I. Roll Call

Members Present:
Brian A Barrett
Jeff O. Estabrook, Vice-Chairman
George E. Killian
David W. Miller, Chairman
Christopher P. Reed
Terry Salem
Daniel J. Wellendorf

Members Absent:

Others Present: James Wonder, City of Omaha Planning Department

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 9:01 am.

II. Approval of Minutes from October 12th, 2011

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Second by Mr. Salem.
AYES: Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf
ABSTAIN: Barrett

Motion carried 6-0-1.

III. Approval of apprenticeship program

11-7-62 From 7/13/2011 and 7/27/2011
Mark Vodicka REQUEST: Approval of apprenticeship program.
MDK Plumbing Inc
18964 County Road P20
Blair NE 68008 49-244

7/13/2011:
Mr. Vodicka was not present.

Motion to hold this case over to the July 27th meeting of the Omaha Plumbing Board by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem

Motion carried 6-0.
7/27/2011:

Mr. Vodicka was not present.

Motion to place this case on file by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.

10/26/2011:

Mr. Vodicka was not present when called. Mr. Wonder stated that he had had a phone call from Mr. Vodicka, who is running late. The Board agreed to wait to review this case until Mr. Vodicka’s arrival and moved on to case number 11-10-99.

Following the hearing of case number 11-10-104 (below) Mr. Vodicka was called before the Board. Mr. Miller reviewed the apprenticeship standards agreement submitted by Mr. Vodicka for his new company, MDK Plumbing Inc. Mr. Miller stated that all appeared to be in order with the application.

Motion to approve by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Wellendorf.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

11-10-99
Tony Leonardo
Tony Leonardo Plumbing Inc
5012 54th St
Nehawka NE 68413

REQUEST: Approval of apprenticeship program.

Sandy Leonardo of Tony Leonardo Plumbing Inc. appeared before the Board with a request for renewal of approval of apprenticeship program. Mr. Miller reviewed the case file and stated that all appeared to be in order with the application.

Motion to approve by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barret, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0
IV. *Apprenticeship Agreements*

John H Eggleston
819 Belgrade Lane
Plattsmouth NE 68048

Tony Leonardo Plumbing Inc
5012 54th St
Nehawka NE 68413

John H Eggleston and Sandy Leonardo of Tony Leonardo Plumbing Inc. appeared before the Board with a request to register as an apprentice plumber. Mr. Miller reviewed the case file and stated that all appeared to be in order with the application. Mr. Eggleston requested a start date of September 4, 2010.

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to approve John Eggleston as an apprentice plumber with a start date of September 4, 2011, pending submittal of payroll summaries to the Board Secretary as proof of start date. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barret, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

V. Cases

8-8-92 From 8/13/2008, 10/7/2009 & 12/1/2010 – RENEWAL OF A 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.

Location: 5310 S 182 Avenue
49-Various

8/13/2008:
Reverand Mike McKinnis was present at the meeting.

Living Faith United Methodist Church is requesting to place two temporary classrooms outside the church to be used for adult classes. The church will be adding on to the existing building within the next two to three years, but in the meantime, they need the classrooms to offset the demand for space. These temporary classrooms do not have plumbing. Restrooms will be available inside the church, some 75 feet away from the temporary units.

Mr. Killian asked if there were any plans to increase the number of temporary units. Reverand McKinnis stated that they hope to have their addition built before that would become an issue. Mr. Miller raised a concern over shelter during inclement weather, such as rain, for those walking between the church and the temporary classrooms. Reverand McKinnis stated that the church does have umbrellas.

Motion by Mr. Killian to approve the temporary classrooms for a period of one year, with the stipulation that the applicant must return next year for re-approval. The applicant must also provide umbrellas. Second by Mr. Reed.

AYES: Clifton, Killian, Leo, Miller, Reed

NAYS: Estabrook, Leddy

MOTION carried 5-2.
10/7/2009:
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

12/1/2010:
Jane Perez and Rev. Michael _________ appeared before the Board. Ms. Perez stated the temporary trailers are currently being used once per week for adult Sunday school classes, and are not in regular use. Mr. Wonder stated that this was the third time that this waiver has been brought before the Board. At the last meeting, the Board advised Living Faith United Methodist Church that if they wished a renewal of this waiver in 2010, that they would need to submit proof that this project was moving forward.

