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PLUMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

January 16, 2024



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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES
STATE OF WASHINGTON

PLUMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

TRANSCRIPT OF
PROCEEDINGS
Pages 1 to 49

Tumwater, Washington
January 16, 2024

**CERTIFIED
TRANSCRIPT**

Taken Before:

SUE E. GARCIA, CCR # 2781, RMR
Washington Certified Court Reporter

for

Capitol Pacific Reporting, Inc.

800.407.0148

www.capitolpacificreporting.com
scheduling@capitolpacificreporting.com



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ATTENDANCE

Elevator Safety Advisory Committee

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Todd Allred | -- Plumbing Business Seat |
| Dave Weisbeck | -- Public Member Seat |
| Scott Fowler | -- Specialty Plumbing Contractor Seat |
| Jed Scheuermann | -- State Plumbing Code Body Seat |
| Antonio Cruz | -- Journey Level Plumber |
| Brad Moore | -- Journey Level Plumber |
| Allan Cortina | -- Department of Health Representative |
| Melissa McBride | -- Secretary
Chief Plumber Certification |



ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS

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Ben Blohowiak AAG

Dale Partin

Mike Kunkel

Steve Nastruz

Seth Thompson

Ryan Mustard

Joe Barbee

Alisha Holmes



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1 BE IT REMEMBERED that on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at
2 9:32 a.m., before Sue E. Garcia, Washington State
3 Certified Court Reporter, residing at Tacoma, the
4 following proceedings were had, to wit:

5

6

* * * * *

7

8

CHAIR TODD ALLRED: We're going to call the
9 meeting to order, everyone. Thank you for being here.

9

10

I see we have the Honorable Ben Blohowiak here on
11 screen virtual joining us.

11

12

Hi, Ben. Can you hear us?

13

AAG BEN BLOHOWIAK: I can. Good morning,
14 everybody.

14

15

CHAIR TODD ALLRED: All right. We'll just go
16 into introductions.

16

17

My name is Todd Allred. I'm with Chipper Plumbing
18 & Radiant out of the Tukwila area. I'm your chair.

18

19

MELISSA McBRIDE: I'm Melissa McBride, chief
20 of compliance with Department of Labor & Industries,
21 and secretary to the board.

20

21

22

ANTONIO CRUZ: I'm Antonio Cruz, journeyman
23 plumber.

23

24

JED SCHEUERMANN: I'm Jed Scheuermann with
25 the IAPMO group.

25



1 SCOTT FOWLER: Scott Fowler, specialty
2 plumber.

3 DAVE WEISBECK: Dave Weisbeck, public member.

4 DALE PARTIN: Dale Partin, L&I. I'm a
5 plumbing tech.

6 (Clarifying interruption by the
7 reporter.)

8
9 STEVE NASTRUZ: Steve Nastruz, N-a-s-t-r-u-z,
10 retired chief plumbing inspector, Seattle-King County
11 Public Health.

12 ALLAN CORTINA: Allan Cortina, Department of
13 Health representative.

14 JOE BARBEE: Joe Barbee, Department of
15 Health, office of drinking water operators.

16 BRAD MOORE: Brad Moore, journeyman plumber.

17 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Can we have guests
18 introduce themselves, as well, please.

19 MIKE KUNKEL: Mike Kunkel, journeyman
20 plumber.

21 SETH THOMPSON: Seth Thompson, journeyman
22 plumber.

23 RYAN MUSTARD: Ryan Mustard, journeyman
24 plumber.

25 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Welcome, everybody.



1 Thank you.

2 First thing on the agenda is our minutes.

3 So --

4 SCOTT FOWLER: Move to accept.

5 ALLAN CORTINA: Second.

6 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Any discussion?

7 (No audible response.)

8 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: All right. All in favor.

9 (Chorus of ayes.)

10 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Opposed?

11 (No audible response.)

12 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Abstentions?

13 (No audible response.)

14 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Thank you. Motion
15 passes.

16 Melissa, you're up next with plumbing program --

17 Oh, wait a second. I would like to interrupt for
18 just one second.

19 Ben, we have a question for you.

20 We have two representatives from Department of
21 Health here.

22 That's correct?

23 And we're just curious about the -- they want to
24 share the seat for the Department of Health. So
25 we're -- we want to have you look into the legality of

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1 that and what -- if we need to make an adjustment or if
2 we can operate that way.

3 AAG BEN BLOHOWIAK: So, the -- so, just off
4 the top of my head, Todd, the members of the board are
5 appointed by the Department and the director. So that
6 would be a question for the Department.

7 I'll continue to look into it. But off the top of
8 my head, that's -- I'm not entirely sure the board has
9 the ability to expand its membership on the fly like
10 that without -- at least without the director of the
11 Department of Labor and Industries being involved.

12 MELISSA McBRIDE: And I think --

13 AAG BEN BLOHOWIAK: I will continue to look
14 into it.

15 MELISSA McBRIDE: Thanks, Ben.

16 And I think the question that will come into play
17 is the members of the board are identified in statute.
18 And it says "a representative from the Department of
19 Health." So we just want to know if "a" has to be
20 singular or if that means it can be a shared seat.

21 And if that's something that the Department's
22 counsel needs to look into instead, we're happy to do
23 that, as well.

24 AAG BEN BLOHOWIAK: Okay. Well, I'll talk
25 with them, and we'll get an answer.



1 MELISSA McBRIDE: Thank you.

2 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: For the purposes of today
3 for any votes, Ben, we would have Allan? Because he's
4 the identified seat, he would be the vote for that
5 chair, correct?

6 AAG BEN BLOHOWIAK: If he has been -- yes.
7 If he's been appointed to the board, yes.

8 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay. So, you guys
9 sharing the seat there, you're together but one vote.

10 JOE BARBEE: No worries.

11 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: All right. Very good.
12 Thank you for that clarification, Ben.

