

# MINUTES

## OMAHA PLUMBING BOARD

Regular Meeting – Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
9:00 am – City/County Building – 1819 Farnam Street  
Jesse Lowe Conference Room – Third Floor

### I. Roll Call

#### Members Present:

Jeff O. Estabrook, Vice-Chairman  
Brian Feyerherm  
David W. Miller, Chairman  
Christopher P. Reed  
Terry Salem  
Amy L. Schaap

#### Members Absent:

Brian A Barrett

#### Others Present:

Jim Wonder, City of Omaha Planning Department  
Reid Steinkraus, Douglas County Health Department

Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

### II. Approval of Minutes from November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap.

Motion carried 6-0.

### III. \*Cases

12-11-138 *From 11/14/2012*  
Doug Hawley  
Paragon Training Excellence  
731 N Frontier Road Suite 1  
Papillion NE 68123

REQUEST: Approval of Instructors  
Approval of CEU Classes  
49-215

#### 11/14/2012:

Doug Hawley appeared before the Board with Don Schincke and Brandon Iwansky. Mr. Hawley explained that Paragon Training Excellence wished to seek approval of Mr. Iwansky and Mr. Schincke as continuing education instructors.

The Board reviewed Mr. Iwansky's credentials, which include experience teaching at Metro Community College. Mr. Wonder stated that recent concerns over material being taught during Plumbing Code classes make him wary of requests for approval to teach this subject without that person showing extensive documentation showing their qualifications and proposed materials. Mr. Hawley stated that Mr. Iwansky has taught classes at Metro Community College since 2007, thus proving that he can control a classroom. Mr. Iwansky discussed the program that he hopes to be able to offer through Paragon Training Excellence. This program includes soldering and braising; plumbing math, venting and sud zones. He submitted copies of his class materials for the Board's review. After listening to Mr. Iwansky's explanation, Mr. Wonder stated that he had no issue with these proposed subjects, commenting that Mr. Iwansky intends to teach Plumbing Theory rather than Code

After some discussion, Mr. Reed made a motion to approve Brandon Iwansky as an Instructor for Plumbing Theory. Second by Mr. Estabrook.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried 7-0.

The Board reviewed Mr. Schincke's request to become a continuing education instructor. Mr. Schincke stated that he was part of a continuing education class covering Plumbing Code in January of 2012; he now wishes to build on this experience. Mr. Miller reviewed Mr. Schincke's credentials, noting that Mr. Schincke is a member of the National Rifle Association. Mr. Schincke stated that he included this information due to the fact that he is an instructor with this association. Mr. Estabrook asked Mr. Schincke what he intends to teach. Mr. Schincke stated that the January class he participated in was audited by three City Plumbing Inspectors; all gave him positive feedback on the class. Mr. Wonder pointed out that Mr. Schincke's company had been required to have this class as per the decision of the Board following violations for having unregistered apprentices. Mr. Schincke stated that he felt that it is important for shop owners to give continuing education, as they are the people who are directly involved in the day to day training of employees.

Mr. Miller commented that, with the exception of one Board-mandated class, Mr. Schincke has no teaching credentials. Mr. Schincke countered this statement, asserting that in addition to classes that he has taught through the National Rifle Association, he has also taught UPC classes in Iowa. Mr. Hawley stated that he was under the impression that the feedback received from the City Plumbing Inspectors would have counted in a similar fashion to having a class audited. He reminded the Board that Mr. Schincke only intends to teach a two hour class.

After further discussion of Mr. Schincke's credentials, it was determined that more information was needed in regards to both Mr. Schincke as a potential Instructor, and to the specific materials that will be taught in any class taught by him.

Motion to hold decision regarding approval of Don Schincke as an Instructor over to the November 28, 2012 meeting of the Board by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Reed.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried 7-0.

Motion to hold decision regarding approval of the submitted continuing education class materials over to the November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting of the Board by Mr. Reed. Second by Ms. Schaap.

AYES: Barrett, Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap

Motion carried 7-0.

**11/28/2012:**

Doug Hawley of Paragon Training Excellence appeared before the Board. Mr. Hawley stated that his organization no longer wished to seek approval of Don Schincke as an Instructor; rather, they have decided to use two instructors that have already been approved by the Board for their upcoming continuing education class.

The remaining item for discussion was the approval of Brandon Iwansky's proposed continuing education class. Materials for this class were reviewed and discussed at the November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting (see above). The Board discussed the agenda for Paragon's seminar, which appeared to be broken into four 1 hour sessions. In response to the Board's question, Mr. Hawley confirmed that attendees will be required to attend the entire seminar (four hours) in order to receive credit for the class. Partial credit will not be given to those who leave early.

Motion by Mr. Reed to approve the continuing education classes proposed by Paragon Training Excellence as four separate four-hour continuing education classes, with each class comprised of four 1 hour sessions for journeymen and master plumbers only, with the stipulation licensees must attend an entire four hour class in order to receive credit for their attendance. Second by Mr. Estabrook.

AYES: Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap.

Motion carried 6-0.

