I. Roll Call

Members Present:
Jeff O. Estabrook, Acting Chairman
George E. Killian
Patrick B. Leddy, Vice-Chairman
Cataldo A. Leo
David W. Miller, Chairman
Christopher P. Reed
Daniel J. Wellendorf

Members Absent:

Others Present: Jim Wonder, Planning Department
Doug Clark, Douglas County Health Department

Mr. Estabrook called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Leddy to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Seconded by Mr. Leo.

AYES: Estabrook, Leddy, Leo, Miller, Reed, Wellendorf

ABSTAIN: Killian

Motion carried 6-0-1

III. *Cases

8-8-92 From 8/13/2008 – RENEWAL OF PREVIOUSLY GRANTED WAIVER
Living Faith United Methodist Church
5310 South 182nd Avenue
Omaha NE 68135

REQUEST: Waiver of Articles 7, 9, and 13 of the Omaha Municipal Code.

Mr. Ron Blue appeared before the Board with a request for renewal of a waiver of Articles 7, 9 and 13 of the Omaha Municipal Code as granted on August 13, 2008 by the Plumbing Board. This waiver was in regards to two temporary classrooms erected outside the church without plumbing fixtures. The Board granted a waiver for these trailers for the period of one year.

Mr. Miller read the minutes from August 13, 2008 in order to familiarize the Board members with the case. Mr. Killian inquired as to the status of plans for the church’s addition. Mr. Blue replied that plans for the church addition had been placed on hold temporarily due to the economy. The church’s contract with Nu-Trend for the temporary trailers will run out in 2010.
Mr. Miller stated that he was comfortable extending the waiver for another year; but advised Mr. Blue that at the end of this time, Living Faith United Methodist Church should submit to the Board proof that church expansion is taking place; or the church should be prepared to install plumbing in the temporary trailers. The other Board members echoed their agreement with Mr. Miller.

Motion to extend waiver to December 31, 2010 by Mr. Wellendorf. Seconded by Mr. Killian.

AYES: Estabrook, Killian, Leddy, Leo, Miller, Reed, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

REQUEST: Waiver of Section 49-604, Access to concealed connections and equipment.

9-10-94
Donald Prochaska
11317 Chicago Circle
Omaha NE 68154

Doug Hawes appeared for Donald Prochaska. Mr. Wonder explained that the waiver request was for whirlpool tubs in an apartment building. Mr. Wonder stated that a tiled access panel has been made to allow access to the connections; however, the Plumbing Division did not consider these panels to be considered “accessible” under the Omaha Plumbing Code. This is due to the fact that the panels will be caulked.

Motion to grant waiver as proposed with caulkling around the joint of the tiled access panels by Mr. Killian. Seconded by Mr. Reed.

AYES: Estabrook, Killian, Leddy, Leo, Miller, Reed, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

REQUEST: Waiver of Section 49-501, Requirements for disposal of waste.

9-10-95
Mike Zabel
Prairie Mechanical Corporation
2842 Tucker Street
Omaha NE 68112

Mike Zabel with Prairie Mechanical Corporation appeared before the Board. This waiver is for floor drains in the Qwest Communications Building on 19th and Douglas Streets. Mr. Zabel explained that Qwest would like to install extra drains in the basement. These drains would be used only in the event of emergency flooding.

Mr. Wonder stated that the Plumbing Division had no objection to this request.

Motion to approve by Mr. Reed. Seconded by Mr. Leo.

AYES: Estabrook, Killian, Leddy, Leo, Miller, Reed, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0
9-10-96
Brent A Shirk
1002 S 51 Avenue
Omaha NE 68106

REQUEST: Request to reactivate retired Journeyman plumbing license.

49-237

Mr. Shirk contacted the Board before the meeting to request that this case be held over to the next meeting. He will be out of town and is unable to attend today's meeting.

Motion to hold this case over to the October 21st meeting of the Board by Mr. Leo. Seconded by Mr. Wellendorf.

AYES: Estabrook, Killian, Leddy, Leo, Miller, Reed, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

9-10-97
Terrance S Vail
3403 S 112 Street
Omaha NE 68144

REQUEST: Approval of Provider.
Approval of Instructor.
Approval of one 4-hour continuing education class.

49-215

Terrance Vail appeared before the Board to request approval for an upcoming Backflow (Grade VI) continuing education class. This class has been approved by the State of Nebraska for 3 1/2 hours’ credit. Mr. Vail asked the Board for 3 hours’ continuing education credit.

Region 12 American Backflow Prevention Association is an Approved Provider. Most of Mr. Vail’s proposed instructors have already been approved by the Board.

Motion to approve Tom Christopherson as an Instructor for Backflow Prevention by Mr. Killian. Seconded by Mr. Wellendorf.

AYES: Estabrook, Killian, Leddy, Leo, Miller, Reed, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

Motion to approve Rich Koening as an Instructor for Backflow Prevention by Mr. Killian. Seconded by Mr. Estabrook.

AYES: Estabrook, Killian, Leddy, Leo, Miller, Reed, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

Motion to approve 3 hour continuing education class as proposed by Mr. Wellendorf. Seconded by Mr. Leo.

AYES: Estabrook, Killian, Leddy, Leo, Miller, Reed, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0
IV. Discussion

**PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS CHANGES TO OMAHA PLUMBING CODE**

Mr. Wonder reviewed some of the changes included in the final draft of the 2010 Omaha Plumbing Code, and explained the reasoning behind the proposed changes to the Board members. Notable topics mentioned in this review and discussion included requirements for third-party testing and listing, mezzanine requirements, vacuum drainage systems, and siphonic roof drain systems.