Ms. Perez submitted copies of their plans for construction to the Board members. Ms. Perez explained that their original plans to build have been delayed due to the current economic situation. However, the Church plans to begin its capital campaign in May of 2011. It was noted by Ms. Perez that umbrellas have been put into use as per Mr. Killian’s request.

Mr. Killian inquired as to the time length for this campaign. Rev. Michael _________ stated that it is the church’s hope that this process will be completed and that phase II, which will include the removal of the trailers, will begin within the next 18-24 months. The church is currently working with an architect towards this end. Mr. Killian stated that in his opinion, it is evident that the church is moving forward in its plans to build.

Motion by Mr. Reed to extend this waiver until December 31, 2011. Living Faith United Methodist Church must reappear before the Board next year in order to update the Board on their progress. Second by Mr. Killian.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0
10/26/2011:
Jane Perez and Rev. Mike McInnis appeared before the Board to request approval of a previously granted 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.

Ms. Perez assured the Board that a walkway exists between the portable classrooms and the church. Umbrellas are also provided, as per Mr. Killian’s stipulation (see minutes from 8/13/2008, above). Rev. McInnis stated that these classrooms are currently being used for adult and teenage Sunday school classes for approximately 1 ½ hours per week.

Ms. Perez stated that since their appearance before the Board last December, Living Faith United Methodist Church has recently removed the wall between their sanctuary and fellowship area in order to create more space during services. Ms. Perez reported that Living Faith United Methodist Church is currently weaning themselves away from the use of the portable classrooms, in the anticipation that these will be removed in the future. The church is also currently engaged in fundraising for their renovation project. Ms. Perez stated that the completion timeline has been somewhat delayed due to the current economic situation; however, it is the church’s goal to have the portable classrooms removed as soon as is possible.

Mr. Miller commented that this waiver allowing portable classrooms has been in place since 2008. Mr. Estabrook inquired as to whether the church will have renovations completed by next year. Ms. Perez replied that completion of construction relies primarily on congregation contributions for the year, which are difficult to estimate with any great accuracy. Ms. Perez assured the Board that the church currently has two fundraising programs in place which allow them to move forward to Phase II of construction. Rev. McInnis stated that Phase II of construction includes the removal of the portable classrooms. Mr. Estabrook stated that it appears that Living Faith United Methodist Church will not be ready to remove the portables for two years or more from today’s date.

Mr. Killian inquired as to the total number of portables on this site. Ms. Perez replied that the Church currently has two portable classrooms. Mr. Reed asked Rev. McInnis where these portables are located. Mr. Miller consulted the case file, and noted that the classrooms are located approximately 75 feet from the restrooms located inside the main building.

Mr. Reed stated that the Board could vote to make the church remove the portables. They could also vote to make Living Faith United Methodist Church install restrooms inside the classrooms; however, such an action would simply delay fundraising and would mean that the portables were on site for a longer period of time. Rev. McInnis stated that the church would stop using the portables altogether if the Board asked them to install restrooms, because it didn’t make sense to install permanent restrooms in a temporary building. Mr. Wonder stated that based on the time frame proposed and the amount of time that these buildings are being used, the Plumbing Division had no objection to this waiver being extended for another year.

Motion by Mr. Reed to extend this waiver until December 31, 2011. Living Faith United Methodist Church must reappear before the Board next year in order to update the Board on their progress. Second by Mr. Killian.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0
REQUEST: Waiver to allow plastic shower pan material
Location: 1001 Cass St (Hilton Convention Center Hotel)

7/13/2011:
Mr. Hawka was not present. Mr. Wonder stated that this applicant has been given more than an ample amount of time to come to the Board to seek a waiver for this project. He suggested that this case be placed on file.

Motion to place this case on file by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem

Motion carried 6-0.

