fine as  
2 long as that's -- so maybe that would be one we could  
3 get rid of is what you're saying? Like --

4 Nielsen: That -- yeah. That's what I'm asking.

5 Jerry: We could -- yeah.

6 Nielsen: You know, 'cause if you can't get 200, or you can't  
7 get 160 anymore anyway, and you're already using 200 -  
8 -

9 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

10 Nielsen: And we go back to --

11 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

12 Nielsen: -- 605.62 in the code.

13 Jerry: Yeah.

14 Nielsen: I'm gonna jump into -- I mean, if you guys got more on  
15 the code, feel free to get a hold of me, but --

16 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

17 Nielsen: Seeing how we got about 35 minutes left --

18 Jerry: Oh, yeah.

19 Nielsen: -- I was gonna jump into some other topics if that  
20 works for you.

21 Jerry: Yeah. Thanks.

22 Nielsen: So I had been asking -- so in our rules, the full  
23 packet I gave you, are permit fee schedule. We used  
24 to be a base fee and then count fixtures. Then before  
25 I got into the program manager position, we went to

1 square footage. I don't know why, but now HVACs back  
2 to baes permit fee and counting appliances. Is there  
3 -- do you -- how do you feel about the current permit  
4 fee schedule? The structure.

5 Jerry: Um --

6 Nielsen: Good, bad, don't matter?

7 Speaker: I think it would be more reasonable if you did the  
8 count 'cause I've had some buildings where it's like,  
9 okay, you're only 5,000 square feet and it's like,  
10 holy shit. Let's jam more plumbing into it. You'd  
11 make more money that way but do I like -- it's like,  
12 you know, however you guys do it. I just pass it on  
13 to the customer anyway, so it's kind of a, a wash  
14 thing. I thought it was easier beforehand just  
15 counting stuff out and yeah. I know the inspectors  
16 turn around and start counting everything out, too, to  
17 make sure everything was -- you didn't forget  
18 anything, but, um --

19 Nielsen: And I mean, you know --

20 Speaker: It's kind of --

21 Nielsen: -- realistically, say 'cause right now, 130s minimum.

22 Speaker: Minimum.

23 Nielsen: Permit fee. Do realistically, and I mean I know it  
24 varied by house, but a 5,000 square foot house, if you  
25 had 100 bucks, base permit fee and a \$10 a fixture, 5

1           whatever, do you really think you'd get up to \$325?  
2           And again, I know diff -- varies but you know, do you  
3           see what this -- we'll go this route. Do you see that  
4           there might be a cost savings on, okay. No matter  
5           what I put into that big house, I'm paying \$325  
6           dollars, I might pay a little more on my track houses,  
7           but I know what that's gonna be for the most part.  
8           But these bigger homes, custom homes, I wont be paying  
9           a whole bunch of money maybe.

10 Speaker: Yeah.

11 Jerry: So, Jerry at Treasure Valley Plumbing again. I --  
12           from what I -- as a business owner, I'm looking at the  
13           ease of, of getting my permit 'cause you know, I don't  
14           always do it myself. So I, I've trained people to do  
15           it, right? And so for them, it's much easier just to  
16           pick the square footage 'cause we almost always know  
17           that, right? From somehow, some way. And most of  
18           the time, if you're going from a 2,000 square foot  
19           house to 3, you're probably adding a bathroom. I  
20           mean, that's probably right? And the way I see, the  
21           way I look at is if you've got to count all the  
22           fixtures, it seems to me like halfway through the job,  
23           sometimes they'll want to add a fixture. Well then if  
24           the inspector comes back, you know, on rough end and  
25           you've roughed in an island, another sink over here in

1 the corner, a, a bar sink, whatever, you know, he  
2 writes down and goes, oh, you forgot the bar sink.  
3 Well yeah. They just added it yesterday and I didn't  
4 even think about it, right? So then you got an extra  
5 process to go pay for that \$10 fixture, right, that  
6 you --

7 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

8 Jerry: You didn't miss. You just -- they just added it  
9 yesterday, right?

10 Nielsen: So that's a good point.

11 Jerry: So I'd rather see it just a square footage.

12 Nielsen: Okay. 'Cause that's part of, you know, our new plan,  
13 you know, customer friendly.

14 Jerry: Yeah.

15 Nielsen: What, what can -- and you're right. It's 'cause when  
16 we went to the new age fact schedule, you know, it was  
17 brought up that my ladies in the office don't know  
18 what we're doing out here, so you know, I'm gonna be -  
19 -

20 Jerry: Yeah.

21 Nielsen: Guess-ta-mating on fixture and then doing that. So  
22 let's -- as far as this ease part --

23 Jerry: Yeah.

24 Nielsen: Down here on the 2 or multifamily dwellings. By  
25 definition, a multifamily dwelling, an apartment,

1 anything over duplex is commercial per the building  
2 codes.

3 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

4 Nielsen: Would you rather see possibly to make your life  
5 easier, we have one and two family dwellings square  
6 footage. So you still pay square footage on any --  
7 you know, if it's a duplex per side and get rid of  
8 this other one and it just goes under commercial? One  
9 permit, could be 160 unit building. If it's one  
10 building, it's one permit. You all have to work  
11 detailed notes on some inspection requests and my  
12 inspectors are gonna have to do some notetaking on the  
13 inspection side, but do you see that as possibly  
14 helping?