13 Melissa, you're up with plumbing program activity
14 overview.

15 MELISSA McBRIDE: Okay. So, I think there's
16 in the packet -- I think I heard Alisha say the number
17 of plumbers that's in here.

18 And I'm going to give you numbers, and those
19 numbers might be a little bit different. But the
20 numbers are a current snapshot. So, I took a snapshot
21 from yesterday. So, they're always changing whether
22 it's from an expiration or a suspension or renewal.
23 So, the numbers are fluid.

24 But as of yesterday we have 1,781 active plumbing
25 contractors; 6,773 plumbers, and that's all plumber



1 types; and --

2 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: What's that number?

3 MELISSA McBRIDE: 6,773.

4 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: That's all plumber types?

5 MELISSA McBRIDE: All plumber types.

6 Sorry.

7 Not trainees. Trainees would be separate.

8 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay.

9 MELISSA McBRIDE: The domestic well's going
10 to be within there. So, it's broken down differently
11 here.

12 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay. Okay.

13 MELISSA McBRIDE: And, then, trainees is
14 5,608. And so, you can see here it's 5,601 in the
15 handout. So it's just -- somebody's expired or
16 suspended in that timeframe.

17 Not suspended but expired.

18 And for job-site visits for the last quarter, our
19 construction compliance inspectors visited 2,902
20 jobsites. And that's all types of jobsites, whether
21 it's plumbing residential or commercial, construction,
22 electrical.

23 Did you have a question?

24 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: That's in the quarter?

25 Last quarter?



1 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yes. Yes.

2 And, then, the infractions are in your handout
3 here. There was 200 . . .

4 221 infractions were issued for the quarter.

5 And if you look at the handout, if the -- if a
6 business is identified, that's a plumbing-contractor
7 infraction. If it's an individual, it's going to be
8 supervision or trainee.

9 And it also provides the status here, whether
10 they're still at a Pending First Letter, which means
11 that it's within their appeal period so they're not
12 final; Issued, have just been sent out; Closed Paid in
13 Full, Closed Paid in Full.

14 Pending Second Letter is when the appeal period
15 has passed and they did not appeal, so the infraction
16 is final. The money's owed but has not been paid. So
17 that Pending Second Letter status that you see in there
18 says, "You owe this money. If you don't pay, you're
19 going to be sent on to collection measures."

20 So, that's kind of an overview, really, of the
21 activity that's been going on. I wanted to provide you
22 a drill-down of some more numbers. But unfortunately
23 our data system -- I got the numbers this morning from
24 IT, and things aren't adding up, so I --

25 (Telephone interruption.)



1 MELISSA McBRIDE: Is that this?

2 No. Oh, okay. I thought it was this thing back
3 here behind me.

4 So, I -- I need to dive into the IT system and
5 find out why those numbers aren't adding up.

6 So, with the activity, that's all I'm going to
7 report on that.

8 For the program overview, I do want to mention
9 Jesse Jameson, where -- I don't know if -- I think a
10 lot of you have probably interacted with Jesse Jameson,
11 who is the technical specialist for the program. He
12 passed away December 1st. He was a great asset to
13 the program: commitment to customer service, always
14 available by phone, so smart. It's been a big hit to
15 lose Jesse. It was very unexpected.

16 He was our technical specialist. I think 2012 is
17 when they interviewed him for that job.

18 And before then he was a compliance inspector. He
19 actually kind of paved the way for Internet compliance,
20 where, you know, craigslist was just becoming a thing.
21 And Jesse really realized the underground activity and
22 illegal actions going on on craigslist. And he really
23 developed that for our team.

24 So, I just wanted to take a moment and acknowledge
25 Jesse and share that. And it's a big loss to the



1 program. So . . .

2 If you want to say anything.

3 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yeah. I do.

4 I mean, I liked Jesse. I had a lot of respect for
5 him. He went out of his way to help -- help people.
6 He really did.

7 In many ways he helped in the industry.

8 And, you know, he -- I know he authored some
9 documents that are pretty good. These tales -- he told
10 a story to talk about compliance and taking the law and
11 putting it into a story form. I tried to find those on
12 the L&I website, but I could not.

13 MELISSA McBRIDE: Okay.

14 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Is there any way we can
15 get access to those writings?

16 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yeah. The compliance
17 tales, yes, we have them internal. And he would send
18 those out. And he had a huge distribution list of
19 external stakeholders that he sent it to, as well. And
20 I don't know -- I don't have everybody that he sent
21 them to. But what he has written, I can definitely
22 share those, and we can provide that. I can see even
23 about putting them on the Internet.

24 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: I think to get that on
25 the website would be really great. Offers clarity for



1 people.

2 MELISSA McBRIDE: I think so, too. So let me
3 look into that.

4 Communication type will continue. It certainly
5 won't be in the format and the way Jesse did it.

6 I have not recruited for that position. I don't
7 know when I will be able to do that.

8 So, I think that that communication is something
9 that I'm going to take over in the meantime. I don't
10 know what it's going to look like. But there will be
11 more coming on that.

12 But I don't want to derail from what you were
13 saying about Jesse.

14 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: No. I just -- total
15 respect for him. Glad he was part of the program. I
16 thought he brought a lot to the table. And I'm sorry
17 to see that he's gone.

18 MELISSA McBRIDE: Thank you.

19 And he and Bruce worked together, obviously, for
20 many, many years.

21 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yeah.

22 MELISSA McBRIDE: Bruce, plumber. Plumbers
23 in the room here. Jesse was an electrician. So those
24 two in a meeting together, going on, battling back and
25 forth between electricians and plumbers, was -- I will



1 miss those little arguments, so . . .

2 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yeah. All right.

3 Anybody else want to have anything to offer on
4 this topic?

5 MIKE KUNKEL: Mr. Chairman.

6 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yes.