10/26/2011:

Brian Hadfield of Alvine Engineering and Jake Lindner with N Pitlor and Son Inc appeared before the Board to request a waiver allowing the use plastic shower pan material. Mr. Wonder stated that the Plumbing Code does not allow this product to be used currently; he added that the Board has approved this material previously on several occasions.

Mr. Wonder stated that this material is currently being reviewed by the Code Committee and will probably be included in upcoming code changes. He concluded by stating that the Plumbing Division had no objection to this waiver.

Motion to approve by Mr. Reed. Second by Mr. Estabrook.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

11-10-100
Richard E Reeve
Viega North America
301 N Main
Wichita, KS 67202

REQUEST: Renewal of approval of Provider
Renewal of approval of Instructor
Renewal of approval of CEU Class

Richard Reeve of Viega North America appeared before the Board to seek renewal of a previously approved continuing education class. The Board Secretary confirmed that the Board has approved this class in past years.

Motion to approve Viega North America as a Provider by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Wellendorf.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

Motion to approve Richard Reeve as an instructor for Viega pro-press products by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0
Motion to approve a one hour continuing education class on Viega pro-press products as submitted by Mr. Wellendorf. Second by Mr. Estabrook.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

REQUEST: Renewal of approval of Provider
              Renewal of approval of Instructors
              Approval of Instructors
              Approval of CEU Classes

Danielle Bauer of Earthwormjobs.com appeared before the Board to seek approval of a green-industry continuing education seminar to take place in 2012. This seminar has received Board approval in the past; however, Earthwormjobs.com has some new instructors and subjects that require the Board’s approval this year. Earthwormjobs.com was an approved Provider for 2010.

Motion to approve Earthwormjobs.com as an Approved Provider for 2012 by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

The Board reviewed submitted biographies for five Earthwormjobs.com instructors who are seeking renewal of the approval granted to them previously by the Board.

After some discussion, Mr. Estabrook made a motion to renew approval for the following Instructors: Gail Mueller, Brad Stice, Bob Jedlicka, Brad Jakubowski and Demi Fortuna. Second by Mr. Reed.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

The Board reviewed submitted biographies for three Earthwormjobs.com’s new instructors who are seeking approval to teach continuing education classes.

Motion to approve Doug Simpson as an Instructor for irrigation products by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0
After reviewing materials submitted in regards to Darin Ayres’ teaching experience, it was agreed upon by the Board members that Mr. Ayres’ subject is not relevant to the plumbing industry.

Motion to deny by Mr. Killian. Second by Mr. Estabrook.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0. Request denied.

Motion to approve Steve Pallas as an Instructor for Hunter irrigation products by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

Following approval of Earthwormjobs.com’s new instructors, the Board reviewed Ed Huffman’s teaching credentials. Mr. Huffman has received Board approval in the past; however, he is attempting to teach a new subject. Mr. Estabrook stated that Mr. Huffman has a reputation of putting on good classes. Mr. Wonder agreed with this statement.

After review of Mr. Huffman’s class materials, Mr. Estabrook made a motion to approve Ed Huffman as an Instructor for irrigation products. Second by Mr. Reed.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

Finally, the Board reviewed the submitted class materials. After review of the submitted materials, Mr. Reed made a motion to approve the submitted classes for a maximum of four hours of continuing education credit for lawn sprinkler contractors only. Attendees may take any combination of Earthwormjobs.com’s proposed irrigation classes; however, no more than four hours of credit will be given for attendance at this event. Second by Mr. Estabrook.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0
11-10-102
Thomas E Squires
10730 Pacific St #109
Omaha NE 68114

REQUEST: Variance of section 49-631, unisex toilet room.
Location: 10730 Pacific St #107
49-631

Thomas E Squires appeared before the Board to request a variance of section 49-631, unisex toilet room. Mr. Squires owns a hair salon. He is moving to a new location within his building. This new location has two non-ADA compliant restrooms that the owner would like to retain so that he can offer separate restroom facilities to his male and female employees. Mr. Squires commented that there are several community restrooms nearby that are ADA-compliant.