Mr. Miller stated his objection to the inclusion of vacuum drainage systems within the Code. Mr. Wonder suggested that a list be prepared of all items that the Board members object to. This list will be reviewed at the next meeting. The Board members agreed to this Mr. Wonder’s proposal.

Mr. Miller opened the floor for public hearing and discussion of the proposed changes to the Omaha Plumbing Code.

Bill Schweitzer with IAPMO appeared before the Board to address IAPMO’s request for a change in the definition of “third-party listing” within the final draft of the Omaha Plumbing Code. Mr. Wonder stated that he had conferred with Alan Thelen in the City’s legal department. Mr. Thelen stated that the definition in question could remain as written in the draft, and any change in definition could be resolved by the Board through their policies at a later date. Mr. Reed stated that the Board intended to create a list of approved third-party organizations; however, this list has not been prepared at this time. Mr. Miller stated that Mr. Schweitzer remain in contact with Mr. Wonder throughout this process.

Shirley Dewi and Phil Cheng with IAPMO R&T appeared before the Board to discuss the definition of “listing agency” in the Omaha Plumbing Code. Ms. Dew and Mr. Cheng outlined IAPMO R&T requirements and policies for the Board members. Mr. Wonder asked if IAPMO R&T test all products and who performs these tests. Mr. Cheng stated that the organization has a testing laboratory that performs testing on some items, and uses third-party laboratories for the remainder of products. Mr. Estabrook inquired how IAPMO R&T compares to USC or other recognized listing organizations. Mr. Cheng replied that IAPMO R&T has been testing products for the past seventy years. Ms. Dewi stated that they follow all standard requirements, as USC or other laboratories do. Steve Bennett with McWane Plumbing Group appeared before the Board and inquired if testing of products is done at the time of manufacturing. Mr. Cheng stated that tests are performed on the final merchandised product and is ongoing during manufacturing. Ms. Dewi added that inspections of the facility are also made to ensure that a quality control process in place. Barney Barrett of Barrett Plumbing appeared before the Board and stated that he had past experience with IAPMO testing and cautioned the Board that he would recommend that IAPMO be listed as an approved facility for materials testing, but not the exclusive facility for testing.

Pat Shearman appeared before the Board with concerns regarding section 49-1006, Bar and Soda Waste. Mr. Shearman wishes to include an alternate CPVC material in this section of the Code. Mr. Wonder stated that the Plumbing Division did not advise modification of this section of the code at this time. Mr. Wonder stated that the Code Committee could take this request under advisement and possibly include it in the next change to the Plumbing Code. Mr. Miller stated his agreement with Mr. Wonder.

Karli Meisinger with Eyman Plumbing appeared before the Board with questions regarding water pipe sizing and engineer certification changes in the plumbing code draft. Ms Meisinger stated her concern that some of these changes could result in improperly sized piping being installed on job sites. Mr. Wonder explained the section that Ms. Meisinger questioned, the reasoning behind these changes, and how these changes will affect the plan review process currently in place. Ms. Meisinger suggested further clarification of this section.
Tom Eyman with Eyman Plumbing appeared before the Board and asked questions regarding pipe bursting and directional boring. Mr. Eyman asked if this issue had been included in the final draft of the plumbing code. Mr. Wonder stated that changes to requirements for the processes Mr. Eyman referred to had not been addressed in the current draft of the plumbing code. The Code Committee will further review Mr. Eyman’s request. In the meantime, the Board stated that they would be glad to review a waiver request if necessary.

David Nystrom with Plumbers Local 16 appeared before the Board. Mr. Nystrom commended the Board on the draft of the 2010 Plumbing Code. Mr. Nystrom referred to building code definitions (Type I, Type II) and asked if this information could be included within the definitions section of the final 2010 plumbing code for clarity. Mr. Wonder stated that this might be possible and discussed various options to make this information more clear.

Mr. Killian stated that he would like to bring to the Board’s attention Table 8 Note 6 of the draft, which refers to exceptions for distance to the nearest restroom for football fields. Mr. Killian stated that “football field” should be changed to “athletic field” in order to include other types of athletic facilities, such as soccer fields and baseball complexes.

Mr. Wonder stated that the Board would vote on each suggested change to the plumbing code at their next meeting. Mr. Leo inquired as to the number of changes. Mr. Wonder replied that there were three changes that required a vote, however, the Board can vote on additional items as they review the final draft.

A final draft copy of the 2010 Omaha Plumbing Code is currently available for viewing on the Plumbing Board Website (http://co.douglas.ne.us/omaha/planning/boards/plumbing-board/150).

V. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Killian. Seconded by Mr. Estabrook.

AYES: Estabrook, Killian, Leddy, Leo, Miller, Reed, Wellendorf.

MOTION carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 2:53 PM

*APPLICANT MUST BE PRESENT AT MEETING.

A full, continually current agenda is available for public inspection in Room 1110 of the Omaha/Douglas Civic Center during normal business hours.

The Omaha Plumbing Board reserves the right to modify the agenda at the public meeting. If alternative (tape) to the agenda is needed, please advise Jim Wonder. A 72-hour notice is required.

Applications for the meeting to be held at 9:00 am on Wednesday, October 21st are due no later than 9:00am on Thursday, October 8th

Visit the Planning Department’s Site on the Internet at http://co.douglas.ne.us/omaha/planning/boards/plumbing-board