7 MIKE KUNKEL: I will say, working with Jesse,
8 he was always -- even though he knew he was getting
9 ready for retirement, he was always looking out for the
10 best interests of people that came behind him. And
11 that was the program, but it was also the people that
12 were taking his spot. He wanted to give them as much
13 information as he could. So, again, he was just a
14 selfless -- you know, he was -- looked out for
15 everybody.

16 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Thank you.

17 Steve.

18 STEVE NASTRUZ: Yeah. I met Jesse, like,
19 long time ago, early 2000s when he was a compliance
20 officer. And, yeah, he -- he was -- he was -- he --
21 looking at him, he could be intimidating. But, you
22 know, he was very composed and very professional in
23 dealing with compliance infractions.

24 And he was always reliable to call and say, "Hey,
25 I've got this thing going on at this job." And he



1 would respond in a timely manner. And he did an
2 excellent job of resolving the issues.

3 So, yeah, that's a sad loss that he passed on.

4 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Thank you, Steve.

5 JED SCHEUERMANN: Yeah, he had heart and soul
6 combined with professionalism. It was a rare
7 combination for a government bureaucrat.

8 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: That's a good way to put
9 it, that he had heart and soul combined with
10 professionalism.

11 All right. Well, very good.

12 MELISSA McBRIDE: That's wrapping it up for
13 me.

14 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: That's wrapping it up for
15 you on that? Okay.

16 MELISSA McBRIDE: Oh, but I'm on the next.

17 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Plumber exams. You're
18 going to fill us in on plumber exams.

19 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yeah. So, let's switch
20 back.

21 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Is this a result of the
22 vote from the last meeting, the board motion?

23 MELISSA McBRIDE: I don't remember what the
24 motion was. I'd have to look back in the notes.

25 I think we were going to wait and see, right,



1 what's happening in March?

2 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: No. There was a
3 resolution coming out of the board to -- it was -- it
4 was to ask L&I to bring testing up to the 2020 -- the
5 state -- whatever code the State Building Code Council
6 has adopted for that period --

7 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yes.

8 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: -- that we test under
9 that code 'cause currently we're testing under 2015
10 code.

11 MELISSA McBRIDE: Right.

12 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: And we're into 20 -- the
13 State has adopted the 2018 code currently. But then on
14 March 15th we go to the '21 code. But we're still
15 testing on '15.

16 MELISSA McBRIDE: So, what we're going to do
17 is wait until that March date and make sure that the
18 code gets adopted. And then we're going to write the
19 exam to that code. We don't want to jump and start
20 writing the exam to the 2019 code when it's possibly
21 changing in just a few months.

22 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yeah.

23 MELISSA McBRIDE: And from what I've heard,
24 it sounds like it will be adopted. I don't know 'cause
25 it hasn't is a few times. But at this point our plan



1 is that it will be adopted in March, and we will start
2 writing the exam to that code.

3 In addition to that, the version is also available
4 in Spanish. Correct? That --

5 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: The test?

6 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yeah.

7 No. No. No. The new code. There's a Spanish
8 version of the 2021 code, and so we will also be
9 providing the writing the exam in Spanish, as well.

10 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Oh.

11 MELISSA McBRIDE: Since the code will be in
12 Spanish, we're going to go ahead and give the exam in
13 Spanish.

14 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay. Jed, how many
15 languages do you guys publish the UPC?

16 JED SCHEUERMANN: I believe we publish in
17 Spanish, in Hindi, in Vietnamese. And I'm not sure
18 what we do in the Philippines. I'm not sure what we do
19 in the Middle East. I'd have to get a number. I'd
20 have to get back to you. I will do that.

21 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yeah. No. That's great
22 'cause I think there's a lot of Spanish-speaking folks
23 that are -- that gives them opportunity to test.

24 JED SCHEUERMANN: We do it in Spanish. That
25 is for certain.



1 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: She's saying that they're
2 gonna -- the next test they develop after the 2021 code
3 is adopted is to have the test in Spanish, as well.

4 Jed, do you know, is everything set to move
5 forward with State Building Code Council to have the
6 2021 UPC adopted?

7 JED SCHEUERMANN: I'm going to attend the
8 State Building Code Council meeting on Friday, coming
9 Friday. And hopefully I'll hear more then. At last
10 word, it was in March. But what happens on Friday is
11 anyone's guess --

12 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay.

13 JED SCHEUERMANN: -- at this point because
14 there have been some significant changes at the State
15 Building Code Council with people stepping down. So --
16 and I just learned that last week. So I'll find out on
17 Friday.

18 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay. All right. Can
19 you let us --

20 JED SCHEUERMANN: If any of you have the
21 opportunity, it's at the DES building in Olympia on
22 Friday from 10:00 until 4:00. I will be there at that
23 meeting 'cause I want to know what's going on at the
24 State Building Code Council.

25 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: 10:00 till 4:00?



1 JED SCHEUERMANN: 10:00 till 4:00 is what
2 it's scheduled for.

3 SCOTT FOWLER: Is there a plumber back on
4 that committee yet?

5 JED SCHEUERMANN: Nope. Not at this moment.
6 Let's see. I might have an address in here for
7 you.

8 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay. Yeah. I think
9 that -- I think that's important for the industry and
10 for the public that there is representation of our
11 industry on the State Building Code Council since
12 there's codes that are adopted that rule on -- oversee
13 our industry.

14 I think that that's super important.

15 I don't know what this board can do about that,
16 but we should have representation on that board,
17 100 percent.

18 JED SCHEUERMANN: The meeting is at the DES
19 building, Room 1213, 1500 Jefferson Street Southeast in
20 Olympia. And it's scheduled from 10:00 a.m. till
21 4:00 p.m.

22 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Which suite did you say?

23 JED SCHEUERMANN: 1213.

24 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Thank you, Jed.

