

Building Safety News



Laws, Rules and Budgets

By C. Kelly Pearce, *Administrator*

The Idaho Legislature has adjourned *sine die* for another session and the lawmakers treated DBS quite well while they were in Boise. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find articles regarding the various impact new legislation will have on the way the Division and you will be doing business in the coming years.

I thought it would be important to report to you concerning the action the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee (JFAC) took regarding the Division's Fiscal Year 2009 budget.

Senate Bill 1479, representing the Division budget, came out of JFAC with a unanimous "do pass" recommendation. The bill then passed both houses of the legislature by unanimous votes.

The appropriation for the coming fiscal year is \$13,959,500. This appropriation is a decrease of 3.5% from the previous fiscal year.

Despite the reduced overall budget amount, the Division still has ample resources to provide our customers top-notch service. The budget also contains sufficient funding to complete the Customer Access System (CAS), which will provide customers 24/7 electronic access to the Division for the purchase of permits, licensing, inspection updates, etc. Also, we are authorized to purchase additional fuel efficient vehicles to continue replacement of the old gas-guzzling vehicles we are now operating. This "greening" of our

vehicle fleet will also be a great asset in the reduction of our vehicle operating costs in these times of high priced fuel.

With a budgeting cycle behind us, we now begin the process anew. This year the Division will join several select agencies in becoming the first of five groupings of state agencies to participate in Governor C. L. "Butch" Otter's "Zero-based Budget Initiative".

The goal of this process, as defined by the Governor's Budget Director, is to "build a world-class organization in each area of state government". We are to move beyond the "way we have always done things" and open doors to new possibilities as we address our agency's responsibilities and duties. As the Governor has frequently stated, this represents "a better way of doing business".

Again let me thank all of you for your hard work and dedication to excellent customer service across the board. While we will continue to face challenges in the months and years ahead, we will also be presented with opportunities. I am extremely confident that as a result of the talent contained within this agency we will meet our challenges head-on and will make the most of our opportunities.



DBS Newsletter Going Electronic

By Bill Hatch, *Editor*

This marks the **last edition** of the DBS newsletter to be mass mailed to all of our licensees and stakeholders. Beginning in November of 2008, future editions will be sent via e-mail as a link to the full newsletter, which will be hosted on the DBS web site.

We are working hard to update our list of e-mail addresses. If you have questions as to whether yours is in our database or if your e-mail address has changed recently, please feel free to call me at 332-7121.

Also, if you know of anyone not currently receiving our newsletter that would have an interest, simply provide us their e-mail address and we'll add them to the list.

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How Did DBS Fare? A Report on Matters Submitted to the 2008 Idaho Legislature

By Steve Keys, *Deputy Administrator*

The Division of Building Safety and its resident boards presented eight pieces of legislation for consideration by this year's legislature. Of these initiatives, four were approved.

The first approved measure is House Bill #476, which establishes a new "Unlimited" category for public works contractor licensing. This category will apply to contractors wanting to undertake projects in excess of five million dollars. The AAA category that used to have no upper limit will now be limited to projects of five million dollars or less. Limits on other categories have also been changed. Please see the Public Works Contractors Licensing article and web page for further information.

House Bill #480 modifies the HVAC statute to adopt the 2006 editions of the International Mechanical Code, the International Fuel Gas Code, and parts V and VI of the International Residential Code. The bill goes on to give the HVAC board the authority to adopt later versions of these codes and amend these codes. As approved by the legislature, the bill also further defines a "farm building".

The legislature also approved House Bill #481 incorporating the same definition of "farm building" found in HB #480 into the plumbing statute.

Finally, House Bill #477, was also approved and makes minor changes to the definition of "Responsible Managing Employee"

as it pertains to the licensing of manufactured home dealers and installers.

House Bills #476 and #480 have been signed by the governor and become effective July 1st of this year. With the governor's signature, House Bills #477 and #481 will also take effect July 1.

Bills which would have established five-year registration intervals for apprentices were delayed in the House Business Committee and failed to clear the legislature. Similarly, an effort to give the Building Code Board authority to amend the International Building Code brought forward the realization that more comprehensive changes are necessary. All of these efforts will likely be revisited next session.

DBS also had 18 administrative rule proposals under review by this year's legislature. With one exception, all of these proposals were cleared. By far the biggest change in the rules is the change in permitting for electrical, plumbing, and HVAC work. As approved, all new residential installations will be permitted based upon the square footage of the residence, and fees will be the same for each industry. Fees for non-residential installations have also been adjusted. All are based upon the value of the installations, and again are uniform across the three affected trades. Please see the following "New Administrative Rules Summary" for further information.

New Administrative Rules Summary for 2008

By Steve Keys, *Deputy Administrator*

These became effective upon close of the legislative session.

The following administrative rule proposals were reviewed and approved by the 2008 legislature:

07-0101-0701 - Does away with the requirement for multi-part permit forms and facilitates the use of the internet for transacting business

07-0103-0701 - Requires an applicant for a new electrical contractor's license to employ a full-time master electrician. Current contractors are not affected until they change their signing journeyman.

07-0104-0701 - Stipulates that no master electrician requirement applies to specialty contractors.

07-0106-0701 - Adopts the 2008 National Electrical Code, as amended by the electrical board. Major amendments limit the requirements for arc-fault circuit interrupters (AFCI's) to 15 and 20 amp, 120 volt circuits serving bedrooms in dwellings. Provisions dealing with swimming pools have been extensively modified.

07-0107-0701 - Defines course approval requirements for continuing education providers

07-0102-0701 - Institutes new permit fees for electrical instal-

lations

07-0206-0701 - Provides for the utilization of sidewall venting and air admittance valves in limited circumstances.

07-0207-0701 - Clarifies that licensed plumbing contractors are not subject to civil penalties

07-0203-0701 - New permit fees for plumbing installations

07-0402-0701 - Updates applicable codes for new elevator and lift installations

07-0501-0701 - Combines two existing specialty licensing categories into one HVAC category

07-0701-0701 - Modifies requirements for a HVAC Hearth Specialty Hearth installer license

07-0701-0702 - Establishes requirements for an HVAC Waste Oil equipment installer

07-0701-0703 - HVAC fuel gas piping specialty license requirements

07-0701-0704 - New permit fees for HVAC installations

DBS Boards Provide Service Opportunities

By Bill Hatch, *Editor*

The Idaho Division of Building Safety (DBS) hosts seven (7) administrative boards. They are:

- The Idaho Plumbing Board (Five members)
- The Idaho Electrical Board (Nine members)
- The Idaho Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Board (Seven members)
- The Idaho Public Works Contractor License Board (Seven members)
- The Idaho Building Code Board (Seven members)
- The Idaho Manufactured Housing Board (Five members)
- The Idaho Modular Building Advisory Board (Five members)

Board members are appointed by the governor to serve terms of varying length, generally 3-4 years. Board vacancies are created when a member's term of appointment expires or in rare cases when, for reasons personal or otherwise, a member chooses to vacate his/her position on any given board.