Mr. Wonder stated that Mr. Squires’ space is less than 1,500 square feet. According to Mr. Squires’ application, there will be seven salon stations in this business; however, there will generally be no more than 3-4 stylists present at any time. Most of his employees work part-time. Mr. Wonder stated that the Plumbing Division had no objection to this waiver, based on the fact that Mr. Squires uses part-time employees and generally does not have more than 4 employees on site at a time.

Motion by Mr. Killian to allow requested variance of section 49-631 for this occupant and this occupant only. Second by Mr. Reed.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0

11-10-103
Randy Mattison
Millard American Legion Post 374
13913 S Plaza
Omaha NE 68137

REQUEST: Variance of section 49-1140
Location: 13913/15 S Plaza
49-1140

Randy Mattison with the Millard American Legion Post 374 appeared before the Board to request a variance of section 49-1140. Mr. Mattison requested that the Board treat his organization as a church hall, and therefore grant the American Legion permission to omit the required grease interceptor in their new kitchen.

Mr. Wonder explained that this organization is moving to a smaller location. American Legion Post 374 used to offer daily meal service in their old location; however, this service will be discontinued in the new location. Instead of being used on a daily basis, the kitchen in the new location will be used for events 2-3 times per month, such as for a fundraiser or a wedding reception. Mr. Wonder stated that this frequency of use is similar to that of a church fellowship hall. Mr. Reed asked Mr. Wonder whether church halls were required to have grease interceptors in their kitchens. Mr. Wonder replied that at this time, church halls are not required to install grease interceptors, because the City does not consider them to have commercial kitchens.

Mr. Reed asked Mr. Mattison whether his post is open to the public. Mr. Mattison replied that American Legion Post 374 has a private membership. The public would only be allowed in this space if it were rented out to them for an event. Mr. Reed asked the applicant what type of equipment their kitchen would have in it. Mr. Mattison replied that there will be a full commercial kitchen including a fryer. However, this equipment will be used only when the hall has been rented.

Mr. Mattison added that his organization is moving to a smaller location in order to keep their Post open; the added expense of a grease interceptor would be hard on their budget. He stated that if the economy was to improve and the Post was able to see more use of the commercial kitchen, then they would install a grease interceptor as required. Mr. Wonder stated that Code requires commercial kitchens to be piped in such a way so that a grease interceptor could be installed in the future.

Mr. Reed stated that he had no objection to granting this waiver, save for the possibility that, if the American Legion were to ever leave this location, it could be later tenanted by a restaurant. This would then create a daily use of the kitchen and cause large amounts of grease to be introduced to the sewer system. Mr. Wonder stated that Mr. Mattison has given his word that if they were ever to leave this location they would notify the Plumbing Division immediately. Mr. Mattison confirmed this statement.
Mr. Reed reiterated the fact that the kitchen would be plumbed in such a way that a grease interceptor could be added at a later date. Mr. Killian suggested that the Board could stipulate the number of times per week or month that the kitchen could be used before a grease interceptor must be added. Mr. Wonder stated that if the amount of grease entering the sewers became a problem, the Public Works Department, who handles this issue, would notify Mr. Mattison that his organization was creating too much grease. He would be required to install a grease interceptor at that time.

Motion by Mr. Reed to allow the requested waiver of the required grease interceptor at 13913/15 S Plaza, for this business and this business only, and at this location only, with the requirement that a grease interceptor must be installed if the average use of the commercial kitchen exceeds one usage per week. Second by Mr. Killian.

AYES: Killian, Reed, Wellendorf

NAYS: Barrett, Estabrook, Miller, Salem

Motion failed 3-4. Request denied.

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REQUEST: Variance of section 49-630, Toilet Rooms for two sexes.

Location: 4701 Center Street

Dennis and Cathy Turman appeared before the Board to request a variance of section 49-630, toilet rooms for two sexes. Mr. Wonder explained that the Turmans own a bicycle shop on 13th Street. They are in the process of moving to a new location, and have been facing an inordinate number of difficulties in obtaining the necessary clearances from the City to operate in their new location.

Mr. Wonder cited the fact that, unbeknownst to Mr. and Mrs. Turman at the time that they purchased the building, their new property has a number of zoning restrictions on it. These restrictions mean that they cannot expand their space as their business grows. Thus, every square foot of space in this business is precious and must be carefully planned, because they cannot expand their space later.