15 Jerry: Yes. Jerry again. Uh, I had a scenario where we had  
16 like a four-plex or a six-plex and it got really messy  
17 with the house members. And the letters or whatever  
18 the case is because each one had a separate address in  
19 this case. It wasn't A, B, C, D, E. It was house  
20 numbers in this complex. And so I had -- I think I  
21 had four separate permits for one building, and of  
22 course, when you call it in, one number is easily  
23 missed, you know, overlooked. And they're inspecting  
24 the wrong units and then putting stickers in the wrong  
25 boxes for the -- you know what I mean?

1 Nielsen: So, but it --

2 Jerry: It got --

3 Nielsen: But in that instance, townhouses would fall under the  
4 single family. Was that a townhouse?

5 Jerry: Not the, not to my knowledge. It was just they used,  
6 they used numbers like 313 and 314, 316, kind of. And  
7 the way that they came up with the permit was that it  
8 was four different permit numbers. And I thought,  
9 it's one building, right? So I, I don't know. But my  
10 suggestion is to, to do it that way, to make -- if  
11 it's a building like that, to make it one permit. And  
12 then you just have, you know, you just tell them  
13 you're doing -- I guess if you have a hundred, then  
14 you tell them you're doing one through fifty, the  
15 inspection on that today, whatever, right?

16 Nielsen: Yeah.

17 Jerry: And then that's -- it's pretty easy to note that  
18 instead of having so many permit numbers to keep track  
19 of, um --

20 Nielsen: Okay.

21 Jerry: That'd be my suggestion.

22 Nielsen: No. I appreciate it.

23 Jerry: Yeah.

24 Nielsen: Anything else on permits that you might want to see  
25 deleted or changed? Again, kind of off the top of

1 your head.

2 Jerry: So I'm just gonna throw this out there.

3 Nielsen: All right.

4 Jerry: Um, I've heard in the past, and, and I'm talking a  
5 long time ago, that there was a situation where -- and  
6 maybe this could have been another state, but where  
7 you bought a certain amount of let's say appliance  
8 installation or permits. And you would go like let's  
9 say you replaced a, a water heater or whatever, and  
10 you would have a certain amount of them and they would  
11 like inspect so many out of ten, right? Not every  
12 single one would be, um -- like you would phys - --  
13 they would physically go look at every single one. Is  
14 that something that you have known in the past or  
15 anywhere that --

16 Nielsen: It isn't, but I mean, it's -- and this is the first  
17 time, you know, I've brought it up and it's something  
18 we can look into. It wasn't just like up.

19 Jerry: Yeah, like a bloody book of permits for that. And I'm  
20 trying -- it -- I mean, this was -- maybe somebody  
21 just told me. I've never had, you know, I've never  
22 seen that case before, but, um, I just was gonna throw  
23 something like that out there. But --

24 Nielsen: 'Cause a --

25 Jerry: I don't know what benefit we would be, but --

1 Nielsen: Well you know, but it brings up the question, you  
2 know, in an effort to regular yourself to a point.  
3 Jerry: Mm-hmm.  
4 Nielsen: You know, if there is somebody out there that does,  
5 you know, 200 water heaters a year --  
6 Jerry: Right.  
7 Nielsen: -- is that, you know, is the life safety enough --  
8 Jerry: Yeah, I don't know.  
9 Nielsen: -- that you spot check it?  
10 Jerry: Yeah, really.  
11 Nielsen: Or something, you know, like a water heater you want  
12 to see each one and maybe spot check rough ins.  
13 Jerry: Yeah, right.  
14 Nielsen: But I mean, you know, it's something that could be  
15 discussed and kind of kicked around, too, 'cause  
16 nobody's brought it up really that, you know, hey,  
17 what about -- you know, the witness and the test and  
18 that sort of thing.  
19 Jerry: Mm-hmm.  
20 Nielsen: But --  
21 Jerry: Mm-hmm.  
22 Nielsen: You can apply it to some other instances also.  
23 Jerry: Yeah.  
24 Nielsen: All right. I'll move on to apprentice registrations.  
25 Jerry: Okay.



1 Nielsen: The first topic is constant on the job supervision.  
2 Do you guys feel that it's Doppel's job to ensure that  
3 you have somebody on the job at all times supervising  
4 and apprentice?

5 Speaker: You'd hope.

6 Jerry: No.

7 Nielsen: Is it something you feel that industry could regulate  
8 on their own? The supervision. You, you know,  
9 there's still supervision but regulate the -- how it's  
10 done.

11 Speaker: Um, I've had inspectors show up and just say, hey,  
12 where's their card? And for -- and ask me also at the  
13 same time. Well, I guess you guys came down on them  
14 just to doublecheck everybody. But yeah. If they're  
15 on the job and, you know, I've seen other guys where  
16 they've got somebody else working there and it's like,  
17 it's not my deal, you know. You get caught, it's your  
18 ass, not mine. So it's not my business, but I don't  
19 know it -- it'd be -- yeah. I mean, basically, it's -  
20 - it comes down to the business. I mean, you guys  
21 can't run around looking for apprentices. Everyone  
22 shit on their own, so.