The makeup of these boards is defined by statute, with membership generally consisting of individuals with specific qualifications relating to the industries governed. However, five of the seven boards are required to have at least one "consumer" or "public at large" representative among their members.

Anyone meeting the qualifications defined by law for membership on the various boards may apply for appointment whenever vacancies occur. The same is true for members of the general public and/or representatives of consumer groups with regard to consumer or public at large vacancies.

There are several ways to apply for appointment to a vacant board position. Perhaps the easiest is to go directly to Governor C. L. "Butch" Otter's official web site at <http://gov.idaho.gov/>.

Scroll down to the Quick Links portion of the home page where you will find a link for Idaho State Boards, Commissions and Councils. Clicking this link will take you to a page containing a wealth of information, including a search feature allowing you to determine when vacancies are expected on the various boards, commissions and councils and, at the bottom of the page, a link that will take you directly to an application for such vacancies as may exist or may be imminent. Another way to apply for a board vacancy is to contact the governor's office directly, either through Governor Otter's Internet web site or through the U.S. Mail. The mailing address is Office of the Governor, P.O. Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720.

Citizen participation on boards, commissions and councils that govern the various aspects of life in the Gem State is not only encouraged but seen as vital to keeping government close to those who are governed. It is hoped that the above information might spur you to consider participation in state government or to encourage the submission of an application by another individual you feel may make a valuable contribution.

"Citizen participation on boards, commissions and councils that govern the various aspects of life in the Gem State is not only encouraged but seen as vital ..."

Officers Elected for Manufactured Housing Board

By Bill Hatch, *Editor*

Pursuant to state law, the Idaho Manufactured Housing Board has elected – and in some cases re-elected – officers to govern its activities for the remainder of 2008 and into 2009. Idaho law requires the Board to elect officers as part of its first meeting in each calendar year.



Jerry Inouye

Jerry Inouye of Boise was re-elected by the Board to serve as its Chairman. Mr. Inouye is the Board's immediate past chair and was recently re-appointed by Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter to serve on the Board until January of 2011.

Also re-elected to his position of Vice-Chairman of the Board was **Brian Tibesar** of Hayden.



Brian Tibesar

Tibesar's appointment to the Board continues until January of 2010.

First-year member **Ann Beebe** of Roswell was elected to serve as Board Secretary. Ms. Beebe's current appointment to the Board expires in January of 2009.

All of the Board's officers were elected by unanimous vote.

At its April 21st meeting, the Board also officially welcomed new member **Dwayne Ward** of Caldwell, whose appointment extends to January, 2011.



Dwayne Ward

Navigating the DBS Web Site

By Jan Maupin, *IT Systems Technician*

A web site is like an elaborate spider web with threads or links to items related to the subject that you are viewing. To help you navigate the Division of Building Safety site; dbs.idaho.gov, there are three areas to choose from that will be available on most all pages of our web site. These are the Top Banner, the Left-Hand Menu and the Page Footer.

The **Top Banner** is a quick way to get to those sections indicated by the name on the buttons such as the 'HOME' button takes you to our home page, 'CONTACT US' provides details of how to contact DBS for questions, inspections, comments and concerns. 'SEARCH' also appears on the top banner. If you are not sure where to find something, try searching by entering keywords for what you are looking for, and then choosing 'Submit Query'. Additionally, there is a link to 'ACCESS IDAHO' which is the State of Idaho's web site.

Also found on the Top Banner are quick links to 'ACTIVE LICENSES', which is the license search screen for active licensed professionals; 'APPLY/RENEW' for licensed individuals, and 'PERMITS' for finding information on obtaining a permit.

The **Left-Hand Menu** guides you inside the Bureaus and Boards of DBS. As you hold your mouse over each title, a menu *flies-out* from it, giving a new set of links to choose from. You can either click on the name to go to that area's home page or you can choose one of the links in the *fly-out* menu. With each page or link you will find more links,

articles and areas to explore that are related to the subject chosen. Be sure to visit each Bureau's home page because not all items are shown on the *fly-out* menus.

The **Page Footer** also has 'Home', 'Contact Us', and 'State of Idaho' as well as two new ones. The first is 'About PDF Files' which will provide general information and a link to download the free Adobe Acrobat Reader software. The second new link is the 'Idaho Privacy Statement', which will take you to Access Idaho's Privacy Policy. It contains privacy related information that may be of interest to you.

On the **lower half of our home page** there are three columns labeled '**Online**', '**Links**' and '**New!**' The first two columns include some of the most requested pages and forms on our web site so you can quickly find them. New items, forms and information are listed under the third column including the link to current and past issues of the Division's Building Safety News.



We invite you to take time to explore the Division of Building Safety web site and to check back often for new information and updates!

In Memoriam

DBS Saddened Over Loss of Veteran Inspector



Norm Hanks
09/14/1937 – 02/17/2008

Sadness and a profound sense of loss swept through the Division of Building Safety in February when word was received that longtime electrical inspector Norman A. "Norm" Hanks had died of injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Norm had been employed by DBS as an electrical inspector in the Minidoka-Cassia area for the past 9 years. The accident that claimed his life occurred in adverse weather conditions in the Burley area during the course of his official duties.

Norm spent more than 45 years of his life in the electrical trade.

Norm will be remembered for his integrity, gentleness, kind heart and dedication to his family and his profession. DBS Electrical Bureau Chief Jeff Fitzloff summed it up when he said: "He was a good guy. He will be missed."

Outreach Reaching Out

By Terry Blessing, *N. Idaho Outreach Coordinator*

The Division of Building Safety was invited to participate in a high school career fair in Plummer, Idaho in March of this year. The event was a great success. Approximately 12 young people attending the career fair expressed an interest in training to join one of the trades licensed by DBS. One even came armed with a resume, asking for information about the electrical trade.

The students asked questions like:

- Why did you choose your job?
- Do you enjoy your job?
- Can both men and women do your job?
- How much money do you make?
- What classes should I take to prepare for the trades?

In all, the students had nearly 50 questions for all of the Career Fair guests. The Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) trade was well-represented by RDI Heating of Hayden, Idaho.



A student poses a question to DBS Outreach Coordinator Terry Blessing at the Plummer High School career fair in March

It's About Access

By Bobby Ball, *Board Member, Idaho State Building Code Board*

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Task Force Inc.

The ADA Task Force is a private not-for-profit, providing technical assistance, training and materials on the ADA and related laws and codes. If you have any questions call the Task Force. If we are unable to answer your question we have access to the federal agencies who produce codes and enforce the ADA. We also provide training on all aspects of the ADA. Contact us at 208-344-5590 or e-mail adataskforce@qwest.net

New Design Guide Published on Rights-of-Way Alterations

A new design guide is now available on achieving accessibility in alterations projects involving public streets and sidewalks. *Accessible Public Rights-of-Way: Planning and Designing for Alterations* explains how to maximize accessibility in the course of alterations through careful planning, an understanding of current regulations and access criteria, and strategies for negotiating constraints. The guide outlines and illustrates design solutions and model sidewalks and includes case studies and other resources. This information was developed by the Access Board's Public Rights-of-Way Access Advisory Committee and is available on the Board's web site at www.access-board.gov/prowac/alterations/guide.htm.