25 Okay. So, depending on -- what I hear you're



1 saying is, depending on what the State Building Code
2 Council does, if it gets -- when it gets adopted, then
3 you'll start writing the test for the 2021 adopted
4 code?

5 MELISSA McBRIDE: Correct.

6 JED SCHEUERMANN: It's being adopted. It's
7 just not effective.

8 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yeah.

9 JED SCHEUERMANN: It was adopted eons ago.
10 But it's just not been implemented and made effective.

11 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: So, to correct our
12 language, we would say, to take the 2021 adopted code
13 when it goes into effect -- when -- you know, when that
14 date is for sure, then you'll write the test to match
15 the code.

16 MELISSA McBRIDE: Correct.

17 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Adopt the code.

18 SETH THOMPSON: So, Chair, if I may.

19 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yes. Yes.

20 SETH THOMPSON: So, I've actually been on the
21 Building Code Council recently.

22 Sorry. This is Seth Thompson.

23 It says March 15th is when it's going to be
24 effective and that it's already been -- amendments have
25 already been adopted. Because it comes up in a lot for



1 us in the education side, testing on the '15, adopting
2 the '21, some clarity will be very nice on that.

3 And obviously this -- I know that the Building
4 Code Council is the one that adopts the amendments.
5 And that's -- so I guess this is directed a little
6 toward Jud since you -- or Jed -- excuse me -- since
7 you know this. But -- or you might know this.

8 But has there been any discussion on skipping the
9 '21 code and going to the '24 since the '24 UPC, you
10 know -- we're in 2024 already, right? I know that that
11 has happened before. And I want to say the '03 UPC
12 where it was skipped and went to the '06 .

13 Does anyone know if that's been a discussion
14 topic?

15 JED SCHEUERMANN: I will answer with Jed
16 Scheuermann's personal opinion on this.

17 I mean, I go to the State Building Code Council
18 meeting. I rarely miss them.

19 What the State Building Code Council is going to
20 do is beyond my ability to guess. It is true that they
21 have skipped code cycles before, I believe the 2000 and
22 the 2003.

23 The 2024 uniform codes are published. They have
24 been published for quite a while already. And by
25 statute this state is mandated to begin to look at the



1 2024 UPCs, which will happen imminently.

2 So, you know, to -- to implement a code for a few
3 months, I don't know what -- I don't know how much
4 sense that makes -- that's my personal opinion --
5 because it's conceivable that the 2024s will be adopted
6 and the lifespan of the 2021s will be only a few
7 months. That's conceivable, as I see it.

8 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: But based on recent
9 history -- when I say recent history the last 10, 15
10 years, 20 years -- what is your anticipation of that
11 actually happening?

12 JED SCHEUERMANN: Of which?

13 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Of the State Building
14 Code Council adopting the '24 code in short order.

15 JED SCHEUERMANN: They're under legislative
16 mandate to do it.

17 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: But they've never done it
18 before.

19 JED SCHEUERMANN: Well, they have. But there
20 wasn't this -- this other issue about energy --
21 different forms of energy and whatnot that was
22 percolating in the background with lawsuits because
23 that -- in essence, that's -- they're waiting to see --
24 Jed's personal opinion, they're waiting to see if that
25 Berkeley decision gets overturned or not. So they



1 don't want to pull the pin and implement and make
2 effective the codes. I think some people are still
3 hoping that the Berkeley decisions get overturned.

4 SETH THOMPSON: Mr. Chair, if I may.

5 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yes.

6 SETH THOMPSON: So, I mean, this is going off
7 memory. But if you look at past adoption of
8 amendments, the '18, '15, '12, '9, they were all
9 adopted within a year of the UPC coming out. So they
10 were relatively on par until '18, '21, '24. And it's
11 especially frustrating when you're talking about
12 continuing education.

13 I'm on that board that approves continuing
14 education. Get calls all the time, and they're asking,
15 "Should I submit for the '21 code? Should I submit for
16 the '24? We're still testing on the '15. What do I
17 do?" And I don't really have an answer for that, as
18 well.

19 And I would love to hear, you know -- we
20 definitely need a voice or someone on the Building Code
21 Council, in my opinion, that will help the council
22 understand what that discrepancy or -- lack of a better
23 term.

24 What we're dealing with right now is very
25 frustrating. And trying to stay with current code but



1 test on code that's nearly ten years old is extremely
2 frustrating.

3 And I do think it stems directly from the Building
4 Code Council and their lack to approve the amendments
5 in a timely manner. We're talking about three years
6 after the '21 code came out, and it's now being adopted
7 when the '24 code's out. Just seems silly to me.

8 And for people running apprenticeship programs,
9 like myself, forcing our apprentices to purchase '21
10 code books when the '24 are out and we're testing on
11 the '15, that's expensive for them. Doesn't make a lot
12 of sense.

13 So, it's really hard for me to provide guidance to
14 people on that matter when I don't have an answer for
15 them.

16 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: This is another reason
17 that it's very important that we get resolved on this
18 and get someone on the State Building Code Council to
19 represent the industry.

20 SETH THOMPSON: Absolutely.

21 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Because I don't think
22 they understand the outcome of their decisions, how it
23 affects people, because it is frustrating.

24 JED SCHEUERMANN: Excuse me, Chair. I would
25 recommend that anyone and everyone who's in the



1 industry who has the time on Friday should show up at
2 the State Building Code Council and speak in the
3 public-comment period and let your voice be known that
4 you would like to see a plumber on that board and you
5 would like to see decisions made that are timely and,
6 you know, effective for the plumbing industry.

7 Come and have your voice heard.

8 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Agreed.

9 SCOTT FOWLER: Is it a legislative fix to
10 make sure that's a mandatory?

11 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: That's certainly on my
12 radar.