23 Nielsen: Well, I guess I would ask you as a business owner,  
24 don't you feel that you know which guy --

25 Speaker: Can do --

1 Nielsen: -- and gal you could send out on their own?

2 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

3 Nielsen: And which one you're like, no way.

4 Speaker: Yeah.

5 Nielsen: The way -- you ain't trimming a toilet without me  
6 watching.

7 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

8 Speaker: Yeah. You know, and that just comes down to  
9 experience, too, and everybody does it. But I  
10 remember when Debest (ph) tried to get that shit  
11 pulled through that one journeyman per shop. And so  
12 now you have is a bunch of apprentices, and I wrote a  
13 letter to the state about that one saying, no, that's  
14 wrong because so one guy especially a shop that size,  
15 so you have one journeyman in your shop gonna run  
16 around and run -- make sure these apprentices know how  
17 to run a job? And then which isn't technically their  
18 job anyway is to learn first and then 'cause a  
19 journeyman you learn that. But not to mention the  
20 fact that, you know, you screw up, your insurance goes  
21 up. So if everybody screws up enough, then everything  
22 goes up across the board, so. But yeah. I mean it' -  
23 - I don't know. There -- everybody likes -- everybody  
24 does it but you only do it with the ones you know you  
25 can count on.

1 Nielsen: So do you feel it's a life safety thing, or is it a  
2 training thing or both? It doesn't have to be one or  
3 the other.

4 Speaker: Well, if it's life safety, they shouldn't even be in  
5 construction period. But, um, it's a training issue.  
6 So to make sure they're, they're trained right and  
7 then, then you can trust them to go out and set a  
8 toilet 'cause yeah. I mean, if you have a journeyman  
9 who has to go watch an apprentice set a toilet, and  
10 that's the only thing to do, well, then it's money out  
11 of your pocket if it's a bid job. TNM, uh, I don't  
12 think you can still swing that one, but -- so I'd say  
13 it's more of a training thing.

14 Nielsen: Okay. There was discussion in other townhall meetings  
15 about, you know, the whole point of this is not to  
16 create more regulations, but maybe alter, you know.  
17 Currently, we're on a 5 year apprentice registration.  
18 There's talk about going back to a 1 year. Would you  
19 -- anybody have issues with that? Going --

20 Speaker: So you'd just reapply in a year then?

21 Nielsen: Yes. It'd be a 1 year registration.

22 Jerry: It seems to me like that would create more, more work.

23 Speaker: More for you guys.

24 Jerry: For you and/or us to have to figure that out.

25 Nielsen: Now I appreciate the no work on but don't worry about

1 our workload. You know, but out in the field, if you  
2 had went back to a 1 year registration and Jason likes  
3 this one because, you know, as far as tracking to know  
4 how many apprentices are in the state, a 5 year  
5 doesn't give us a good number.

6 Speaker: Oh, yeah. I -- okay. Yeah.

7 Nielsen: And, and again, you know, and that's not what I'm here  
8 to, you know --

9 Speaker: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

10 Nielsen: But Jason, you want -- or --

11 Hudson: Jason Hudson, AFLCIO, and I, I will, uh, jump in on  
12 this one 'cause, 'cause I've brought it up at a few  
13 other meetings. And also I think is good from -- I  
14 know you guys have said a few times, you like or you  
15 can have uniformity between the different license  
16 codes. And electrical and HVAC have both gone to 1  
17 year. Um, and no increased cost because it's just --  
18 it goes from \$50 for 5 years to \$10 a year for the 1  
19 year apprentice registration. Um, but a couple of  
20 things it does. One, it does allow policy makers and,  
21 you know, state work force development council,  
22 everybody that's looking at sort of long term  
23 workforce trends in the state have a whole lot better  
24 idea about how many apprentices do we have in the  
25 field? Who do we have in the pipeline to predict how

1 many journeymen we might be able to have a few years  
2 hence because one thing I know in the electrical that  
3 we saw a lot when it was still the 5 year license is  
4 somebody would come out and they work for a month.  
5 And they're like, I hate this. I'm out.

6 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

7 Hudson: They're still on the books for another 4 years and 11  
8 months as an apprentice. And there's no way to know  
9 if they're working or they're not working, whereas at  
10 least with the 1 year, you have much more accurate  
11 models of who you had, who you didn't, who was in the  
12 pipeline, who was coming down? Um, the other thing is  
13 that it made it a little bit lower barrier to entry  
14 for that person that, you know, was maybe on the fence  
15 about trying it out or not. If it's just \$10, um, you  
16 know, they can -- that's not a huge investment to give  
17 it a shot for a month and see if they're worth a darn.

18 Speaker: Yeah.

19 Speaker: Well, that make sense. Yeah.

20 Jerry: Yeah. And Jerry again. I have to agree with that.  
21 I, I -- it, it, it would create a little bit more work  
22 on our end to have to register them every year. On  
23 the same hand, it would help me, too, to know who I  
24 have. Like, like who -- how do I put it? Like I've  
25 had scenarios where I have a journeyman that's like,

1 oh, my license is expired last month. I forgot.

2 Well, if you had -- if you -- you know, it would help  
3 remind it every year, these, you know, these guys have  
4 to have their licenses renewed. You know what I mean,  
5 too? And that would -- any ways, that would create  
6 more, a little more work but I, I think it would be  
7 worth it.