12-11-139  
MDK Plumbing  
18964 Co. Rd. P20  
Blair NE 68008

REQUEST: Request for temporary Master Plumber license  
49-213

Nicholas Vodicka and Dale Johnson of MDK Plumbing appeared before the Board. Mr. Wonder stated that the only issue he had with the request was the fact that his office has not received formal notification that the current master plumber of record, Mark Vodicka, is no longer with the company. He asked that the Board stipulate that MDK Plumbing submit such notification to the Board Secretary. Mr. Johnson stated that his company would be happy to submit a letter from his company certifying that Mr. Mark Vodicka is no longer an employee with MDK Plumbing.

Mr. Estabrook asked Mr. Vodicka whether he is currently eligible to take the master plumber examination. Mr. Vodicka replied that he intends to take the master plumber examination this coming February.

Motion to grant Nicholas Vodicka a temporary Master Plumber license for the term of one year from today's date by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap.

Motion carried 6-0.

12-11-140  
Tim Knust  
5070 S 174<sup>th</sup> St  
Omaha NE 68135

REQUEST: Request for reinstatement of expired lawn sprinkler contractor license.  
49-212

Tim Knust appeared before the Board. Mr. Miller reviewed the file and appeared that everything appeared to be in order with the applicant's previous license renewals and continuing education completion. When asked, Mr. Knust stated that he simply forgot to pay for his license renewal in 2012.

Motion to approve by Mr. Estabrook, subject to the quad fee as described in section 49-212 of the Omaha Plumbing Code. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap.

Motion carried 6-0.

12-11-141  
Mike Sobota  
Central Community College  
4500 63<sup>rd</sup> St  
PO Box 1027  
Columbus NE 68602

REQUEST: Renewal of approval of Provider, Instructor, and CEU Class.

49-215

Mike Sobota appeared before the Board to seek renewal of approval of Provider, Instructor, and continuing education classes. The Board Secretary confirmed that Central Community College has been approved by the Board to give continuing education classes for several years. Mr. Sobota stated that Central Community College intends to give their continuing education class twice; however, as established in previous years, they will only allow Omaha licensees to attend one of these classes for credit.

The Board Secretary commented that the requested instructor, Greg Hinrichson, has been approved in the past to teach backflow prevention and water treatment. Mr. Sobota stated that his organization does not intend to teach water treatment continuing education classes this year; they are seeking approval of Mr. Hinrichson only for backflow prevention. Mr. Estabrook stated that he has attended these classes in the past, and found them to be worthwhile.

Motion by Mr. Estabrook to renew approval of Central Community College as a provider; to renew approval of Greg Hinrichson as an Instructor for backflow prevention; and to approve the submitted four hour continuing education classes for master and journeyman plumbers, with the stipulation that Omaha license holders may only attend one of these classes for credit.

AYES: Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap.

Motion carried 6-0.

12-11-142  
Sarah Alsup  
124 S 201<sup>st</sup> St  
Elkhorn NE 68022

REQUEST: Waiver of required grease interceptor in a commercial kitchen.

Location: 17306 Lakeside Hills Plaza  
49-1104

Sarah Alsup appeared before the Board with her builder, Dan Junior. Mr. Wonder explained that Ms. Alsup is opening a cupcake bakery. Mr. Wonder stated that he had required the applicant to appear before the Board due to the fact that bakeries sometimes use ingredients which could be considered to be grease-producing. He stated that after review, the Plumbing Division had no objection to this request.

Motion by Mr. Reed to approve a waiver of the required grease interceptor at 17306 Lakeside Hills Plaza. This waiver is for this location and business only. Second by Mr. Estabrook.

AYES: Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap.

Motion carried 6-0.

#### **IV. Approval of Apprenticeship Renewals**

Garrett Wirges

Dave Janke Plumbing Inc

Metro

Motion to approve renewal of the above-listed apprentice by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap.

Motion carried 6-0.

#### **V. Discussion**

- Motion by Mr. Estabrook to cancel the Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 26, 2012 due to the holidays. The Board would meet as scheduled on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012. They would not meet again until January 9, 2013. Second by Mr. Salem.

AYES: Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Salem, Schaap.

Motion carried 6-0.

- The Board discussed the term “grease-producing” as it relates to grease interceptors. Mr. Wonder reported to the Board in regards to grease interceptors.
- Mr. Salem stated that he had an appointment He excused himself and left at 9:33 am.
- Mr. Wonder reported to the Board in regards to Joseph Greenwood’s appearance before the Administrative Board of Appeals on November 26, 2012. Mr. Greenwood appeared before this body to appeal the Plumbing Board’s revocation of his master plumber license. Mr. Wonder reported that the Administrative Board had chosen to remand this case back to the Plumbing Board. Mr. Greenwood’s hearing for possible suspension or revocation of license will be heard again on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012.
- The Board Secretary reminded the Board members that all 2013 Plumbing Board meetings will take place at 1:30pm (the 9:00 am meeting time used for the second meeting of each month was eliminated).

**VI. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Estabrook. Second by Mr. Feyerherm.

AYES: Estabrook, Feyerherm, Miller, Reed, Schaap.

Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:47 am.

**\* = APPLICANT MUST BE PRESENT AT MEETING**

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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.

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