



STATE OF WASHINGTON

## ADVISORY BOARD OF PLUMBERS

*Mail correspondence to: PO Box 44470 □ Olympia, Washington 98504-4470*

Meeting Minutes July 19, 2022

### **Board Members**

Ed Holmes, Journey Level Plumber  
Dave Weisbeck, Public Member  
Ryan McMahan, Plumbing Business  
Todd Allred, Plumbing Business  
Scott Fowler, Specialty Plumbing Business  
Jed Scheuermann, Code Body Representative  
Allan Cortina, Department of Health Representative (ZOOM)

### **Department of Labor & Industries**

Melissa McBride, Chief for Contractor Compliance,  
Bruce Springer, Plumbing Certification, Technical Specialist  
Jesse Jameson, Contractor Registration, Technical Specialist  
Steve Rushing, Contractor Registration, Compliance Specialist Supervisor  
Alicia Curry, FPLS Rules & Legislation Coordinator  
Alisha Wells, Plumber Certification, Program Specialist 2

### **Guests**

Matt Lavergne, Matthew Defeo, Ryan Santeford, Mark Wells, Ted Fritz, Dan Hartsough, Robert Johnson, David Ciprut, Mike Kunkel, Dale Wilcox, Steven Simpson, Seth Thompson, Armando Villalobos, William Whitfold, Corey Wilker, Brad Moore, Antonio Cruz

### **Recruitment for Board Seats**

Melissa stated there are four Board Member seats up for renewal. Those interested in renewing or applying for the available member positions must submit a letter of interest and a background of competency for the positions. These letters can be sent to either Bruce Springer or Alisha Wells via email or mail.

### **Approved Minutes**

Meeting Minutes of April 19, 2022 meeting minutes approved

## Budget

Melissa McBride presented the projected budget for 2023. Recruitment for Plumbing Compliance Inspectors has closed and interviews should be wrapping up.

Expenditures for the budget go towards anything the program needs such as exam costs hiring etc.

Discussion followed

## Testing

Bruce discussed testing with PSI, most issues with exams have been resolved.

Calls have been received regarding questions on exams and whether the questions on the exam are correct. Bruce has confirmed the exam questions and answers are correct. Plumber Certification does not provide stud guides for the exam

Discussion followed.

## Plumber Infractions

Bruce stated the fourth quarter of 2021 there were 160 infractions written for \$54,200.00. The first quarter of 2022 there were 205 infractions written for \$76,200.00 and for the second quarter of 2022 there were 240 infractions written for \$92,600.00.

Discussion followed

## Plumbing Contractor Numbers/Certified Plumber Average Age

Plumbing Contractor Numbers:

<b>Plumbing Contractor Specialty</b>	<b>Active</b>
Commercial (PC01)	788
Residential Specialty (PC02)	296
Pump & Irrigation (PC03)	48
Domestic Well (PC3A)	16
Residential Service (PC04)	1
Backflow (PC30)	19

Average of Plumbers in Washington State as follows:

<b>Age</b>	<b>Certified Plumbers</b>	<b>Plumber Trainees</b>
<b>Youngest</b>	22 years	16 years
<b>Oldest</b>	98 years	76 years
<b>Average</b>	49 years	32 years

## IAPMO Update

Jed Scheuermann stated IAPMO's annual conference in Charlotte, NC will be September 11<sup>th</sup> through September 15<sup>th</sup>.

The 2024 Codes is under development, check the IAPMO website to participate/learn more. The website is also a good place to go for knowledge regarding plumbing and answers to any questions.

## **New Business**

A representative of the Department of Health was attending via ZOOM.

- Guest Matthew Defeo discussed differences between Washington State and New York State requirements to gain a Plumber Certification. Bruce explained Washington's requirements and Ed explained that as Washington is not an apprenticeship state the hours earned towards a certification must be verified. To change this would require changes to be made through legislation.

Discussion followed

- Todd introduced discussion on Plumbing TAG Recommendation for Air Admittance Vents (AAVs) in the Code. Discussion followed regarding how these vents pose a threat to the public health and safety.

Todd made motion to advise Labor and Industries to support the decision of the Plumbing TAG to not approve the proposal 21-GPZ-057. Motion was second and approved.

Melissa stated that the motion would be given to LNI's legislation office for direction and will keep the Board updated on what LNI could or could not do.

Discussion followed

- Representative of Three Brothers Plumbing brought up concerns on processing time for Plumbing Contractor applications and for affidavits of experience.

Melissa explained the delay occurred due to limited staff and an overwhelming amount of applications. If the application is incorrect this could also delay processing.

Bruce explained that affidavits for the previous year's work should be turned in at the time of renewal.

Discussion followed

- Guest wanted to open up conversation about Drain Cleaning being under Plumbing and how this is negatively impacting the industry. Chair stated more facts and data will need to be gathered before a proper discussion could be had and that any changes regarding this would need to be done through legislation.

## **Old Business**

No old business was discussed