8 Speaker: Yeah.

9 Jerry: Um --

10 Nielsen: And we also are looking at, you know, as we go through  
11 this whole transition, our system's outdated.

12 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

13 Nielsen: And we -- we're bringing a 11 different agencies under  
14 one roof now. The contractor registration, your  
15 medical boards. You know, every -- all these other  
16 people that have some form of registration or license,  
17 and we are looking at going completely online. So,  
18 you know, right now --

19 Speaker: Yeah.

20 Nielsen: 'Cause you guys know it's paper and, you know, our  
21 high tech is either emailing it in or faxing it.

22 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

23 Nielsen: So, you know, on the ease side of it, we are looking  
24 at making everything paperless and you could do it  
25 online once we get established and get a new system.

1           It might be a few years.

2   Jerry:    Right.

3   Nielsen:  But we are looking at going that route.

4   Jerry:    Okay.  Um, Jerry again.  I -- so -- part -- we talked  
5            about it in Meridian, they talked about it in length  
6            in Meridian.  Um, I don't -- I do not agree with  
7            having one journeyman per shop because then your  
8            journeyman's card is worthless for the most part.  
9            Right?

10   Nielsen: Mm-hmm.

11   Speaker:  Thank you.

12   Jerry:    Um, and so I do not agree with that.  Although from a  
13            business, business owner standpoint, um, I do  
14            everything I can possibly do to make sure I have a  
15            journeyman on the job, right?  'Cause I'm required to  
16            do that.  But there has been instances, especially  
17            with Covid scenarios, that a journeyman let's say  
18            cannot be there for 2 weeks, right?  And I have a  
19            certain amount of apprentices that also need to work.  
20            And so my fr - -- my challenge there is what do I do  
21            with the two guys that he, that he has underneath him  
22            and when he's -- when he has to be gone even on  
23            vacation sometimes?  I know everybody juggles that.  
24            Don't get me wrong.  Like I, I juggle it, too, right?  
25            I, and I think I do a pretty good job of it.  But I

1 think there is some room for reform there to make it  
2 so that if in those cases or, you know, I -- the  
3 verbiage is not gonna be able to be like case per case  
4 obviously. But I thought of this scenario where if,  
5 if there -- if we're able to keep track of apprentices  
6 that type and we're ab - -- and we're all, already  
7 keeping track of journeymen of that type, then, then  
8 maybe there's a scenario where you, where is -- as a  
9 business, you have to have -- if you have two  
10 apprentices, you have to have one journeyman. If you  
11 have four apprentices, you have to have two  
12 journeyman. If you have six, you have to have three.  
13 You know, I don't know what the math would be but that  
14 would require that I have to hire -- in order for me  
15 to have two more apprentices, I have to hire another  
16 journeyman to do that. Right? Um, to be able to do  
17 that. Now with that said, they maybe don't have to be  
18 on the job but they have to be available within, you  
19 know, a certain amount of time or by phone or whatever  
20 the case is, right? Um, I, I don't know what the  
21 verbiage would be but that's, that's the struggles  
22 that I've had, and that's, that's kind of a thing that  
23 I thought about might help.

24 Nielsen: So if, so if I'm following you right, not necessarily  
25 spelling out constant on the job supervision, but for



1                   lack of a better term and exactly what it is, a ratio.

2 Speaker: It's a ratio, yeah.

3 Nielsen: As a whole shop.

4 Jerry: Yeah.

5 Nielsen: Instead of a ratio like the electricians on the job.

6 Jerry: Yeah. 'Cause then at that -- I mean --

7 Nielsen: That's a, that's a new idea. Nobody's brought that  
8                   up.

9 Jerry: 'Cause it -- I would have to hire those guys to be, in  
10                  order for them to be there, I mean, for me to have an  
11                  apprentice, I got to have another guy, right?

12 Speaker: When I was busting it is an apprentice by the  
13                  inspector. Of course, this was back in Minnesota.  
14                  And he's like, what are you doing?

15 Jerry: Right.

16 Speaker: And I said, well I'm -- and he goes, no. Explain what  
17                  you are doing right here today.

18 Jerry: Yeah.

19 Speaker: So I explained it to him and he goes, oh, guy. Sounds  
20                  good. And he just walked off.

21 Jerry: Yeah.

22 Speaker: Granted it was my fourth year, but, um, yeah. If I  
23                  thought he said anything but what he thought was  
24                  right, it would have been, nope. I am calling your  
25                  boss and you guys are both in deep shit.

1 Jerry: Yeah.

2 Speaker: So.

3 Nielsen: So another thought that's been thrown out there is,  
4 you know, first and second year, they hit third year.  
5 You can turn them loose, you know, with supervision,  
6 not --

7 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

8 Nielsen: Not constant on the job.

9 Jerry: Yeah. I like that one, too, because I think, I think  
10 first and second year, constant supervision in my  
11 opinion.

