

Meeting Notes: Municipal Delegations TAG

Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2026
Prepared by: Makenzie Johnson
Location: DLI Isanti Room/WebEx Event

Attendance

- TAG Members attending: Greg Metz, Bryan Kerby, Nicole Kastern, Scott McKown, Scott Wheeler, Ryan Rehn, Lonnie Johnson, Jerry Backlund, Randy King, Kyle Dimler, Travis Dunn, Jerry Norman, James Coyle
- TAG Members not attending: Scott McKown, Paul Swett, Scott Anderson
- Guests attending: Adam Barthel, Chad Payment, Craig Furlong, Dan Lentz, Dave Matthews, Jayne Frahm, Jim Newham, Makenzie Johnson, Matt Carrigan, Nick Gilland, Robert Ferguson, Ryan Smith, Scott Sadusky, Steve Shold, Tim Manz, Todd Hoesktra, Wendy Rannenber. Britt McAdamis, Amanda Spuckler, Kade Paulson, Alexis Johnson, Larry Farrar, Amanda Spuckler

Overview

- The TAG met to continue reviewing Minnesota Rule 1302 updates related to municipal delegation.
- Session focused on clarifying project tiers, qualification levels, and credentialing.
- Members discussed impacts of rule changes on municipalities of varying sizes.
- Significant emphasis placed on readability, clarity, and statutory alignment.
- Reviewed existing draft rule language and provided structured edits.
- Discussed intent behind project tiering to reflect complexity and risk to public safety.
- Explored workforce capacity issues, including pipeline shortages and retirement trends.
- Highlighted concerns regarding implementation, transition, and training requirements.

Key decisions

- Project tier descriptions will be revised for improved clarity and consistency.
- Assembly use thresholds will specify "assembly over 300 occupants" to avoid confusion.
- Language implying comparative complexity between tiers will be removed.
- Storm shelter terminology will likely remain but will be reviewed for modern application.
- Specialists (fire, mechanical, structural) may be separated into plan review vs. inspection roles.
- Tier 3 may eventually require specialists only for plan review, not inspections.
- Oral exams removed due to subjectivity and administrative workload.
- Future exams must include Minnesota-specific content and applied examples.
- Qualification Level 4 experience requirements will be reassessed to ensure workforce sustainability.

- Municipalities will retain flexibility through commissioner discretion on complex cases.

Next steps

- DLI staff will incorporate TAG feedback into revised draft language.
- Additional review of specialist requirements and qualification structure will be performed.
- Consider whether project-based experience can offset years-of-experience requirements.
- Prepare and distribute updated draft ahead of next TAG meeting.
- Examine transition considerations to ensure current municipal staff are not adversely impacted.
- Continue refining definitions, terminology, and section organization to support clarity.

Next meeting

Date: November 17, 2026
Time: 1 to 3 p.m.
Location: Isanti Room/WebEx