

**Plumbing Board - Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 18, 2011**  
**Minnesota Room – Department of Labor & Industry**  
**443 Lafayette Road North, St Paul 55155**  
[DLI.CCLDBOARDS@State.MN.US](mailto:DLI.CCLDBOARDS@State.MN.US)

**Members Present:**

Rebecca L. Ames  
Chad Filek  
John Flagg  
Jim Gander  
Lawrence G. Justin  
James Kittleson  
Allen J. Lamm  
Jim Lungstrom  
(DLI Commissioner's Designee)  
Gale Mount  
Rick Palmateer  
John A. Parizek  
Ronald Thompson  
(MDH Commissioner's Designee)

**Members Absent:**

Karl Abrahamson

**Staff Present:**

Patricia Munkel-Olson  
Jim Peterson  
John Schultz  
Sharon Sokol  
Cathy Tran

**Visitors Present:**

Ken Audette  
Dave Bokelman  
John Gunderson  
Chuck Higgins  
Craig Johnson  
Kyle Nevala  
Katie Penner  
Phil Raines  
Chip Ruppert  
Dave Sewald  
Jay Stennyft  
Gary Thaden  
Jeff Tyler  
Jeff Waterman  
Luther Westman  
Kevin Wilkins  
Bob Wolf  
Bill Zukowski

**I. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Parizek at 9:30 a.m. and role was taken. It was announced that there would be a break at 10:45 and a lunch break at 12:15 for one hour. People were told to register their cars if they would be in the parking lot for more than two hours. People were asked to fill out a form and return it to the Chair if they wanted to speak at the open forum. They were asked to do this before the morning break.

Three new board members were welcomed. John Flagg, Chad Filek, and Gale Mount. It was mentioned that there were three continuing Board members: Rebecca Ames, Allen Lamm, and James Kittleson. It was mentioned that Rick Palmateer would continue as the public member until a reappointment is appointed.

**II. Approval of Meeting Agenda**

*Lamm made a motion, seconded by Gander, to approve the meeting agenda. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.*

### **III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

*A motion was made by Gander and seconded by Kittelson to accept the October 19, 2010 Meeting Minutes. The motion passed with one abstention.*

### **IV. Regular Business**

#### A. Approval of Expense Reports

- i. Chair stated that he had reviewed the Expense Reports and Per Diems and found them in order and declared them approved.

### **V. Committee Reports**

#### A. Executive Committee

Chair Parizek reported the Executive Committee reviewed and referred two Requests for Action:

- i. PB0059 – Permaliner Industries, Sent to the Product Code Review Committee
- ii. PB0060 – DLI Proposed Amendment- Sent to the Product Code Review Committee.
- iii. PB0061 – Is a plumbing license required for the installation of a sump pump Sent to the Interpretation Committee.
- iv. PB0050 – Roof Drain Strainer-Discussed update on Roof Drain Strainer. A letter will be sent to the presenter.
- v. PB0053 - Pex Installation, Assigned to the PCRC committee
- vi. PB0057 – Floor Drain Installation, discussed floor drain location. This was assigned to PCRC committee.

#### B. Product & Code Review Committee

- i. The Committee met December 7, 2010 and reviewed files:
  - i. PB0044 - Siphonic Roof Drainage Systems
  - ii. PB0048 - Water Powered Sump Pumps
  - iii. PB0051 - State of MN adopting into its plumbing code Chapter 5 of the 2010 IAMPO Green Plumbing & Mechanical Supplement
  - iv. PB0041 - Easy Flex
  - v. The PCRC Committee will be reviewing the following files at the March 8, 2011 meeting:
    - *PB0041* - EasyFlex
    - *PB0050* - Roof Drain Strainer
    - *PB0053* - Pex Installation Requirements
    - *PB0057* - Floor Drain Installations
    - *PB0060* - DLI Proposed Amendments

C. Code Interpretation Committee

Gander reported the committee met has not met yet. They will meet and discuss PB0061- Is a plumbing license required for the installation of a sump pump? They explained that they meet when an issue comes up and they have 30 days to submit a determination. There was one issue submitted by Eden Prairie Plumbing regarding discharge piping Clearwater.

D. Medical Gas Committee

Sullwold reported they met in November and will meet in February but there is no date set yet.

E. Continuing Education Committee

The Chair stated that Abrahamson had to step out; he stated the committee met November 23, 2010. They are seeking input from committee members and they will meet again in February.

F. Licensing and Registration Committee

Gander stated they meet on an as needed basis. He stated they have not met for the last several months.

G. Water Conditioning Committee

The Chair reported that the Chairman is out of town and they have a meeting set up for February 15<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon.

H. Construction Codes Advisory Committee

Gander was not able to attend the December meeting due to the snowfall; he is acting as a substitute for Ken Kammerer. He said there was nothing new to report.

*A motion was made for Gander to serve as the Plumbing Board's representative on the Construction Codes Advisory Committee. It was proposed Kittleson would be the alternative, seconded by Allen. No discussion. It vote was unanimous and the motion carried.*

I. Code Interpretation Committee

Gale Mount volunteers to be on this committee.

## J. DLI Reports

There was discussion on the new administration for the department; Ken Peterson, Commissioner, Kris Eiden, Deputy Commissioner, and the two Assistant Commissioners Jessica Looman and Gary Hall. Assistant Commissioner Looman will work with the Construction Codes & Licensing and the Apprenticeship and Labor Standards. Assistant Commissioner Hall will work with Safety & Workers Compensation.