12 Speaker: Yeah.

13 Jerry: You know, um, if you can't do it by your fourth,  
14 there's no point in you becoming a journeyman, so.

15 Speaker: Right.

16 Jerry: Um, but like after the third year, yeah. 'Cause I  
17 mean, I've got fourth year guys that they can plumb  
18 better than the journeymen I got, right? I mean, it's  
19 just they're good at it and there are some guys that  
20 are really good and fast and awesome, and then there's  
21 other guys, you know. It's just -- and I know who  
22 they are and I know who I can trust, you know, to do  
23 it right. And I'm not saying that I, I'm not saying  
24 that I should be able to control that because the next  
25 guy in line that owns another company may not have

1           that same, um, control over his company, but I think  
2           the, the people, the customer at the end of the, at  
3           the end of the day should, should also be able to, to,  
4           um, trust the fact that the state allow -- doesn't  
5           allow just anybody to go do this, right? You know  
6           what I mean?

7   Speaker: Mm-hmm.

8   Jerry:    So there has to be some control, but I, I, I think  
9           there can be some -- definitely some reform to allow  
10          residential especially. Commercial, I think that's a  
11          totally different ballgame. I don't --

12   Speaker: Yeah, that's --

13   Jerry:    I can't see us, a third year guy running a hospital,  
14           right? Um, maybe, maybe. I don't know, but I, I  
15           mean, I don't hospitals but I'm pretty sure that would  
16           a, a tough one, right? To allow. But in residential  
17           like you said, if you can't pick it up in 2 years,  
18           you, you know, the -- at least be able to be left  
19           alone for a while, then, you know, your, your shop  
20           probably ain't doing so hot in, in training. And, and  
21           you're gonna know that. I mean--

22   Speaker: Yeah.

23   Jerry:    Builder's gonna know it, homeowners are gonna know it.  
24           You know, if, if a, if a -- in, in the service world,  
25           if you're gonna send out two first year guys to go

1 work on a toilet and they take all day to do it,  
2 somebody's gonna be figuring that out, right? Like  
3 customers are gonna be like -- the last time had this  
4 done, it was an hour and now it's eight and you got  
5 two 20-year-old dudes, you know, or women, excuse me.  
6 Um, doing the job, right? This doesn't seem right.  
7 And if there's zero regulation, the customer's gonna  
8 be going to the state and saying you don't regulate  
9 this? Well then, who, who -- how am I supposed to  
10 know who's gonna show up in my house, right?

11 Speaker: Well, I had two journeymen in my house and a building,  
12 a house out in Lake Fork and dealing with HVAC, here's  
13 the center of my stove, here's the cut sheet for my  
14 hood. Show up this morning and it's like, why is  
15 there a 10 inch hole over here and my stove's over  
16 here? And it's like, so, you know, get a hold of them  
17 and it's like, 'cause I got to babysit journeymen now.

18 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

19 Speaker: And he's like, well send me the bill for your siding.  
20 And it's like, oh, we will. Don't worry. It's fine,  
21 but he got -- I mean, I understand, but still, it's  
22 like you -- hell, it's hard enough with sometimes a  
23 journeyman having to even do the right thing. And  
24 it's laid out right there in front of them.

25 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

1 Speaker: But yeah. I mean, no. You can get third and fourth  
2 years. Yeah. That's how my boss always did. He's  
3 like, if you guys can't plumb a simple house, you  
4 know, going into your fourth year, then I don't want  
5 you.

6 Jerry: Right?

7 Speaker: So in -- yeah. Well, you -- they were right there  
8 with the next, with the phone call or they'd swing by  
9 every once in a while to doublecheck, and yeah.

10 Jerry: And I think even a lot of, a lot of these rules and  
11 regulations we talk about have to do with new  
12 construction for a, a lot of it.

13 Speaker: Yeah.

14 Jerry: But they're all, there's also this service rolled over  
15 here that, that says you still have to have a  
16 journeyman if you're replacing a toilet, right?

17 Speaker: Yeah.

18 Jerry: And so that's where on, on a business owner  
19 standpoint, I got third year guys that can all day  
20 long replace a sink or a faucet or whatever the case  
21 is, right? In the service world, but yet I'm still  
22 technically required to have a journeyman on that job.

23 Speaker: We're, we're just --

24 Jerry: Right?

25 Speaker: We're more regulated in new construction --

1 Jerry: Oh.

2 Speaker: -- than in the service industry.

3 Jerry: I suppose, but if, if, you know, inspectors shows up  
4 and you're just -- you're replacing a faucet,  
5 technically that -- you should not be doing that much,  
6 you're a journeyman, right? Under our --

7 Nielsen: Or, or with that, yeah. Without a journeyman.

8 Jerry: Yeah. Under the, under the rules right now, you know  
9 what I mean? And so I would like to see some reform.  
10 I don't know what exactly what it would be like, but  
11 I, I like the idea of the ratio and I like the idea  
12 of, of third year and above to be able to be on their  
13 own. But not, like I wouldn't be okay with a third  
14 year guy running four first year guys.

15 Nielsen: Okay.

16 Jerry: Right? So that was where the ratio comes into play,  
17 you know? And that might be more difficult to write,  
18 but it would be -- I think it, it doesn't affect  
19 people's safety and it also helps us in, in the  
20 business world with cost, right? Um, and with  
21 scheduling and with, uh, personnel, especially with  
22 Covid and the things that are probably gonna happen  
23 from the rest of our lives now, right? On that end.