Mr. Wonder stated that the applicants have done all that they can to comply with the City’s various regulations; however, they appear to be victims of bureaucracy. They are requesting to install a unisex restroom in their new location in order to have more room for their stock. Mr. Wonder stated that the space saved by eliminating separate restrooms for males and females would allow Mr. and Mrs. Turman to have 14 more bicycles in their store. Mr. Wonder concluded by stating that the Plumbing Division has no objection to this waiver, and strongly recommended that the Board approve this request.

Mr. Reed stated that if you ignore the space allotted for inventory, restrooms, storage and stairs, this space is less than 1,500 square feet. Bicycles are a large and unwieldy stock item; storage space is a definite requirement for these applicants. After some discussion, the Board agreed with Mr. Wonder’s statements.

Motion to approve requested unisex restroom for this business and location only by Mr. Reed. Second by Mr. Killian.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0
VI. *Journeyman Plumber Examination Applications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cory L Hutchison</th>
<th>Tony Leonardo Plumbing Inc</th>
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<tr>
<td>5508 Mill Road</td>
<td>5012 54th Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plattsmouth NE 68048</td>
<td>Nehawka NE 68413</td>
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Cory L Hutchison appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller reviewed the application file and stated that all appeared to be in order.

Motion to approve by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brad A Latto</th>
<th>Carmody Plumbing</th>
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<tr>
<td>From 3/26/2008 &amp; 4/23/2008</td>
<td>8504 N 29th St</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>107 S 8th St</td>
<td>Omaha NE 68112</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missouri Valley IA 51555</td>
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3/26/2008:
Mr. Latto was present.

The Board asked Mr. Latto to provide his records indicating that he has been working in the plumbing trade since December of 1996.

Mr. Estabrook made a motion to layover until April 23. Mr. Leo seconded the motion.

AYES: Estabrook, Killian, Leo, Reed, Baker

Motion carried 5-0

4/23/2008:
Mr. Latto was not present.

Mr. Miller made a motion to place this item on file. Seconded by Mr. Leo

Ayes: Clifton, Estabrook, Leo, Miller, Reed, Baker

Motion carried 6-0

10/26/2011:
Brad Latto and Mike Knutson of Carmody Plumbing appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller stated that this case previously appeared before the Board in 2008 *(above)*. At the time of his last appearance before the Board, he was asked to provide information regarding his work records. Mr. Latto submitted that information for the Board’s review today.

Mr. Miller reviewed the application file, noting that Mr. Latto meets the on-the-job work hours required in order to take the Journeyman examination. Mr. Knutson stated that Mr. Latto has been with Carmody Plumbing for one year, and has worked outside of Omaha’s jurisdiction during that time. Mr. Latto stated that prior to his employment with Carmody Plumbing, he was working with his father for Latto Plumbing in Missouri Valley. He also worked for Ladd Plumbing in Council Bluff, Iowa. When asked, Mr. Latto stated that he has never been registered as an apprentice plumber in Omaha because he did not work in this city. He was a registered apprentice in Iowa during the time when he was employed by Ladd Plumbing. His case file included proof of almost eight years of experience in plumbing.
Mr. Miller commented that Mr. Latto holds a master plumber license in Bellevue, Nebraska and Council Bluffs, Iowa. He also has 64 hours of apprenticeship schooling through Iowa Western Community College. Mr. Wonder asked Mr. Latto how long he has been in the plumbing business. Mr. Latto replied that he has been plumbing since approximately 1995. This gives him a total of sixteen years of experience in the plumbing field. Mr. Miller commented that all of Mr. Latto’s training and experience appears to be on the Uniform Plumbing Code, which Omaha does not use.

When asked by Mr. Killian, Mr. Latto stated that he has held a master plumber license in Bellevue, Nebraska and Council Bluffs, Iowa since 2007. Mr. Wonder stated that he does not believe that Bellevue and Council Bluffs qualify as cities of equivalent size. He stated that the Board should instead consider the number of years in which Mr. Latto has been in the plumbing field. Mr. Wonder stated that the Board has attempted to set regulations regarding the number of years of work which cancel out the required years of schooling for out-of-jurisdiction plumbers, but has yet to agree upon that number. He asked the Board members how many years of on-the-job training is sufficient to replace schooling for these special cases.