Pat Munkel-Olson spoke about open meeting laws. This is her first meeting as the official Staff Attorney. There was discussion on Rule Making. Good cause was published and will be effective June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Expedited rulemaking, waterless urinals has been reviewed and approved. It will be effective July 5, 2011. It has been submitted to the Secretary of State and will be effective 180 days after that. Standard Rule Making, the language is not crafter yet. The Board is still considering what it will do. Munkel-Olson suggested the Board consider adding open meeting law training for new board members. She summarized that if you receive information, you should not talk amongst yourselves, to talk at the meetings. This will be added to the agenda. She stated she would be forwarding a memo on this topic to the Board and that there will be formal training at the April meeting.

## **VI. Special Business**

### A. Request for Action

Legislative Proposal, Minnesota Water Well Association.

- i. There was discussion that there had been a meeting on December 16, 2010. The language to be used was discussed. Guest Chris Rupert, president of the Minnesota Water Well Association spoke. Kevin Hoppe of the Minnesota Water Well Association spoke. They spoke about changing 326 B-46. There was an email from Gary Thaden. The Mechanical Contractors asked for some language changes. The board took a five minute break so that materials regarding this topic could be distributed to the board. Gary Thaden spoke. There was discussion that they had been working on this for over four years. It was discussed that there was a meeting on December 16, 2010 and there did not seem to be any unresolved issues. The unresolved issues surfaced on January 13, 2011. There was discussion regarding the control valve being located outside. There was discussion on the use of the word building or structure. Munkel-Olson asked in the board wanted to use both words- building or other structure. There was discussion on water hydrants and being frost free. Install would be allowed by a licensed plumber. Maintenance and repair would be done would require certification. There was discussion on what is the current practice. They are trying to put that into statute. Medical Gas- there would be a new law conforming to the licensing system. They go into effect Jan 1, 2012.
- ii. File (*PB0044*) The Board was directed to review information packet on siphonic roof drain. The presenter, Jay Stenlft from Tyler Pipe Company spoke. There was discussion on ASME 112.6.9 and ASME 45. There was discussion on the baffle plate reducing air in the piping. Language changes were discussed. The Board was directed to review 4715.2790 in the

packets. There was discussion that a siphonic roof drain is similar to a gravity roof drain, but the difference is that the baffle plate eliminates the air in the piping. It was discussed that there are now standards. This can help the rain water harvesting. The drains do not clog because the power pulls the debris through. There were comments by Cathy Tran and Pat Munkel-Olson, and Rebecca Ames. Presenter – I don't think we can have code that goes against statute. Rebecca Ames – it will require maintenance, they can clog. Cathy Tran stated we will review siphonic roof drains but are not liable for the engineering design. Engineering would be responsible. There was discussion on piping materials. Tran – the Department was requesting a change to the language, sub part 1 from 'approved' to 'allowed'. Clarification – even if it was approved in the code could the administrative authority still feel the system is not appropriate for certain buildings. The application could be rejected by the administrative authority. Acceptance by the local authority would still be necessary. Rebecca Ames – glad that is in there. Presenter – Sometimes you have to do a ponding system, due to rapid discharge. Munkel-Olson suggested to replace the word 'described' with 'required'. Subpart of 2 and 3 be met.

*Break for lunch at 12:25, the meeting resumed at 1:34.*

Certification of design software to ASPE 45 was discussed and the staff will review and make minor revisions to language. *A motion made by Justin, second by Lamm to move forward in current rule making process. Vote: 10 in favor, 2 opposed. Motion carries.*

- i. File (PB0047) Solar Thermal Water Heating. Board reviewed article drafted by Parizek. He stated clarification needed regarding USFDA approved heat transfer medium. Not all anti-freeze acceptable for RV use is USFDA approved. A motion made by Justin, second by Lamm to have Parizek revise article as needed, have staff review and post to the website. Motion carries unanimously.*
- ii. File (PB0048) Water Powered Sump Pumps - Presentations supporting and opposing PB0048 were made. 4715 addresses proper backflow protection when installing. The members felt it was not the mission of Board to determine if a product wastes water but to provide rules for the installation of approved products to protect the water supply. A motion made by Lamm, second by Abrahamson to deny RFA PB0048. After further discussion a vote was taken. Vote was unanimous, motion carried. RFA PB0048 is denied.*

Lamm stated for record he hope the presenters of the RFA would work with people to bring about legislative action to prohibit water powered sump pumps.

- iii. File (PB0056) Required Experience for Master Exam - Presenter compared his request to electrical which allows an electrical engineer to obtain a master electrical license. A motion made by Justin to, accept RFA PB0056 allowing mechanical engineers to take the master plumbing exam. Motion failed for a second. A motion by Gander, second by Abrahamson to deny RFA PB0056. Discussion ensued. A vote was taken. Vote was 11 in favor, 1 abstention. Motion carried. RFA PB0056 is denied.*

### **VII. Complaints**

Complaints were received regarding the installation of non-water urinals and forwarded to Charlie Durenburger.

### **VIII. Open Forum**

No one asked to address the Board.

### **IX. Board Discussion**

Chair asked the new Board members to introduce themselves. The Department policy on plan review and fees was explained.

### **X. Announcements**

#### A. Next Regularly Scheduled Meetings

- i. Tuesday, April 19, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. – Minnesota Room, DLI
- ii. Tuesday, July 19, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. – Minnesota Room, DLI
- iii. Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 9:30 a.m. – Minnesota Room, DLI

### **XI. Adjournment**

*There was a motion and second adjourn the meeting. None were opposed and the Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:52 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,

*Karl Abrahamson*

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