24 Nielsen: So I appreciate that. It's good feedback.

25 Jerry: Thanks.

1 Nielsen: Well, another topic on apprentice is currently, an  
2 Idaho apprentice has to register, go to school for  
3 four years, do four years on OJT and then he -- they  
4 can sit for the practical. Or not practical, sit for  
5 the journeyman exam.

6 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

7 Nielsen: Somebody from any other state, they can show that they  
8 worked legally in that state, which is an affidavit  
9 that they worked eight years as an apprentice and they  
10 can sit for the journeyman exam. How do you guys feel  
11 about giving Idaho apprentices that path also?

12 Jerry: Well, like saying like what, what, what that path  
13 would be, look like to me is no schooling. They just  
14 have to spend eight years working for somebody and  
15 then they can take the test.

16 Nielsen: Correct. Just like an out of state person currently  
17 can.

18 Jerry: Hum.

19 Speaker: If you got to take the test, you got to know the code  
20 anyway.

21 Speaker: So either way, I mean, I had my journeymens in  
22 Minnesota and moved here and knowing I had, uh, what?  
23 A year? Was it a year or two before I had to get an  
24 Idaho journeymens? And there wasn't one damn thing  
25 that I -- that I could do right without my boss

1 screaming at me saying, we just got red tagged. The  
2 inspector doesn't like this. He doesn't like that.  
3 And as soon as I got my journeymens, all those red  
4 tags went away. But I mean, they're gonna have to  
5 pass a test, so you're gonna have to -- they're gonna  
6 have to know the code. So if they want to do eight  
7 years practical, that's fine. That's not an issue.

8 Nielsen: Okay.

9 Speaker: So.

10 Jerry: The only thing I, the only thing I would bring up with  
11 that is, is what that would do to the school scenario.  
12 Because I can almost guarantee you, if I went in my  
13 shop and I told my guys they could do that, almost  
14 every one of them would opt for that.

15 Speaker: Yeah.

16 Jerry: They would not go to school 'cause they, they hate it.  
17 Not, not that they hate the school, they just hate  
18 the, the time they have to put into it. Now when I  
19 did it, I didn't have children or anything like that.  
20 I was fine with it. Like I -- that's what I did, I  
21 went to school, right? But when a guy, when a guy's  
22 35 years old and he's trying to get into the program  
23 and he's got a wife, kids, kids in high -- whatever,  
24 it's tough on them, right? So I guarantee you he's  
25 picking that route because in four years, he's gonna



1           make the same money either way 'cause he's -- you're  
2           gonna teach him how to do that job in four years,  
3           right? Maybe even in three, and at that point, he's -  
4           - if he's not regis - -- if he's just an apprentice,  
5           right? I guess he can't be on the job as of right  
6           now, but, um, by himself, but he's gonna be worth  
7           journeyman wages as of four years.

8   Speaker: Unless it's just year for year, it's like, okay.  
9           You've had three years there.

10   Jerry: Right.

11   Speaker: We'll count you three years if you, if you can pass,  
12           you know.

13   Jerry: If they have to go to the school.

14   Speaker: You still have to pass a third year and start your  
15           fourth.

16   Nielsen: But that's just did as far as self-regulating.

17   Jerry: Mm-hmm.

18   Nielsen: Again, you know, you can look at it a couple ways. If  
19           you got to go get her, he's gonna see that he could  
20           get a card in four years.

21   Jerry: Yeah.

22   Nielsen: Or you're gonna be an apprentice, and personally, if I  
23           was a contractor, do you want to be an apprentice,  
24           I'm gonna pay you ap - -- apprentice wages. Currently  
25           the way the rules are written.

1 Jerry: Yeah.

2 Nielsen: Because you're --

3 Jerry: You want --

4 Nielsen: And I won't say of no value because that's not true  
5 'cause I know guys that can plumb circles around  
6 people and they didn't want to be a journeyman, they  
7 didn't want to go to school. They were happy making,  
8 you know, \$15, \$16 an hour.

9 Jerry: Yeah.

10 Nielsen: You know, and we weren't kicking them out of the trade  
11 'cause they're, you know, good tradesmen. They just  
12 had no aspirations to be a journeyman.

13 Jerry: Right, yeah. I see it, I see it a lot

14 (Crosstalk)

15 Speaker: Get their apprenticeship card going.

16 Nielsen: Right.

17 Jerry: I'm gonna throw the, the name at the thing out there,  
18 but millennials are, are a lot like that I've found  
19 over the course of the last 10 years.

20 Nielsen: You know, or is the --

21 Jerry: I mean, they, they don't want to go that next step.  
22 They just kind of like the --

23 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

24 Jerry: -- travel down that path with that \$20 an hour or  
25 whatever the case is, you know? I mean --

1 Nielsen: Or being put on the spot, you know.

2 Jerry: Yeah.

3 Nielsen: Again right now, or is there some other pathway you  
4 can think of off the top of your head to reduce the  
5 barriers, you know, entry into the trade without  
6 giving up too much?

7 Jerry: Right. Yeah. I don't want to give too much because  
8 I, you know --

9 Speaker: You don't get a --

10 Jerry: We've all worked really hard to get it. But on the  
11 same end, eight years is a long time to wait. And,  
12 and it's probably worth it, you know. That guy  
13 probably deserves it after eight years, right? If he  
14 can pass the test. You know? I've got one or two  
15 guys in the last couple of years that like man, they  
16 struggled passing the test. And I know it's not  
17 because they didn't know it, it's because they  
18 struggle taking tests.