Guidance on Public Rights-of-Way

Public streets and sidewalks present unique access challenges

that are not encompassed by existing guidelines or standards. Access at street crossings for pedestrians with vision impairments, on-street parking, and constraints posed by terrain and space limitations are just some of the issues that often arise. The Access Board is developing guidelines for public rights-of-way that will address these and other issues so that practitioners have an established reference for achieving accessible streets and sidewalks.

Resources available from the Board include a new guide on sidewalk and street improvement projects published by the Institute of Transportation Engineers. *Accessible Public Rights-of-Way: Planning and Designing for Alterations* shows how access can be maximized in existing streetscapes. Design solutions, model sidewalks and case studies are illustrated through photographs and engineering plans. This guide recently received an award from the American Council of Engineering Companies. In addition, a popular video series demonstrating access issues from user perspectives that the Board produced and distributed on disk is now available on the Board's web site. These and other resources are posted online at www.access-board.gov/prowac/.

For more information on rights-of-way access, contact the ADA Task Force at 208-344-5590.

Bobby Ball is a representative of the ADA Task Force in Boise and a Disability Organization Representative member of the Idaho State Building Code Board

DBS Plan Review Going Paperless

By Arlan Smith, *Plan Review Program Manager*

The Division of Building Safety is now accepting plan review submittals via the Internet using **file transfer protocol (FTP)**. This means there can be a paperless submittal. Well, almost. At least one paper plan is still required for state owned or occupied buildings but we are working on eliminating that paper as well. For schools, the entire plan submission can be made electronically via FTP. For instructions on this process see http://dbs.idaho.gov/BUILDING/plans_ftp.html. We continue to accept paper plans and plans on compact disc as before.

To submit by FTP:

1. A FTP Client is recommended when transferring plans to our agency.
2. Use "ftp://164.165.246.248" (without the quotes) for your Host/IP/URL address.
3. A user name and password is required, please contact the Division of Building Safety at 208-332-7133 to obtain these.
4. Zip all your plans, specifications, calculations and other

documents into one (1) zip file for transfer.

5. All documents in the zipped file must be **Portable Document Format (PDF)** files.
6. Include your completed plan review application or permit application as one of the PDF files. These forms are available on our web site at <http://dbs.idaho.gov/building/applications.html>.
7. Transfer these into the **DBS Plans** folder.
8. Include a letter of transmittal or other document in the PDF file that indicates how the required fees are being transmitted to DBS.
9. After you have transferred these documents they will no longer be visible thereby maintaining confidentiality.
10. When the file transfer is completed, simply logoff the State's FTP site.

We hope you will find this additional means of submittal to be both time-saving and convenient. If you have further questions, you may contact me at asmith@dbs.idaho.gov.

DBS Manager Heads Idaho IAEI Chapter

By Bill Hatch, *Editor*

Al Caine, Licensing and Compliance Program Manager for the Division of Building Safety, was elected President of the Idaho

Chapter of the International Association of Electrical Inspectors at the chapter's recent annual meeting in Jackpot, Nevada.



Al Caine and Gaylen Rogers

Al has been with DBS for more than 13

years and recently

completed a tour of duty in Iraq with the Idaho Army National Guard. Prior to accepting the Licensing and Compliance Program Manager position, Caine worked as an electrical inspector.

Other DBS staffers elected to serve IAEI's Idaho Chapter this year and their positions are:

- Electrical Bureau Chief Jeff Fitzloff, Secretary and Education Chairman
- Region 3 Electrical Supervisor Kevin Gellings, Vice-President
- Region 1 Electrical Supervisor (and past Chapter President) Tom Loudin, Membership Chairman
- Retired DBS Electrical Bureau Chief Gary Malmen will serve as a member of IAEI's Northwestern Section Board.

Changes in Public Works Contractor Licensing

By Steve Keys, *Deputy Administrator*

The 2008 legislature has approved sweeping changes in the licensing requirements for public works contractors. These changes will be effective **July 1, 2008**, and should be closely scrutinized by both new applicants and those renewing their licenses. The first change is the new classifications scheme:

Class	Bid Limit
D	\$ 50,000
C	\$ 200,000
B	\$ 600,000
A	\$1,250,000
AA	\$3,000,000
AAA	\$5,000,000
U	\$Unlimited

Applicants for an Unlimited license must have a minimum net worth of \$1,000,000 and \$600,000 in working capital. **Any current AAA licensees wishing to bid on projects in excess of \$5,000,000 must upgrade their public works contractor licenses before the July 1 effective date of this statute change.** Please contact the Public Works Contracting Licensing bureau at (208) 322-7128 if you have any questions.

"Sometimes we are limited more by attitude than by opportunities."

Anonymous

A “Heads-Up” for Public Works Contractors and Project Owners

By Heather Carr, *Consultation and Outreach Advisor*

Over the past few months the Division of Building Safety has noted an increase in the number of contractors bidding public works projects that are either not licensed or that are bidding out of class. In an effort to assist project owners, managers and contractors here is a brief overview of items to consider when soliciting, submitting or accepting bids for public works projects in Idaho.

Contractors: Make sure your correct license name and number(s) appears on all paperwork submitted. Also, do not submit bids for projects where the cost exceeds your bid limit.

Project owners/managers: Accept bids only after confirming that the bid is in conformance with the submitting contractor's bid limits. Also, ensure that all subcontractors are properly licensed.

If you need to check a license you can refer to our web site at dbs.idaho.gov and select 'Search for a currently active Licensed Professional' or call (208) 334-4057.

If you are unsure of the bid limits by class. Here is a quick reference table.

Class	Bid Limit by Class
AAA	Three million dollars or more (\$3,000,000 >)
AA	Three million dollars or less (\$3,000,000)
A	One million dollars or less (\$1,000,000)
B	Five hundred thousand dollars or less (\$500,000)
C	One hundred thousand dollars or less (\$100,000)
D	Fifty thousand dollars or less (\$50,000)

A bit of extra effort confirming contractor qualifications early in the bidding process can save a lot of time, trouble and expense when the time comes to begin actual work on the project.

Idaho's Modular Building Program – Healthy and Growing

By Jack Rayne, *Building Bureau Chief*

We have been hearing lately from folks asking about the similarities and/or differences between modular buildings, prefabricated structures, factory-built structures, mobile homes, manufactured homes, park models and motor homes. It is our intent here to provide some clarification.