13 I think there's also -- I think that there's also
14 consideration -- if we're going to go down that road,
15 not just as a board but as an industry, I think that we
16 should also probably mandate that the members of the
17 council live in the state of Washington --

18 BRAD MOORE: I'd agree with that.

19 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: -- because I believe that
20 the --

21 I don't know what changes you're referring to,
22 Jed, but I believe the chair of the council lives in
23 California.

24 JED SCHEUERMANN: I'm -- there -- right now,
25 as far as I know, there is no chair. The chair stepped



1 down.

2 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Oh, okay.

3 JED SCHEUERMANN: And -- but the chair -- I
4 think it's the managing director that you refer to,
5 perhaps, not the -- not the council chair. I could be
6 wrong on that. But I think so.

7 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay.

8 JED SCHEUERMANN: And I don't know where the
9 managing director lives. I believe he comes from
10 California.

11 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yeah. I could have
12 erred information, but I don't know for sure.

13 Anyway, I think that --

14 Yes, Steve.

15 STEVE NASTRUZ: Steve Nastruz.

16 So, I'm sure the electricians are dealing with the
17 same conundrum as the plumbers. I mean, they've got
18 licensing and code -- codes that need to be adopted and
19 their training that's affiliated to the adopted code.

20 Or did the SBCC give them a special -- some kind
21 of special thing and say, "Yeah, go ahead and start on
22 your code cycle"?

23 I think it would probably be beneficial for
24 someone within the plumbers world to meet with the
25 electrician side and say, you know, "Are you dealing



1 with the same thing? Let's" -- "let's team up and have
2 a stronger voice."

3 Just a suggestion.

4 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Guessing from this
5 initial look that I just did, that we're under the 2018
6 electrical code, so they're a little bit behind.

7 STEVE NASTRUZ: They haven't moved anywhere
8 either.

9 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Anyway . . . Okay.

10 JED SCHEUERMANN: Todd.

11 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Any additional --

12 Yes.

13 JED SCHEUERMANN: I hate to keep talking
14 here.

15 But the State Building Code Council has, that I
16 know of, zero to do with electrical. The electrical is
17 a completely separate situation. They're not under the
18 State Building Code Council. Structural code,
19 mechanical code, fire code. Electrical code is not
20 part of that world. Plumbing is. But not -- not
21 electrical.

22 The electrical -- the electrical situation is
23 different in that they are not under the SBCC.

24 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Really?

25 JED SCHEUERMANN: That is perhaps why they



1 are not fraught with the same issues.

2 BRAD MOORE: They operate individually.

3 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: That's an option, too.

4 BRAD MOORE: Yep. We should operate the
5 exact same way.

6 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Bring it out from under
7 the SBCC.

8 You know, the thing is -- that makes a lot of
9 sense, Jed, to bring -- if we were to bring it out and
10 take it away from them because the UPC is the only code
11 they're using that's not part of the international code
12 body. Right?

13 JED SCHEUERMANN: I believe so.

14 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: So, that's a
15 consideration.

16 All right. Everything noted.

17 Any additional comments?

18 (No audible response.)

19 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: All right. We'll move on
20 to the next agenda item.

21 I have no update.

22 Nice, smooth transition, Jed.

23 JED SCHEUERMANN: Okay. This will be
24 positive and upbeat.

25 In the IAPMO world, things are a little quiet



1 because we've just emerged from the holiday season.
2 And on the 12th of January we closed our proposal
3 period for the 2027 UPC. So, the next thing on the
4 agenda for the IAPMO is the technical committee
5 meetings on the 6th through the 10th of May, where all
6 the proposals that were made for the 2027 UPC and UMC
7 will be debated and heard.

8 And then following that, every IAPMO member can
9 have their voice heard at the assembly consideration
10 session on the 24th of September in Las Vegas,
11 Nevada. That's where all the voting of the IAPMO
12 membership will occur so that your directed voice can
13 be heard with regards to the codes.

14 If anyone is --

15 And this is not -- this is a plug for membership,
16 but -- not trying to be a heavy hand or anything like
17 that.

18 If you want to get involved in the IAPMO process
19 and you're not an IAPMO member, I encourage you to do
20 that sooner rather than later because you need at least
21 six months of active membership before you can vote in
22 the council's and the apprentice- -- the assembly
23 consideration sessions.

24 Other piece of good news is IAPMO has officially
25 acquired ARCSA. That's the American Rainwater



1 Catchment Systems Association. They are now part of
2 IAPMO. And we are working together very aggressively
3 to increase the scope and the stature of ARCSA in North
4 America and the world.

5 Partnering with ASSE, the 21,000 series of
6 personnel qualifications certify individuals as
7 installers, as designers, or as inspectors of rainwater
8 catchment systems. Last month myself and a colleague
9 met with one of their directors in the state of New
10 Mexico looking at various rainwater catchment systems.

11 We intend to start to employ those in some of the
12 areas that we're working on the Navajo reservation.
13 Looking at it for some projects in Canada, as well.

14 And so, the relationship between ARCSA and IAPMO
15 is going to become very pivotal as we look at the
16 water-stress situations that are prevalent all over the
17 United States and many parts of the world.

18 And that is my IAPMO report.

19 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Thank you. Good, sir.
20 Very good report. That is some good news, especially
21 on the rainwater-catchment stuff.

22 All right. We move on to the next agenda item.
23 Melissa, you're up with the technical specialist
24 update.

25 MELISSA McBRIDE: I am. And I'm not quite



1 sure what this agenda item necessarily means. So I'm
2 going to just talk about our technical specialist. And
3 if there's something specific that maybe you had in
4 mind or if I'm missing, just let me know.

5 But we did -- with the passage of 6170, we got two
6 new technical-specialist positions to work on audits.
7 One of those is Dale Partin, who's sitting over there.

8 Prior to becoming the technical specialist, he --
9 well, he's been the chief of the FAS program, the
10 Factory Assembled Structures Program. Compliance
11 supervisor for the south team, he led the south team in
12 all their compliance activities.