19 Speaker: Yeah.

20 Jerry: Right? And they have like a learning -- I don't know  
21 what you call it, but a, a challenge at learning, at,  
22 at taking the test and learning it enough to retain  
23 it, to put it back on.

24 Speaker: That's the reason right now they'll know everything.  
25 You put it on paper and --

1 Speaker: Right.

2 Speaker: And, and --

3 Nielsen: And that's where I would, you know, throw it back on  
4 you guys as contractors that --

5 Speaker: I have two guys like that. They both are like that.

6 Nielsen: You got a guy like that he's worth the money and you  
7 kick that money to him, is it Doppel's job to, you  
8 know?

9 Jerry: Mm-hmm.

10 Nielsen: Again, we don't regulate the business side of it or  
11 anything, but that argument comes up quite a bit that,  
12 you know.

13 Jerry: Yeah.

14 Nielsen: So.

15 Jerry: That's interesting. I, I, I guess I didn't realize  
16 that that could happen. I didn't even -- 'cause I --  
17 I guess I never -- I mean, I have one guy. I, I guess  
18 I did have one guy tat was from somewhere else. Hum.

19 Nielsen: So we've got about 6 minutes left. Um, it's -- I'll  
20 just open it up. Is there a topic, CEUs, practicals?

21 Speaker: Well, yeah. The CEUs dropped.

22 Nielsen: Is it Nayman?

23 Speaker: Aw, I'm just shitting you. Uh.

24 Nielsen: Well, is our CEUs a life safety thing or is the cost  
25 to benefit there? In your opinion.

1 Reynolds: Um, Dan Reynolds Plumbing, uh, I guess the, the last  
2 time I took my -- got all my credits done, most  
3 everything stayed the same except I took the one test  
4 on, uh, the new gray water system where you can plumb  
5 your toilets with graywater from rain basin and crap  
6 like that. And it's like, okay. But that basically  
7 is impractical because nobody's gonna pay for two  
8 plumbing systems in a house. But I mean, yeah. I  
9 learned some stuff. Um, but yeah. I mean, I guess we  
10 do need them just because it -- we have to keep  
11 updated. So, um --

12 Nielsen: Would you change it at all? More code, less? I mean,  
13 we only have four hours of code mandated right now.  
14 Some groups have mentioned making those eight hours  
15 for journeymen be only code. I know most guys do code  
16 'cause there's eight hour code on, you know, online  
17 and it's one fee and they get it all done at once.  
18 But --

19 Reynolds: Yeah 'cause business --

20 Nielsen: You know?

21 Reynolds: -- aspect, if you got to have competing credits for  
22 going into business, you probably shouldn't be doing  
23 it. So I'd say just stick with the code by itself  
24 period 'cause, um, I mean, that's --

25 Speaker: Or you get continuing education every day.

1 Reynolds: Right. Yeah.

2 Speaker: Business, right?

3 Speaker: What?

4 Nielsen: So the indus - -- uh, industry related stuff, does it  
5 have a value?

6 Reynolds: Hum, some of it. I mean, it's, you know, a lot of the  
7 tests you take, you try to get the easy ones out, but  
8 you know like I said, I've took a couple of them just  
9 because it's like, oh, it's something different that I  
10 don't know. And granted I'll never use it. There's a  
11 -- well, a 99% chance I'll never use it, but, um,  
12 yeah. I know the other guys around here, when they  
13 were taking their stuff, they're just -- they take the  
14 easy exam as possible to get it done quickest, so.

15 Jerry: All right. Jerry, Treasure Valley Plumbing. I -- my  
16 suggestion would be, I suggest having continuing  
17 education credits because I know there's journeyman  
18 out there that have been for like 25 years and they  
19 don't know new codes at all.

20 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

21 Jerry: 'Cause they don't do very -- a lot of those, don't do  
22 very many new homes. They don't get, you know, they,  
23 they do a little stuff here and there and they just  
24 don't know them, right? And then they go and do a  
25 house and they're like, oh, crap. I didn't know that.

1 Well then it becomes the inspector's job now to teach  
2 this guy what's new, right? But --

3 Speaker: It still happens to me.

4 Jerry: Right? Right.

5 Speaker: I know it's a code change.

6 Jerry: I agree. But I don't -- my suggestion would be to  
7 make it a certain amount of hours across the board,  
8 whether you're journeymen or a contractor. I don't  
9 know why a contractor has to have more hours  
10 continuing education than a journeyman because really,  
11 I mean a contractor is just a journeyman that owns  
12 the, that owns a business, right?

13 Speaker: Yeah. So I mean, I'm, I'm not gonna take the business  
14 stuff 'cause if they start asking legal questions,  
15 like why we have lawyers and CPAs for. So those guys  
16 deal with it. I'm not gonna take those courses.

17 Nielsen: So along those lines, another topic that comes up is,  
18 how do you feel about maintaining your journeymen and  
19 your contractors once you've reached contractor? You  
20 know, no matter whether it's out of state, in state,  
21 you have to show the requirements to test for  
22 journeyman. You test for journeyman, you have to show  
23 the requirements to test for contractor. Once you hit  
24 contractor and you take that, you, you get it. Do you  
25 feel that you should have to maintain a journeyman's

1 license?