In order to properly understand the features of modular structures, it is important to know the meaning of a number of terms used in Idaho Code sec. 39-4301. A “modular building” is defined as any building or building component, other than a manufactured or mobile home, which is of closed construction and is entirely or substantially prefabricated or assembled at a place other than the building site. “Closed construction” means any manufactured building or building component which may enclose factory

installed structural, mechanical, electrical, or plumbing systems and is not open for visual inspection at the building site. The “building site” is any tract, parcel, or subdivision of land upon which a modular building is installed or is to be installed. A “commercial coach” is a modular building with permanent running gear and a hitch assembly that is designed and constructed for non-residential classifications only.

Park models (park trailers) and motor homes are various types of recreational vehicles and are primarily designed to provide temporary living quarters for recreational or camping purposes. They are constructed to standards established by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) for recreational vehicles and standards for motorized vehicles.

Since 1976 mobile homes and manufactured homes made in America have been constructed to comply with federal (HUD) standards for manufactured housing.

Regulation of the modular building industry began in Idaho on July 1, 1975 under the provisions of the Idaho Building Code Advisory Act (Title 39, Chapter 41 Idaho Code) and was modified in July, 2007 under Title 39, Chapter 43 Idaho Code, when Idaho's first modular building advisory board was created.

Modular buildings are most often designed and constructed for use as residential dwellings, portable classrooms, offices or telecommunication buildings and can also be assembled in multiple sections to create larger multi-story residential or commercial structures.



Constructing a modular building

The Division of Building Safety (DBS) identifies modular buildings that conform to Idaho's standards and codes with insignia labels. These labels are attached to each section of an individual structure and provide information of use to local building code authorities when the structure is brought onto the building site. All modular buildings approved for use in Idaho are subjected to construction inspections at the place of manufacture in order to ensure compliance with all state-adopted building, energy, electrical, plumbing and mechanical codes. These codes are the same as those applied to site-built structures.

While DBS retains code jurisdiction for off-site prefabricated construction, local code enforcement authorities will generally require additional permits and inspections for work performed at the building site prior to approving the building for occupancy.

Recently DBS has noted increased activity in modular permitting and inspections for Idaho's manufacturers due at least in-part to a slowdown in the HUD manufactured housing industry as a number of companies that previously produced HUD manufactured housing have turned to producing modular structures for Idaho and surrounding states.

A Question of Spacing – Avoiding Pitfalls in Positioning Residential Outlets

By Martin Langenwaller, *Region 2 Electrical Inspector*

The receptacle layout in some of today's open floor plan dwelling units can be daunting at times but a couple of basic thoughts may help the process.

An often overlooked receptacle required by the National Electrical Code (NEC), can be found by referencing 210.52 (A) (2) (3). 210.52 (A) specifies which walls are required to be included in the receptacle layout in a dwelling unit. 210.52 (A) (3) includes the space provided by fixed room dividers such as free-standing bar-type counters or railings. The NEC requires that a receptacle be placed within 6 feet of the end of the wall that is



A separating residential breakfast bar with the electrical outlet properly situated per the NEC.

framed to support the bar-type counter often situated between the kitchen and living room or kitchen and dining room in many of today's dwelling units. The length of some of these walls will often require that more than one receptacle be placed along the wall line to maintain the 6 foot and 12 foot spacing cited in article 210.52 (A) (1). These receptacles are not intended to serve the bar-type counter or kitchen counter but rather are intended to serve the wall line.

Some may argue that the receptacle is subject to physical damage by those sitting at the bar who may kick the receptacle or that stools may damage the receptacle when slid in against the wall under the bar. In this instance, lowering the box height or installing one or more listed floor boxes located no more than 18 inches from the wall would be acceptable options.

Others may argue that this wall space is not *usable* but this has also been addressed by the NEC and is an important secondary note to consider during receptacle layout. The NEC removed the word "usable" as a determining factor in receptacle placement from all of article 210.52 starting with the 2005 and continuing into the 2008 code cycles. The NEC Handbook includes the following commentary: "The word usable does not appear at all in 210.52 as a condition for determining compliance with the receptacle-spacing requirements. As an example, to correctly determine the dimension of the wall line in a room, the wall space behind the swing of a door is included in the measurement. This does not mean that the receptacle outlet has to be located in that space, only that the space has been included in the wall-line measurement."

Recognizing that usability does not play a part in receptacle placement should result in a more consistent approach to the placement of required receptacles in dwelling units.

Inspection Stickers Take on New Look

By Jeff Fitzloff, *Electrical Bureau Chief*

Have you been looking for the familiar stickers that the inspectors from DBS have left on your jobs for what seems to be forever? Well, you can stop looking for them where you have found them before!

We have developed a new sticker that will encompass all of the trades inspected by DBS. This is a yellow vinyl sticker that has space for all DBS inspectors to record their visits. This is a change that has long been considered as a way to streamline the inspection processes. With the new sticker, if someone needs to see if the inspector has been there, they will be able to see the project's entire inspection history all in one place.

State of Idaho Division of Building Safety					
Plumbing	Permit Number	Rough-In Date	Inspector	Completed Date	Inspector
Specialty	Type	Permit Number	Date	Inspector	
HVAC	Permit Number	Rough-In Date	Inspector	Completed Date	Inspector
Fireplace	Permit Number	Rough-In Date	Inspector	Completed Date	Inspector
Gas Piping	Permit Number	Rough-In Date	Inspector	Completed Date	Inspector
Electrical	Permit Number	Rough-In Date	Inspector	Completed Date	Inspector
Specialty	Type	Permit Number	Date	Inspector	

DBS 01
DO NOT REMOVE

These new stickers will be placed on the inside of the electrical panel cover. If the electrical panel is not yet present, you will find the sticker temporarily placed on the front window of the building until the panel is in place. This new sticker will be a very convenient way for those who depend on documentation from DBS to see whether and when our portion of the job has been done. It also fits very conveniently with the image of the one stop shop.

All of us with inspection responsibilities within DBS are now speaking with one unified message and we hope that you will find this change to be very useful as well.

Changes in Store for Commercial HVAC Code Review Process

By Carl Lohrengel III, *Plumbing/HVAC Bureau Chief*

(Editor's note: This article first appeared in the November, 2007 DBS newsletter. It is reprinted here to reflect changes in the effective date.)

In accord with the requirements of the International Mechanical Code, the Division of Building Safety HVAC Bureau will begin requiring a mechanical code review for all commercial projects in our inspection jurisdiction effective June 1, 2008. Plans will need to be submitted to the Meridian office and no mechanical permit will be issued after this time for a commercial project until plans have been reviewed and approved. Plans can be submitted either on paper or on CD's utilizing a PDF format.

Many of you are familiar with the plan review process utilized for State buildings and public schools throughout the State. The new mechanical code review process will be very similar to the existing program, and will aid DBS in building a safer Idaho. The Division will do everything possible to expedite reviews of these commercial projects and fully expects the review process to facilitate the subsequent inspections of the facilities as they are constructed. Currently, many problems attributable to new code requirements, new products, and revised installation standards are not discovered until well into the construction process. Commercial kitchens are common culprits because of the variety of equipment, hoods, grease ducts, and insulation materials utilized. The new mechanical code review should mitigate these issues.