13 He was part of the FAIR team, which was
14 legislation from, I think, 2008, (spell), which created
15 the compliance teams that focused on audit and
16 collection. So he's very versed in compliance.

17 His passion is outreach. He really loves to do
18 education before enforcement. He's very good at that.
19 So, Dale's taken one of those positions doing the
20 audits.

21 The other's Colter. Colter's been on for -- oh,
22 gosh, time flies -- five months maybe.

23 You've been on for about a year now, right?

24 And Colter is about five months.

25 He is going on leave at the end of the month. So,



1 currently that will leave Dale the only one performing
2 the audits. So we may be getting a little behind on
3 audits, to no fault of Dale. He works hard every day.

4 So, we've got those two technical-specialist
5 positions.

6 One thing I've been talking about -- I have a
7 meeting, I think, on Friday -- is adding a
8 plumbing-contractor course, like Jesse did the
9 construction-contractor training days. I want to look
10 at doing the plumbing-contractor training days, kind of
11 an overview on what the responsibilities and options
12 are out there for plumbing contractors as well as
13 trainees and journey level to go over the requirements,
14 make things easier in front end so we can help get
15 those affidavits approved on a first submittal. So,
16 Dale, I think, will be a prime person providing those
17 training courses.

18 We have the meeting on Friday. I don't have
19 anything on it yet. So I don't know if you've seen it
20 on your calendar.

21 Surprise.

22 So, we're having initial meetings to look at what
23 that can look like to deliver those courses, as well.

24 I think I've talked about several times in past
25 meetings that we have a responsibility to make sure



1 that we're educating. And we need to give as much as
2 education as we can out there instead of just
3 surprising our plumbers and trainees with denials and
4 other responsibilities that we haven't communicated up
5 on front.

6 So, we're going to -- I'll have more at the next
7 board meeting to report on that. But that's our goal,
8 is to add some type of educational, free courses to the
9 contractor training days.

10 And then Bruce, who's always attending these
11 meetings, he's ill today. So that is why Bruce is not
12 here, the third technical specialist.

13 I just -- does that sound like a
14 technical-specialist update? I don't know if this is
15 your agenda item.

16 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Sure. I don't know if
17 that was -- I don't think so.

18 ALISHA HOLMES: It was to talk about Jesse.

19 MELISSA McBRIDE: Oh, okay. Okay. Thank
20 you. It was.

21 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: What'd she say?

22 MELISSA McBRIDE: It was originally -- that
23 was for Jesse, and I included him in my overview
24 instead of the technical-specialist update. So . . .

25 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay. All right.



1 MELISSA McBRIDE: Heart out to Jesse, as
2 well.

3 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: I'm assuming, Dave, that
4 you worked -- that -- that you worked with Jesse a lot.

5 DALE PARTIN: I did. Not just a coworker.
6 He was a good friend.

7 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay. That's --
8 Any questions for Melissa on this?

9 (No audible response.)

10 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: All right. Very good.
11 Moving on. Any old business?

12 (No audible response.)

13 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: No old business.
14 Any new business?

15 SCOTT FOWLER: Already told you, I'm looking
16 for a candidate to fill out specialty plumber's one.
17 And hopefully he'll bring in some information to you
18 shortly to fill that in. So . . .

19 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yeah.

20 MELISSA McBRIDE: Wonderful. That's been a
21 long time.

22 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: I know there's a couple
23 other people that have applied, as well, so . . .

24 Assuming you guys got those. Who knows?

25 MELISSA McBRIDE: I haven't seen any



1 applications for the specialty seat.

2 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Really?

3 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yeah.

4 ALISHA HOLMES: I haven't received any
5 either. But I don't know if maybe they weren't sent to
6 Bruce and they have yet to send them to me. I'm not
7 sure.

8 MELISSA McBRIDE: Bruce was out last week.
9 So if something came in last week . . .

10 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: No. This would have been
11 over the last probably nine months, a year ago, year
12 and a half ago. I know this man applied.

13 Yes, Jed.

14 JED SCHEUERMANN: I see that my term expires
15 this week.

16 Do I need to send in anything to re-up or . . . ?

17 Please --

18 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yes.

19 JED SCHEUERMANN: Please educate me on that
20 process.

21 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yes. So if there's a term
22 that's expiring, that seat would then be open. So we
23 would ask for a resubmittal of application.

24 JED SCHEUERMANN: Okay. And I submit that to
25 you?



1 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yes, please.

2 JED SCHEUERMANN: Okay.

3 SCOTT FOWLER: I thought my term expired last
4 year. And I resubmitted.

5 Now it says that it expires again this year.

6 Just one-year terms?

7 MELISSA McBRIDE: No. They're not. I
8 think . . .

9 You had checked that. 'Cause there was
10 discrepancy on the book with the expiration date, I
11 think, with the books we did at last meeting, the new
12 books we put out when we were in Renton. And Alisha
13 verified the date.

14 ALISHA HOLMES: It may be that the previous
15 book was incorrect. But I believe that I verified that
16 this is the correct --

17 MELISSA McBRIDE: Okay. We'll look at the
18 previous letter, too. Our records do show that it's
19 this expiration date, which -- if you have different
20 records --

21 SCOTT FOWLER: So, I had to reapply last
22 year. So . . .

23 MELISSA McBRIDE: Okay. Okay.

24 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: What email do we send
25 these two, Alisha?



1 ALISHA HOLMES: It's kind of --

2 MELISSA McBRIDE: Melissa.McBride@lni.wa.gov.
3 We'll just send them to me.

4 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay. We can do that.
5 All right.

6 Okay.

7 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yeah. So, I'll get back to
8 you on that.