Mr. Barrett suggested that Mr. Latto be directed to take the placement examination. Mr. Reed stated that those in his field without an accredited degree are generally allowed to test for licensure if they have double the amount of work experience hours. If this was applied to plumbing examinations, out-of-jurisdiction applicants without apprentice schooling would be required to have at least eight years of on-the-job training in order to be considered to have met the schooling requirement. Mr. Miller disagreed with this statement, citing the importance of school for apprentice plumbers. Mr. Salem agreed with Mr. Miller, stating that work experience should not be allowed to take the place of schooling.

Mr. Reed countered that it was not reasonable to ask a plumber who has been in business for thirty years in another city to go back to college for four years to learn basic plumbing theory when it is obvious that they have a great deal of experience. Mr. Salem stated that these applicants should be directed to take the placement examination, adding that he would not approve such applicants to sit for licensure unless the placement examination had been administered.

Mr. Wonder stated that the Plumbing Division does have a placement examination that it can administer; however, this examination is meant for those requesting to become apprentice plumbers. The placement examination is not meant for those asking to take the journeyman or master plumber examinations.

Mr. Latto was asked to describe the type of work he performed during his sixteen years in the plumbing field. Mr. Latto replied that he did both residential and commercial work, including repairs, remodeling, utilities, and all other areas generally concerned with plumbing. Mr. Reed asked the Board members how many years of on-the-job training is equivalent to a college degree. Mr. Reed stated that the Board handles this kind of case once or twice per year; however, it would be a good idea to settle this matter now in order to avoid debate in the future.

Mr. Estabrook stated that the Board handled a similar case in the past involving some plumbers from Fremont. These applicants were required to take the placement examination before being allowed to take the journeyman test. Mr. Wonder replied that the applicants in that previous case had far less experience than Mr. Latto has; and this was the reason behind directing them to sit for the placement examination. Mr. Latto has more than double the experience than the Fremont applicants that Mr. Estabrook referred to.

Mr. Knutson stated that Mr. Latto’s brother, Ben, appeared before the Board recently with journeyman plumber licenses from Bellevue and Iowa. The Board granted Ben Latto’s request for testing. Brad Latto has master plumber licenses from the same jurisdictions. Mr. Knutson asked that the Board approve his employee to take the journeyman examination as requested. Mr. Wonder confirmed this statement, but noted that regulations have changed since Mr. Latto’s brother’s appearance before the Board.

Mr. Reed stated that because the Board sees so few of these cases, it may not be best to create a hard-and-fast rule for dealing with out-of-jurisdiction plumbers. However, if the Board is disinclined to grant Mr. Latto’s request, then they owe it to him to be very specific in what he needs to do in order to get approved to test. Mr. Barrett stated his opinion that attending school would be the main solution for Mr. Latto, or satisfactory completion of the placement examination. Mr. Latto protested that there are apprentices in Omaha that have taken the journeyman test numerous times, but fail to pass it because they don’t know the Omaha plumbing code. Completing school is not a guarantee that you are a good plumber. Mr. Reed agreed with this statement, adding that the plumbing examination weeds people out. He asked the Board members again how many years of work experience make up for schooling.
Mr. Wonder stated that the placement examination covers things like safety and tools. It includes little to no information regarding Omaha Plumbing Code regulations. Understanding of Omaha Plumbing Code is tested by the journeyman and master plumber examinations, not the apprentice placement examination.

Mr. Reed suggested that the Board adopt a policy of requiring out-of-jurisdiction applicants with less than the number of hours of schooling required by Omaha code to show proof of eight years of on-the-job experience before being allowed to sit for licensure. This number would be double the amount of years of schooling currently required by Omaha code. Mr. Wonder stated that the City has adopted such a policy on two other licenses not related to plumbing and added that this would be an acceptable benchmark for future cases.