The Division of Building Safety will keep you informed regarding procedures and fees for mechanical code review as the implementation date comes nearer. Please watch your mail and check the DBS web site for further information as it becomes available.

Changes Affect Water Softeners, Conditioners – By Carl Lohrengel III, *Plumbing Bureau Chief*

Effective July 1, 2008 installation of water softeners, conditioners and other related equipment in the State of Idaho will be subject to permits and inspection by the Division of Building Safety in our inspection jurisdiction per Idaho code 54-2602.

Although 54-2602 allows water treatment installations and repairs for residential and commercial properties to be performed without the need for a certificate of competency (license), this section *does require* that those installations be permitted and inspected before being placed in service. It should also be noted that the installation of these devices does not include re-piping to accommodate certain fixtures remaining on the hard side. This work must be done by a licensed plumbing contractor employing properly licensed personnel. All installations must conform to the Uniform Plumbing Code.

To obtain a permit for the installation of water conditioning equipment, please do any of the following:

Call Amanda Brumbaugh in Meridian at 332-8971 (southern Idaho) or Jeri Groth in Coeur d'Alene at 769-1579 ext. 240 (the remainder of Idaho north of Whitebird). They will take your information and issue you an "A" permit to cover the installation. Or you may visit the office nearest you. We are located at:

1090 E. Watertower St.
Meridian, ID 83642

1250 Ironwood Dr. Suite 220
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Upon completion of your project, you must request an inspection by calling 332-8966 in Meridian or 769-1579 in Coeur d'Alene.

If you have questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to call our offices or contact us via e-mail through our web site at dbs.idaho.gov.

Looking Ahead to Streamlined Permitting

By Tony Pirc, *Permits and Finance Team Supervisor*

The Division of Building Safety will soon begin transitioning to a new computer system which will not only help streamline the permitting process but will optimize the maintenance of state-wide data as well. This new system, known internally as CAS – the Customer Access System, will be user-friendly and help expedite requests, in part by offering online services.

Once the new system is in place, DBS customers may obtain electrical, plumbing, or HVAC permits to perform work and request inspections by means of an online permit application. Payment may also be made via secure online connection with a credit card. As is the case with many municipalities and other local jurisdictional authorities, beginning July 1, 2008, the Division of Building Safety will require that payment be made before a permit number is issued.

With the new system operational, DBS customers will have a number of options for securing permit numbers. Customers may continue to utilize our walk-up services in Meridian or Coeur d'Alene, working directly with a Customer Service Representative who can assist in the application process. Also available will be the use of a regular telephone line which under CAS will be configured with many new features to assist applicants, or customers may make full use of the new online customer service interface and obtain permits there.

The bottom line is that implementation of this new system will result in the customer being able to conduct business with DBS much more efficiently. Homeowners as well as contractors will be able to purchase permits in a timely manner, renew licenses, and request inspections online and will be able to check the status of their inspections at any given time, also via the Internet.

The Division of Building Safety is constantly looking for ways to improve our customer service. Implementation of the CAS package is one of the steps helping us to do that.

DBS hosts Council of Cities Meeting in Meridian

By Ron C. Lord, Mid-Western Regional Manager,
International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO).

(Editor's note: The following article appeared in the February, 2008 edition of the IAPMO newsletter "I-Connection" and is reprinted by permission.)

In the Boise area, also known as the Treasure Valley area, a group of inspectors met to discuss how they could work together and make enforcement of the Idaho Plumbing Code consistent from one jurisdiction to another. This proactive effort included inspectors from Boise, Caldwell, Meridian, Middleton, Star, and the State of Idaho.

Carl Lohrengel, Plumbing Bureau Chief, and Pete Peterson, Southwest Idaho Plumbing/HVAC Supervisor, gave a presentation on how the state enforces the code.

Dennis Holte of DMH Enterprises sponsored the meeting. Dennis is the inspector for Meridian, Middleton and Star, as well as the Secretary/Treasurer for the Boise IAPMO Chapter.



Dennis raised the issue of fill as a potential area of varying enforcement. He stated chips were recommended in his area due to water table issues. As it states in section 718.2 of the 2006 UPC; Building sewer piping shall be laid on a firm bed throughout its entire length, and any such piping laid in made or filled-in ground shall be laid on a bed of approved materials and shall be properly supported as required by the Authority Having Jurisdiction.

Carl offered the State's location as a regular meeting location, and the group agreed to meet prior to the Plumbing Board's scheduled meetings to continue working on issues.

Bringing together years of experience and working together to make enforcement the same across jurisdictional lines, the Council's commitment to the plumbing industry is very commendable.

Permit Fee Changes to the Electrical, HVAC, & Plumbing Bureaus

By Cathy Skidmore, *Office Services Supervisor*

A fee rule change for the Electrical, HVAC & Plumbing Bureaus was recently passed by the Legislature and will go into effect as soon as the necessary preparations are completed. This change will necessitate adjustments in processes in order to implement the new fee schedules.

The first improvement you will notice is that the fees for all three bureaus are now consistent across the board. The next improvement you will notice is that, on a new residence, the inspection cost is now based on the square footage of the home. Our goal was to make it easier to determine fees when you are quoting a job for your customers.

You will still be able to use the permits you have in your possession until we run out of permit books, or the new software system is implemented, whichever comes first. We will be sending out a mailing to all active contractors in the three bureaus with the new permit applications we will be utilizing in the future, as well as the date the new fee schedule will take effect. This permit application will have the new fee schedule built into it for ease of use and will be available on our web site at dbs.idaho.gov as well. A copy of the new fee schedule will be included, along with specific directions on the use of the application and fee schedule.

For HVAC contractors who possess permits that have had the \$50 base fee paid on them, this amount will be used as a credit towards the new permit applications.

Please see the following page for a look at the new fee schedule.