9 And if you have somebody that has submitted for
10 the specialty seat, have them send me whatever was sent
11 in.

12 And then, as well, you've got somebody, so . . .

13 SCOTT FOWLER: Yeah.

14 MELISSA McBRIDE: We've been trying to
15 solicit that for over a year.

16 SCOTT FOWLER: 'Cause that -- I know Dave was
17 pretty much done. We've still got to fill his seat,
18 too, Dave Weickum.

19 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: That's right.
20 He resigned, didn't it?

21 SCOTT FOWLER: I thought he did.

22 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: He resigned like six
23 months ago.

24 MELISSA McBRIDE: I don't -- you know what?
25 I don't even -- I don't even know that name.



1 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: He's not on here.

2 BRAD MOORE: Yeah. He's right next to my
3 name on the thing.

4 MELISSA McBRIDE: We only have the one open
5 seat, which is the specialty seat.

6 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Oh, that's David
7 Weisbeck.

8 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yeah.

9 DAVE WEISBECK: That's me.

10 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: That's him.

11 MELISSA McBRIDE: I was like, I don't even
12 know those names.

13 BRAD MOORE: That open spot must have been --

14 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Weisbeck.

15 BRAD MOORE: Uh-uh.

16 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Or not -- excuse me.
17 Weickum.

18 Sorry, Dave.

19 DAVE WEISBECK: That's fine. Both name W's.

20 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yeah.

21 DAVE WEISBECK: Very similar.

22 MELISSA McBRIDE: Well, we had three open
23 seats as I came into this role. And Brad took one
24 seat, Antonio took one seat, and that third seat is the
25 specialty, which is still open.



1 So, I -- I'm not familiar with what seat -- who
2 Dave Weickum is, what seat he held. But it would have
3 been filled by one of these --

4 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Specialty plumber.

5 BRAD MOORE: Specialty plumber.

6 MELISSA McBRIDE: Oh, that's the open seat we
7 can't fill.

8 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yeah, I think so.

9 MELISSA McBRIDE: Okay. Okay. So that's the
10 one that's been open for over a year.

11 SCOTT FOWLER: Yeah. He was more -- when he
12 held that seat, he was more on the supplier side. But
13 now he went to work for a pump company. They don't
14 come --

15 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay. Okay.

16 All right. Any other -- any other new business?

17 (No audible response.)

18 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: All right. Any -- this
19 is the opportunity for public comment.

20 Any -- anybody have public comment?

21 Steve Nastruz.

22 STEVE NASTRUZ: I just want to express that
23 my visit here today was kind of multifaceted.

24 One is, a lot of familiar faces that I thought it
25 would be nice to see that I haven't seen for a while.



1 So we accomplished that.

2 My other purpose was -- I submitted for a
3 continuing-education course October 2nd. And it's
4 been kind of a quagmire for three months to getting my
5 course. I don't know if it's even been looked at and
6 definitely not approved.

7 And I was informed Melissa is kind of running the
8 show. And it would give me an opportunity to meet with
9 her face to face and spend a few minutes expressing my
10 concern about the processes in the approval of
11 continuing-education courses.

12 And we did. We had a short, little conversation.
13 And I -- I'm appreciative that she listened to what I
14 had to say. And I have high confidence that she can
15 steer the ship in the right direction and maybe make
16 some improvements for everybody involved in having a
17 desire to having a continuing-education course approved
18 and going out there and educating our troops.

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Yeah, thank you, Steve.

21 Are you -- did you --

22 Are you going to be teaching this class in person,
23 or you got something else going on?

24 STEVE NASTRUZ: Yeah, I created a course.

25 One of the plumbing shops up in Seattle wanted to have



1 me do some CEU classes. I said, "Well, I need to
2 create a CEU course." I thought I could maybe use
3 somebody else's, but he wouldn't let me for some -- you
4 know. Won't mention names. But --

5 So, I went to work and created a course and
6 submitted it in. And been a month of Sundays. I'm
7 still waiting patiently and -- to get this course
8 approved so I can perform this class for these guys.

9 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: I think you got -- you
10 got -- you're definitely qualified for teaching a
11 class.

12 STEVE NASTRUZ: Well, I'd like to think.
13 Don't like tooting my own horn.

14 Yeah. So I'll -- you know, I'd be available if
15 somebody needs to the CEU instruction.

16 Yeah. Thank you.

17 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: In defense of the
18 Department -- the Department, which I'm not a part of,
19 I will say, you did -- you do come from government, so
20 you know the wheels of government turn a little slow.

21 STEVE NASTRUZ: They do. So, you heard the
22 word "patiently."

23 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Got to be patient.
24 Exactly.

25 Do you want to address it?



1 MELISSA McBRIDE: I just appreciate the
2 opportunity to talk. And I'll reiterate, I hear what
3 you're saying, and I know that there's some things that
4 we need to look into. And we'll be doing that.

5 STEVE NASTRUZ: Thank you.

6 BRAD MOORE: Is there a basic outline that
7 these guys have already made up if you want to get a
8 class approved? These are the steps you got to go
9 through? These are the things you got cover?

10 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yes.

11 That's on our website. Correct?

12 ALISHA HOLMES: Yep.

13 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yeah. I think -- and I
14 think that we are -- for that part, I think that we --
15 you know, we outline what's needed and what to do.

16 I think where the work needs to happen there is
17 internal on consistency and communication. So
18 that's -- that's where we need to work for the approval
19 process.

20 STEVE NASTRUZ: Can I add to this
21 conversation?

22 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Go ahead, Steve.

23 STEVE NASTRUZ: Well, it was well outlined.
24 But I'd say that the way it's prescribed, it would
25 almost be somebody has to come to Tumwater with your



1 materials and submit it in. There's not a -- there's
2 not a sound method of sending in electronically. It
3 states in there that, "We don't have the capability to
4 receive this information electronically."

5 I'm like, "My gosh, you know, in today's world?"
6 You know, if a guy can't drive across the state, he
7 should be able to submit electronically.