Mr. Barrett countered that, using that proposed policy, Mr. Latto would still be short on work experience, as his case file only proves seven out of his claimed sixteen years of experience. Mr. Wonder stated that the Board could then approve Mr. Latto to test in February of 2012, or could deny his application now. Mr. Latto could then reapply for the February 2012 examination once he has completed his work hours for this year.

Motion to deny by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

NAYS: Killian.

Motion carried 6-1

Chad R Miller
11910 N 157th St
Bennington NE 68007

Carmody Plumbing
8504 N 29th St
Omaha NE 68112

Chad R. Miller and Mike Knutson of Carmody Plumbing appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller reviewed the application file and stated that all appeared to be in order.

Motion to approve by Mr. Reed. Second by Mr. Wellendorf.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.

Kevin L Nieto Jr
6514 S 36th St
Omaha NE 68107

Vincentini Plumbing
2308 S 16 St
Omaha NE 68108-3948

Kevin L Nieto appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller reviewed the application file and stated that all appeared to be in order.

Motion to approve by Mr. Reed. Second by Mr. Wellendorf.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.
Duane J Safarik Jr  
8106 Ralston Av  
Ralston NE 68127  

Precise Contracting & Plumbing  
13109 144th St  
Louisville NE 68037

Duane J Safarik appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller reviewed the application file and stated that all appeared to be in order.

Motion to approve by Mr. Reed. Second by Mr. Wellendorf.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.

VII. *Master Plumber Examination Applications*

Brian J Hrabik  
3063 S 34th St  
Omaha NE 68105  

Jimmy’s Plumbing  
17609 Storage Rd Suite 1  
Omaha NE 68136

Brian Hrabik appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller reviewed the application file and stated that all appeared to be in order.

Motion to approve by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Reed.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.

Brandon J Iwansky  
15816 Redwood Street  
Omaha NE 68136  

Dave Janke Plumbing Inc  
15013 Grover St  
Omaha NE 68144

Mr. Iwansky was not present.

Motion to hold this case over to the January 25, 2012 meeting of the Omaha Plumbing Board by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Wellendorf.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.
Brian Hrabik appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller reviewed the application file and stated that all appeared to be in order.

Motion to approve by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.

Jerald J Pote appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller reviewed the application file and stated that all appeared to be in order.

Motion to approve by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.

Jonathon L Roupe appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller noted from the application file that Mr. Roupe is an out-of-jurisdiction plumber. He holds a master plumber license in Sioux City, Iowa and South Sioux City Nebraska. He also holds a plumbing contractor’s license in South Dakota. When asked, Mr. Roupe stated that he tested out of the Sioux City examination in 2005, which resulted in him later receiving an Iowa master plumber license. Mr. Wonder asked if Mr. Roupe holds a Minnesota license. Mr. Roupe replied that his South Dakota license reciprocates with Minnesota.

Mr. Estabrook asked whether any or all of these other cities use the UPC or the IPC as their code book. Mr. Roupe replied that South Dakota and Sioux City use UPC Code. South Sioux City uses IPC Code. When asked, Mr. Roupe stated that he has four years of schooling through ABC Education Center (out of state). He has over ten years of experience in the plumbing field. Mr. Wonder stated that he is somewhat familiar with the licensing requirements in Sioux City, and added that it is not easy to get a license in that city.

After reviewing the information submitted Mr. Estabrook made a motion to hold this case over to the January 25, 2012 meeting of the Omaha Plumbing Board in order to allow Mr. Roupe time to submit additional information regarding his schooling. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.
Jake M Sargent appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller stated that according to the application file, Mr. Sargent has held a journeyman plumber license since January 8th, 2009. His four-year anniversary for this license will not occur until 2013. Therefore, he is short on the required number of years of experience.

Mr. Sargent currently holds a master plumber license in Kansas City and a journeyman license in Bellevue Nebraska. He contended that Kansas City is equal to or greater in size than Omaha and has similar testing requirements. Mr. Sargent stated that Kansas City reciprocated his Bellevue journeyman license, and allowed him to sit for the master plumber examination, which he passed. He asked that the Board consider this license as being comparable to an Omaha license, and allow him to take the master plumber examination. When asked, Mr. Sargent states that Kansas City uses the UPC Code. Mr. Wonder disagreed, stating that this would set a bad precedent for the Board to allow someone registered as a journeyman plumber in Omaha, with less than four years’ experience with this license, to test for a master plumber license.