**DIVISION OF BUILDING SAFETY
ELECTRICAL/HVAC/PLUMBING FEE SCHEDULE**

ELECTRICAL TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION SERVICES ONLY: 200 amp or less, one location: \$65 basic fee
NEW RESIDENTIAL - SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING: <input type="checkbox"/> up to 1,500 sqft \$130* <input type="checkbox"/> 1,501 to 2,500 sqft \$195 * <input type="checkbox"/> 2,501 to 3,500 sqft \$260 * <input type="checkbox"/> 3,501 to 4,500 sqft \$325 * <input type="checkbox"/> Over 4,500 sqft Use OTHER INSTALLATIONS * Fee includes a maximum of 2 inspections for up to 1,500 sqft, 3 inspections for 1,501 to 2,500 sqft, 4 inspections for 2,501 to 3,500 and 5 inspections for 3,501 to 4,500. Additional inspections charged at rate of \$65 per hour. <i>* Fee is for each installation type (i.e. Electrical, Plumbing and HVAC)</i>
NEW RESIDENTIAL - MULTI-FAMILY DWELLING: <input type="checkbox"/> Duplex Apt: \$260 <input type="checkbox"/> Three or more multi-family units \$130 per building plus \$65 per unit - #bldgs _____ #units _____
EXISTING RESIDENTIAL: \$65 basic fee plus \$10 for each additional branch circuit, or plumbing fixture, or piece of HVAC equipment up to the maximum of the corresponding square footage of the residential building. HVAC Only: Fireplace installation - \$130 (this is for two inspections) Hydronic Flooring - \$65 basic fee plus \$10 for each additional manifold (zone) <i>* Fee is for each installation type (i.e. Electrical, Plumbing and HVAC)</i>
MODULAR, MANUFACTURED or MOBILE HOMES: Electrical - \$65 basic fee for each electrical connection plus \$10 for each additional circuit. Plumbing - \$65 basic fee for sewer and water stubs connection. HVAC - \$65 basic fee plus \$10 for each duct, fireplace, piece of equipment, or vent up to maximum square footage.
OTHER INSTALLATIONS/COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIALS: Work not specifically covered by any of the other fee schedules. Fee to be based on the cost of all labor, materials and equipment installed: Cost of Labor & Materials \$ _____ Cost up to \$10,000: Multiply by 2% and add \$60 Cost between \$10,001 - \$100,000: Minus \$10,000 multiply by 1% and add \$260 Cost over \$100,001: Minus \$100,000 multiply by .5% and add \$1,160 <i>*Please see example below</i> <i>*Fee is for each installation type (i.e. Electrical, Plumbing and HVAC)</i>
Electrical Only Other: For all owner-supplied, factory assembled equipment to be installed, the inspection will be based on .5% of total cost of the equipment OR an hourly rate of \$130 for the first hour of each inspection and \$65 for each additional hour. (Please call the office for assistance with calculating this fee)
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ONLY - SMALL WORKS: \$10 basic fee for work not exceeding \$200 in cost and not involving a change in service connections.
ELECTRICAL RESIDENTIAL SPAS - HOT TUBS - HYDRO MASSAGE TUBS - SWIMMING POOLS \$65 basic fee plus \$65 grounding grid where applicable. Each additional trip will be charged the \$65 basic fee.
RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC CENTRAL SYSTEMS HEATING and/or COOLING When NOT part of a new residential permit, or HVAC permit, and no additional wiring: \$65
RESIDENTIAL ELECTRIC PUMPS (DOMESTIC WATER, IRRIGATION, SEWAGE): Each Pump Up to 25 HP: \$65 26 to 200 HP: \$95 Over 200 HP \$130
ELECTRICALLY DRIVEN IRRIGATION MACHINE: \$65 for center pivot plus \$10 per tower or drive motor. #Pivot _____ #Tower _____
ELECTRIC SIGNS AND OUTLINE LIGHTING: Signs - \$65 for each sign. Outline Lighting - \$65 per occupancy.
ELECTRICAL TEMPORARY AMUSEMENT - INDUSTRY: \$65 basic fee plus \$10 for each ride, concession, or generator.
HVAC GAS LINE: \$65 basic fee
PLUMBING RESIDENTIAL SEWER AND WATER: \$38 each or \$65 for the combination if inspected at the same time.
PLUMBING LAWN SPRINKLERS - WATER HEATERS - WATER CONDITIONERS \$65 basic fee per item
PLUMBING MULTIPURPOSE RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLER AND DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM \$65 basic fee or \$4 per fire sprinkler head, whichever is greater.
REQUESTED INSPECTIONS - REINSPECTION - TECHNICAL SERVICE: \$65 minimum plus \$65 per hour or portion thereof in excess of one hour including travel time to and from job location. <i>* Fee is for each installation type (i.e. Electrical, Plumbing and HVAC)</i>
PLAN CHECK FEE: \$65 per hour minimum plus \$65 per hour or portion thereof in excess of one hour.

EXAMPLE OTHER INSTALLATIONS:**Cost of Labor & Materials \$1,800**

Cost up to \$10,000: Multiply by 2% and add \$60

\$1,800 x .02 = \$36.00 + \$60.00 = **\$96.00 total****Cost of Labor & Materials \$14,200**

Cost between \$10,001 - \$100,000: Minus \$10,000 multiply by 1% & add \$260

\$14,200 - \$10,000 = \$4,200 x .01 = \$42.00 + \$260.00 = **\$302.00 total****Cost of Labor & Materials \$120,500**

Cost over \$100,001: Minus \$100,000 multiply by .5% & add \$1,160

\$120,500 - \$100,000 = \$20,500 x .005 = \$102.50 + \$1,160.00 = **\$1,262.50 total**

Notes from the Field - Area Supervisors Reports

Finally, a Real Winter in Idaho

By Jeri Groth, *Office Specialist, Coeur d'Alene*
(AKA Her Royal Majesty)

Late January and early February 2008, brought record snowfall to Idaho, especially in the northern half of the state. Governor Otter added county after county to an emergency disaster decla-



The snow just kept coming in N. Idaho this winter. Here is the parking lot of our Coeur d'Alene office in late March.

ration, allowing the Idaho National Guard to assist clearing snow, as deep as seven foot, from the roofs of area schools. Construction came to a near standstill. Highways and streets were virtually impassable for days as high winds drifted them shut within half an hour of being plowed open. Snow blowers couldn't blow the snow high enough to reach the tops of berms already lining driveways and sidewalks. Many an "old-timer," those who have lived in Idaho all or most of their lives, grumbled along with everyone else but pronounced this a normal, real, Idaho winter.

Electrical, plumbing and HVAC inspectors, however, carried on as best they could.

This season's mammoth amount of snowfall, in a relatively short amount of time, made all the usual winter pitfalls extremely unpleasant and even more dangerous. The problems inspectors face during a winter are no different than those faced by everyone. These include dangerous driving conditions, icy walkways and building debris covered by snow just waiting to trip them up. Fortunately our inspectors were well-prepared. They face similar conditions a dozen times a day, every day.

It's not over yet. Those who have been through big winters before all say the same thing: "Just wait until the mud season!"

Southwestern Idaho – By Pete Peterson, *Region Two Plumbing/HVAC Supervisor*

This quarter in Region 2 the inspectors took advantage of the opportunity to do some cross training. With the wintertime slowdown in construction, the plumbing inspectors were able to spend some quality time with the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) inspectors as well as with plumbing in-

spectors from neighboring coverage areas.

A number of our plumbing inspectors are also responsible for HVAC inspections in their areas. Having the opportunity to spend time in the field with a dedicated HVAC inspector is very beneficial to those plumbing inspectors that carry dual responsibility. This ultimately results in better quality inspections.

Cross training in neighboring areas is advantageous for a couple of reasons. Inspectors who from time to time may be required to cover for another will know how to get around the new area in a timely manner and will have established some familiarity with the contractors working in that area.

Inspections are picking back up as spring approaches and with the cross training the inspectors are now able to more efficiently cover all of their areas of responsibility.