8 And so, yeah. And then they want everything in
9 quadruple copy. And so, yeah. You have to -- if you
10 have 150-page PowerPoint presentation, that's, you
11 know, 500-and-something pages you got to print of your
12 PowerPoint, which could be, you know -- and I put
13 things on a thumb drive, and apparently they couldn't
14 open the thumb drive, was one of the information I got.

15 And then you're supposed to submit all the
16 materials you're using. Well, for one main ingredient
17 to the material is the 2021 codebook. So I have to buy
18 four codebooks and turn it -- hand it over to the
19 State?

20 You know, I -- I put my electronic version on my
21 thumb drive as part of my material course.

22 So, needs a little more clarification on what they
23 really need to understand what you're using for your
24 CEU course.

25 MELISSA McBRIDE: Okay.



1 STEVE NASTRUZ: I don't think -- if you're
2 saying you're doing an update for the 2021 code, you
3 shouldn't have to get four codebooks put in.

4 So, that needs to be a little, you know, looked at
5 and soothed and massaged --

6 MELISSA McBRIDE: Okay.

7 STEVE NASTRUZ: -- to make it a little easier
8 for submissions.

9 SCOTT FOWLER: I'm going to find out 'cause
10 I've been asked to do a bunch of classes for the
11 Groundwater Association.

12 MELISSA McBRIDE: Okay.

13 SCOTT FOWLER: So I'm going to start the
14 processes.

15 MELISSA McBRIDE: Okay.

16 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Problems we didn't know
17 existed.

18 BRAD MOORE: I've been having some struggles
19 with that, too. We do our monthly IAPMO meeting, and
20 we bring in instructors that already have their course
21 approved. I turn those hours in monthly, and they're
22 not showing up as continuing education. And I thought
23 I had done all the paperwork correctly. But I find it
24 a little could be confusing, as well. I'm not teaching
25 a class myself. But I'm teaching -- I'm bringing



1 people in that already have approved CEU classes, but
2 those hours are not being -- are not being approved
3 once I turn the hours in. Right?

4 So, the IAPMO -- they -- say someone like Steve
5 comes. He teaches a class for an hour. I put what the
6 class is, who was in there, their license numbers, turn
7 in, and then nothing. There's nothing on the --

8 STEVE NASTRUZ: But I think the instructor is
9 supposed to submit the roster, has to do attendance and
10 everything. So, I don't know.

11 BRAD MOORE: Yeah. It's gone on for years.
12 And then all of a sudden it's not being accepted
13 anymore.

14 If I'm doing something wrong, tell me what I'm
15 doing wrong, and I will correct it.

16 MELISSA McBRIDE: Right.

17 BRAD MOORE: But I'm unclear.

18 MELISSA McBRIDE: Okay.

19 BRAD MOORE: Sent a check in for 250 bucks.
20 And I filled out the paperwork. I thought Bruce had
21 looked at it and everything was good. I get the
22 roster. I turn that sheet in. "Is this okay to use?"
23 I've been told yes. Yet I turned it in, and I look,
24 and I still have no CEUs.

25 MELISSA McBRIDE: Okay.



1 BRAD MOORE: And so, some of the people
2 coming to my meeting are getting upset about it, as
3 well. "Is this supposed to be part of the deal?" And,
4 yeah, I'm not -- I'm not sure what's going on.

5 MELISSA McBRIDE: Okay. Well, I can't -- I
6 don't know what the process is for it. But I can
7 commit to learning what we have on our website, what
8 we're communicating out, what is expected of us
9 statutorily, what we're doing, just kind of do a
10 complete overview of it.

11 And we'll go ahead and put this on the agenda for
12 April's meeting, and I'll do a report out on it. And
13 we will work to improve that.

14 BRAD MOORE: Thanks. I appreciate it.

15 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: I just looking real quick
16 on mine 'cause I know I attended one of your IAPMO
17 meetings a couple of months ago. So I'm going to check
18 here and see if it shows up on mine.

19 Nope. Not on mine.

20 Yeah. So, there's -- it's not being approved.

21 Okay. Any other -- any other new business?

22 Very good. I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

23 ANTONIO CRUZ: So moved.

24 BRAD MOORE: Second.

25 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: All right. Thank you



1 very much.

2 Do we have to vote on that?

3 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yes.

4 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Can we have a vote on all
5 in favor of adjourning?

6 SCOTT FOWLER: You just -- all you have to
7 say is, "Do I hear any" -- "if there's no" -- "if
8 there's no negative discussion on the motion, motion
9 passes," or something like that.

10 CHAIR TODD ALLRED: Okay. Pending further
11 input, motion passes. How about that? All right.

12 Very good. Thank you, everybody, for being here.
13 Appreciate it very much, especially when our industry
14 is very much so impacted with state of emergency with
15 freeze calls and all that.

16 MELISSA McBRIDE: Yeah, thanks for keeping us
17 with running water, guys.

18 (Proceedings concluded at 10:19 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, SUE E. GARCIA, a Certified Stenographic Court Reporter in and for the State of Washington, residing at Tacoma, authorized to administer oaths and affirmations pursuant to RCW 5.28.010, do hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me on the 16th of January, 2024, and thereafter transcribed by me by means of computer-aided transcription, that the transcript is a full, true, and complete transcript of said proceedings, consisting of pages 1 through 49;

That as a CCR in this state, I am bound by the Rules of Conduct as Codified in WAC 308-14-130; that court reporting arrangements and fees in this case are offered to all parties on equal terms;

That I am not a relative, employee, attorney, or counsel of any party to this action or relative or employee of any such attorney or counsel, and I am not financially interested in the said action or the outcome thereof;

IN WITNESS HEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this January 23, 2024.



SUE E. GARCIA, RMR, CRR, RDR
WA CCR Lic. No. 2781
Certified Stenographic Court Reporter



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