2 Speaker: No.

3 Nielsen: So that basically, you -- it says contractor which --

4 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

5 Nielsen: -- says I've gone through, you know -- just like if  
6 you were a journeyman and you left apprentice on  
7 there.

8 Speaker: It's the same principle, yeah.

9 Nielsen: Yeah.

10 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

11 Nielsen: So how do you guys feel if you could just as a  
12 contractor, maintain that one. Again, say, 16 hours  
13 of CEUs.

14 Speaker: Mm-hmm.

15 Nielsen: Is that something --

16 Jerry: I agree with that.

17 Speaker: Yeah.

18 Reynolds: Take it off, 'cause yeah. 'Cause we're not journeymen  
19 anymore, so. Unless we --

20 Jerry: Uh, as long as like --

21 (Crosstalk)

22 Jerry: A journeyman's license. Like if I say I don't want to  
23 be a contractor anymore, I just want to be a  
24 journeyman, I can go right back.

25 Reynolds: So that -- yeah. Would it revert back to journeyman



1           then?

2 Nielsen: No. And see, that's the 30,000 foot level, but I  
3           would almost say --

4 Reynolds: Right.

5 Nielsen: -- no.

6 Reynolds: Yeah.

7 Nielsen: It's just, you know. It would be --

8 Reynolds: Why would you?

9 Nielsen: You're not running a -- you wouldn't, you know, say  
10           I'm not running a business anymore. I'm not  
11           maintaining a bond.

12 Reynolds: Yeah.

13 Nielsen: I'm not doing any of that.

14 Reynolds: Yeah. Well, I --

15 Jerry: But I just have a contractor's license. But it, it,  
16           it has a journeyman's license with it, right?

17 Reynolds: Yeah.

18 Nielsen: It, it would be implied.

19 Jerry: Yeah. Right. Because I couldn't --

20 Nielsen: 'Cause you've already -- yes. You've already had the  
21           --

22 (Crosstalk)

23 Jerry: At some point I may not be one because --

24 (Crosstalk)

25 Jerry: Right.

1 Reynolds: Shelly Plumbing here in town, uh, she's working for  
2 her son, Rob Hines, Hindsight Plumbing, and she's  
3 like, I'm done doing the contract. I'm done. She  
4 just -- I'm just gonna work for him. She goes, I'm  
5 gonna let my, uh, bond and everything expire. She  
6 goes, when it's done, it's done. She goes, I will no  
7 longer be contracting. I'm working for him period.  
8 So she got to revert back to a journeyman.

9 Nielsen: 'Cause right now, we do allow you to put your  
10 contractors inactive.

11 Reynolds: Hum.

12 Nielsen: But that's only because, you know, you are maintaining  
13 your journeyman's license so you can still go out and  
14 work. And I'm just spit balling here, but if you just  
15 had your contractor's like you said, you'd  
16 disassociate from whatever business, don't have a  
17 bond, you're not running a business, you're just out  
18 working and your card says contractor.

19 Reynolds: As long as revert back to a journeyman, then, if you  
20 got rid of your contractors, that -- yeah. Mm-hmm.  
21 But to get rid of everything period, then you -- yeah.  
22 Nobody's gonna start over from scratch.

23 Nielsen: No, no. I mean, is it -- and that would be built into  
24 the whole --

25 Reynolds: Yeah. That, that's what I was gonna say. Yeah.

1 Jerry: As long as it's built into that, I'm, I'm, I'm for  
2 that. 'Cause then I won't have to -- I only have to  
3 have one license to -- 'cause my journeymen and my  
4 contractors are on different years, if I remember  
5 right. I'd have to bring -- get my card out, but it's  
6 a different year, so you got to go one or the other.  
7 It's like every year, I got to renew something .

8 Nielsen: I guarantee if it's not a different year, it's a  
9 different month.

10 Jerry: Yeah, for sure.

11 Nielsen: Something's gonna re - -- expire.

12 Jerry: It's a different year, I think, but yeah. I mean,  
13 that's -- it's just one more thing to keep track of.  
14 And so that, definitely. And probably less work on,  
15 on the state's end I guess, too, for it. Um.

16 Nielsen: All right. Well, with that, it's 4:00.

17 Jerry: Sure.

18 Nielsen: I appreciate you guys showing up. Jason, you got  
19 something?

20 Jason: One or -- and to just to, to cap the whole thing, I  
21 wanted to pushback on a, on a question you asked  
22 earlier a little bit. Um, talking about the  
23 journeyman supervision requirements. You asked, is  
24 that a training issue or a safety issue. I want to  
25 pushback on that question a little bit. Uh, 'cause I

1 think that's a little bit of a, a, of a false choice  
2 that it's not a, not an either/or, uh, because a more  
3 well trained craftsman is gonna be a safer craftsman.  
4 And unless a craftsman is gonna be a less safe  
5 craftsman. So I don't, I don't think it's necessarily  
6 an either/or between whether something is a journeyman  
7 question or a safety question. Better training is  
8 gonna be safer.


9 Nielsen: All right. Appreciate it. With that, I think you  
10 again for coming and showing up.  
11



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