Residential Slow, Commercial Strong in Southern Idaho - By Rick Brown, *Region Three Plumbing/HVAC Supervisor*

Housing construction in southern Idaho has slowed down quite a bit. Fortunately, there is a lot of commercial work ongoing and our inspectors have kept busy through the winter. In Jerome, construction of a new Darigold milk plant is well underway, a new 108 unit motel is being built and the area's newest automobile dealership is about half-way completed.



Rocket - like evaporators

In the Burley area, work continues on the Pacific Ethanol facility but construction has been temporarily halted on the Renova Energy ethanol plant. Other ongoing activity includes a new milk plant and quite a number of smaller commercial projects. Burley and Minidoka County have really not

slowed down much at all. In addition to the ongoing commercial activity, there are areas where residential construction continues to be holding steady.

In the Magic Valley, a new canola plant will be starting up soon in Buhl. Aside from that, construction activity took a dip over the winter but is beginning to pick up in anticipation of spring weather. In the city of Jerome there are two new schools. One has just been completed and the other is in the finishing stage of construction.

Up north in the Wood River Valley it has slowed down quite a bit. There are some big houses under construction, 8 thousand

Notes from the Field

sq. ft. and larger. Aside from that, residential construction is off significantly.



Construction proceeds on the High Desert Milk plant in Burley. The plant will be in production in the fall of 2008.

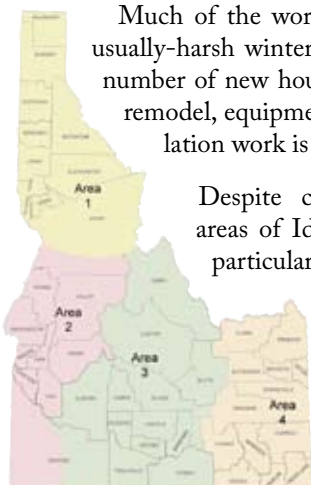
While we're all grateful for the moisture we've received this winter, we are also looking forward to the warmth of spring and hopefully a good construction season in 2008.

Southeastern Idaho - By Chris Critser, Region Four Plumbing/HVAC Supervisor

With the official arrival of springtime, we've seen a slight lull in the action in the eastern part of the state. This gave us enough of a respite that the supervisors and inspectors were able to catch up on some of their paperwork.

It doesn't look like the slow period is going to last. We're already gearing up for what appears to be a busy spring. Most areas are starting to see new subdivisions spring to life and there are indications that more subdivision development will be visible before summer arrives.

In many of the existing subdivisions in the area, we're starting to see new foundations poured – a good sign that the construction season is about to shift into high gear.



Much of the work that continued through the unusually-harsh winter is beginning to wrap up now. A number of new houses are being finished and a lot of remodel, equipment change out and fireplace installation work is nearing completion.

Despite considerable slowdowns in other areas of Idaho, the eastern part of the state, particularly the Teton Valley, continues to bustle with both residential and commercial construction activity and we're anticipating an extremely busy spring and summer this year.



Thompson Mechanical Contractors General Foreman Karl Ransom (L) explains the workings of Pacific Ethanol's new Burley plant to Plumbing Bureau Chief Carl Lohrengel (Center) and DBS Administrator Kelly Pearce.

PACIFIC ETHANOL'S NEW BURLEY PLANT



A Semi truck unloads corn for the first batch of ethanol at Pacific Ethanol's Burley facility. Most of the plant's future grain shipments will arrive by rail car.

DBS Hosts State Agency Softball Tourney

By Bill Hatch, *Editor*

The Division of Building Safety has organized and will host a marathon softball tournament for state agencies and their employees.

Set for play in early May at the Willow Lane Athletic Complex in Boise, the one-day, bracketed tournament features teams from sixteen state agencies and sub-agencies.

Although results were not available at press time, the tournament has already been declared a huge success. Opening ceremonies featured an introduction by Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter along with DBS Administrator Kelly Pearce, a traveling championship trophy has been prepared and each team will receive a group photo.

The tournament, conceived and organized by DBS Permits and Finance Team Supervisor Tony Pirc, is being conducted without the use of any state funds. Tony says plans are already in the works for the next tournament, possibly as early as this fall.

Christmas Spirit Alive and Well at DBS

By Sharon Chisom, *DBS Inspector Support/Customer Service*

A bake sale, a silent auction and a holiday bazaar were all part of the festivities as DBS employees demonstrated their collective spirit of giving in 2007.

It all started with the formation of an employee committee charged with determining what our agency would do in terms of a humanitarian project. While past efforts have benefited the Idaho Food Bank Warehouse and other charities, our committee decided this year to focus on needy families and our nation's military personnel.

DBS employees donated a delicious variety of baked goods and the sale was conducted in our lobby/reception area. It was an unqualified success. The baked goods were packed in bundles of three and sold for \$1.00 per bundle. The sale ran for two weeks, with staff at the front counter performing as cashiers for funds collected from walk-in customers as well as DBS staff. The spirit of giving was helped along by the additional efforts of our front counter staff in decorating the tree, stringing lights and putting out other decorations that were donated or made by DBS employees.

For our silent auction, donations of merchandise and services were solicited from area businesses and a number of items were also donated by DBS staff. All of these were packaged and displayed for all to see and to bid on. Again, the event was a tremendous success.

Money collected as a result of these fund raising activities was

used to purchase dolls, trucks, games, MP3 players and other gifts for the 19 children our committee had identified as beneficiaries of this year's humanitarian activities. DBS staff wrapped the purchased items and the most rewarding part of all came when the gifts were delivered to the recipients and hugs of gratitude were received.

In addition to assistance given to needy families this year, DBS employees donated generously to a fund dedicated to the purchase of Christmas packages for military personnel stationed away from home and their families. If you have a loved one or friend serving in the military and you would like them to be added to our list to receive cards and packages, just send their name, rank, branch of service and duty station address to DBS and we'll make sure they are mailed our small gifts and cards letting them know how much we appreciate their sacrifice.

Our tastiest holiday activity this year was the Christmas Potluck. Jeff Fitzloff and Rusty Boyer cooked dutch oven turkey with a mouth-watering blend of herbs and special seasonings, Carl Lohrengel rustled up some dutch oven potatoes and all of this was added to a delectable assortment of salads, veggies and desserts provided by DBS staff for a scrumptious lunch. An ornament exchange after the meal topped off a perfect day of festivities.

Because of the success of all of these activities, we are already planning another bazaar and bake sale for the coming year.

Now THAT'S a lot of snow!



Kootenai County Plan Review Supervisor Bob Ankersmit shovels snow from the roof of his Sandpoint area home in February of 2008.

Thank You, Farewell and Best of Luck - Longtime Electrical Board Member Retires

By Bill Hatch, *Editor*

Dale Pippitt of Twin Falls has retired from public service after having served on the Idaho State Electrical Board from August of 1999 to January of 2008. Pippitt, who holds a B.S. degree in electrical engineering from the University of Kansas, is President of Floyd Lilly Company, a pumps and water well retailing business in the Magic Valley area.