Mr. Sargent protested this statement, citing the fact that the Board had approved an out-of-state applicant to take the master plumber exam in January of this year. Mr. Wonder replied that this person was not currently registered as an Omaha plumber at the time when he made his application for testing. Mr. Miller stated that he would entertain a motion to deny Mr. Sargent’s request due to failure to meet the required four years experience as a journeyman plumber.

Motion to deny by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.

Stephen A Vogel Jr appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller reviewed the application file and stated that all appeared to be in order.

Motion to approve by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.

John P Wilwerding appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller reviewed the application file and stated that all appeared to be in order.

Motion to approve by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.
VIII. *Lawn Sprinkler Contractor Examination Applications*

Mike Radik  
4421 N 6th St  
Carter Lake IA 51510

Mike Radik appeared before the Board. The Board Secretary stated that Mr. Radik’s license was issued July 10, 1998. This license was revoked by the Plumbing Board on September 15, 2010 for a violation of Section 49-215 of the Omaha Plumbing Code. The one year waiting period has now passed, and Mr. Radik would like to retest for licensure.

Mr. Miller reviewed the application file and stated that all appeared to be in order with the request.

Motion to approve by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Wellendorf.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.

IX. *Sewer Layer Examinations*

Richard Erlandson  
322 Shannon Road #10  
Papillion NE 68046  
Roto-Rooter Services  
7941 Drexel St  
Ralston NE 68127-4262

Paul E Gilmer  
PO Box 1422  
Bellevue NE 68005  
Absolute Drain Solutions  
PO Box 1422  
Bellevue NE 68005

Ethan J Graham  
1618 N 106th St  
Omaha NE 68114  
Dave Janke Plumbing  
15013 Grover St  
Omaha NE 68144

Motion to approve the above-listed sewer layer applicants by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0.
X. **Approval of Apprenticeship Renewals (1)**

Dale Johnson  *From 7/13/2011 and 7/26/2011*  MDK Plumbing Inc  *Completed*

**7/13/2011:**
Mr. Johnson wishes to renew his apprenticeship in order to work for MDK Plumbing Inc. However, MDK Plumbing Inc did not appear at today’s meeting in order to get their apprenticeship program approved. The Board Secretary suggested that this case be held over to the next meeting in order to allow MDK Plumbing Inc an opportunity to appear before the Board.

Motion to hold this request over to the July 27th meeting of the Omaha Plumbing Board by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

*AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem*

Motion carried 6-0.

**7/26/2011:**
The Board Secretary stated that Mr. Johnson is requesting to renew his apprentice license so that he may work for MDK Plumbing Inc. MDK Plumbing Inc did turn in paperwork to have an approved apprenticeship program. However, this request later was placed on file because the master plumber failed to appear before the Board at two consecutive meetings. Therefore, MDK Plumbing Inc cannot take on apprentices at this time. In order to renew his apprentice plumber license, Mr. Johnson must be employed by a shop with an approved apprentice program.

Based on this information, Mr. Estabrook made a motion to place Mr. Johnson’s request for apprentice license renewal on file. Second by Mr. Salem.

*AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf*

Motion carried 7-0.

**10/26/2011:**
MDK Plumbing now has an approved apprenticeship program (*See case no.11-7-62, above*).

Motion to approve Dale Johnson’s request for apprenticeship renewal by Mr. Wellendorf. Second by Mr. Estabrook.

*AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf*

Motion carried 7-0.
XI. Discussion

- The Board discussed upcoming deliberations by the State of Nebraska to create state licensing.
- The Board discussed possible changes to the Plumbing Code.

XII. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Wellendorf. Second by Mr. Barrett.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Killian, Miller, Reed, Salem, Wellendorf

Motion carried 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:57 AM.

* = 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 1:30 pm on Wednesday, November 9th are due no later than 9:00am on Thursday, October 27th.

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