Addressing the Electrical Board at its February 21st meeting, Pippitt thanked DBS Administrator Kelly Pearce, Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter and members of the Board, particularly Chairman Tom Brown, for the privilege of serving and for the opportunity to help make a difference.

Pippitt quoted three mentors from his past – the first being former Idaho State Senator Laird Noh of Kimberly, who counseled him to consider all sides of every proposed rule or piece of legislation, to determine how it would be paid for and to consider the costs imposed on those affected. His other significant mentors, he said, were a college professor who informed him that "you can't idiot-proof anything" and his father, himself a former Electrical Board member, who urged Dale to get involved in public service – to give back to the industry and to the members of the community in which he lives.

On behalf of the entire board, Chairman Brown thanked Pippitt for his many years of dedicated service and wished him all the best in his future endeavors.

An Update on DBS Personnel

By **C. Kelly Pearce**, *Administrator*

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Janice Foster as Deputy Administrator for Administrative Services, Division of Building Safety. Her new responsibilities will entail oversight of the Office Services Group, IT, Human Resources and Purchasing.



As many of you are aware, Janice has been serving as the Human Resource Director for the Division for several months. She is a 34-year employee of Idaho State government. Twenty-five of those years were spent with the Idaho

Personnel Commission where she served as Deputy Director for several years.

Prior to joining DBS, Janice worked for the Idaho State Tax Commission. She has served as trainer for employees of numerous state agencies in the area of: "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People," Managing Change and supervisory courses regarding employment law and performance management.

Janice has served as President of the Idaho Affirmative Action Association and as a board member of the Friends of the Idaho State Historical Society.

Janice has been awarded the nationally recognized Human Resource Professional Certificate and the Senior Human Resource Professional Certificate which are granted by the Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM).

She is a 2006 graduate of the Certified Public Management (CPM) program and currently serves as a member of the CPM Board of Directors. Janice attended Boise State University and holds a Bachelor's degree in History.

Please join me in welcoming Janice Foster to this new responsibility with the Division of Building Safety. She has my full confidence and support.

Other Staff Changes



Kirk Weiskircher joins the Division of Building Safety as the new Financial Specialist, Principal. Kirk is a 2003 graduate of Boise State University and comes to the Division after 3 years with the Idaho Transportation Department. The State's new zero-base budgeting process will bring many challenges to our Division. Kirk will be the lead person for the implementation

of zero-base budgeting in the agency. Kirk and the financial team will be leading the way in developing future budgets at DBS.



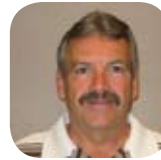
Al Caine has been made Manager of the Industrial Safety and Elevator Safety programs. Al has many years of experience at DBS, primarily in the electrical and licensing areas. Prior to joining the division, Al managed industrial facilities, and is very familiar with the development and administration of safety programs. Al is looking

forward to working with employees and customers in taking

the safety effort to the next level.



Terry Blessing will be serving as the outreach advisor for Public Works Contractor licensing in northern Idaho. Terry had previously served as a Plumbing Bureau Outreach Advisor and Plumbing Inspector in Coeur d'Alene.



Chris Jensen of Blackfoot will be serving as the outreach advisor for Public Works Contractor licensing in eastern Idaho. Prior to his reassignment, Chris worked as an Electrical Bureau Outreach Advisor in the eastern part of the state.



Scott Richter has been assigned as the Electrical Bureau's Southwest Area Supervisor. A longtime DBS employee, Scott had served for approximately 4 years as an Inspector in Canyon and Owyhee Counties. Prior to that he was an Electrical Inspector in eastern Idaho, serving Teton, Madison, Fremont and Jefferson Counties.



And DBS is proud to welcome **Mike Davis** to the agency. Mike has accepted a support position in the Public Works Contractor Licensing Bureau, reporting to PWCL Bureau Chief Jean Frenette.

A New Way of Budgeting

By **Kirk Weiskircher**, *Principal Financial Specialist*

The Division of Building Safety is among the first state agencies that will go through the Governor's plan for Zero Based Budgeting. This plan, set to begin with the Fiscal Year 2010 budget, is designed to streamline state government by reassessing how agencies are spending taxpayer money. Agencies have been directed to examine state statutes, and build their budgets based on the legal requirements for the agency.

The State's FY 2009 budget, which was recently approved by the Legislature, was a Program-Based budget that used the previous year as a base. To this base, each program's budget request added any additional costs that were needed in 2009 that were not included in the base (additional personnel costs, new equipment, etc.). When legislators reviewed and approved the budgets, they adjusted them as they saw fit, with an emphasis on examining any amounts that were added to the base.

With a Zero-Based budget, the base is \$0 and budgets will be built off of that to arrive at the requested budget. The Legislature will closely examine all program costs to ensure that the programs are required, based on Idaho statutes, and that the programs are paying for themselves. The Division of Building Safety will use this opportunity to closely examine our programs and to see where we can improve.

State of Idaho
 Division of Building Safety
 1090 E. Watertower St.
 Meridian, ID 83642

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This newsletter is published by the
 Idaho Division of Building Safety
 If you have comments
 or suggestions, call Bill Hatch,
 Public Information Officer, at
 (208) 334-3950 or write DBS at
 the address above.



DBS BOARD MEETINGS

2008

Board Meetings to be held (unless otherwise noted) at:

Division of Building Safety
 Board Conference Room
 1090 E. Watertower Street
 Meridian, Idaho

Electrical Board	FEB 21 – MERIDIAN MAY 15 – POCATELLO JUL 29 – POST FALLS OCT 16 – MERIDIAN
Plumbing Board	JAN 11 – MERIDIAN CANCELLED FEB 8 – MERIDIAN MAR 21 – MERIDIAN APR 11 – IDAHO FALLS JUN 20 – MERIDIAN AUG 22 – POST FALLS
HVAC Board	FEB 5 – MERIDIAN MAY 14 – POCATELLO JUL 30 – POST FALLS OCT 7 – MERIDIAN
Public Works Contractors Licensing Board	JAN 7 – MERIDIAN APR 7 – MERIDIAN JUL 7 – MERIDIAN OCT 6 – MERIDIAN
Building Board	MAR 18 – MERIDIAN JUL 15 – MERIDIAN
Manufactured Housing Board	JAN 28 – MERIDIAN CANCELLED APR 21 – MERIDIAN JUL 21 – MERIDIAN NOV 24 – MERIDIAN
Modular Building Advisory Board	FEB 11 – MERIDIAN APR 28 – MERIDIAN JUL 14 – MERIDIAN DEC 8 – MERIDIAN (TENTATIVE)



Holidays outlined & highlighted in gray

New! Live audio broadcasts of Board meetings.
 Go to the DBS Board web site - dbs.idaho.gov/boards
 Click on the link "Audio Streaming"