

State of Oregon

State Plumbing Board

Meeting minutes

August 19, 2010

Members present:

Jonathan Gray, Chair
Robin Scheffer, Vice-chair
Rick Bosch
Skai Dancey
Sarah Heinicke
Jack Vilendre

Members absent:

Michael Perry

Staff present:

Chris Huntington, manager, policy and technical services
Terry Swisher, chief plumbing inspector
Brent Griffiths, lead enforcement officer
Richard Baumann, policy analyst
Debi Barnes-Woods, division boards coordinator

Guests present:

Brett Cook, City of Boardman
Pam Ditty, Mike Ditty LLC
Mario Orlando, Thermafit Industries
Dwight Perkins, IAPMO
Tony Cradice, BOLI/ATD
David Suther, NorPac

I. Board business

A. Call to order

Chairman Jonathan Gray called the State Plumbing Board meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. The meeting was held at the Building Codes Division, Conference Room A, 1535 Edgewater Street NW, Salem, Oregon.

B. Roll call

Michael Perry was absent excused.

C. Approval of agenda and order of business

Chair Gray **RULED** the agenda and order of business approved.

D. Approval of the board meeting minutes

Chair Gray **RULED** the June 17, 2010 minutes approved.

E. Date of the next scheduled meeting

October 21, 2010

II. Public comment – None

III. Reports

A. Building Codes Division report

Manager Huntington reported on the content of the [BCD Update packet](#) noting that the structural specialty code, mechanical specialty code and the commercial energy conservation code all went into effect July 1, 2010. The plumbing specialty code is expected to go into effect April 1, 2011.

Manager Huntington noted that the process of establishing renewal periods and fees for certifications for Phase 1 of HB 3462 is complete. The rule went into effect July 1, 2010 with the first renewal cycle beginning November 2010 then every 3 years.

Manager Huntington reported on the progress of Phase II of HB 3462. He noted that the committee has been working through the development of the 4 specialized inspector certifications. 1 of the 4 specialized inspector certifications is a specialized plumbing inspector certification, which would allow that inspector to inspect a limited scope of commercial installations. The division is now in the process of developing the administrative processes, which at least 1 out of the 4 training programs may be completed by the beginning of 2011.

B. Enforcement report

Lead Enforcement Officer Brent Griffiths reported that the enforcement staff has opened over 370 cases this year as compared to 350 cases this time last year. As of last month almost 300 site-checks were performed, with over 100 of those cases involving plumbing licensing.

Mr. Griffiths also noted that the section conducted an undercover “sting” posing as homeowners soliciting work performed from a known individual who was using another individual’s contractors license number and was advertising on the Internet. The individual was cited for engaging in the business of an electrical contractor and the website was shut down.

A drain cleaning company was also brought to enforcement’s attention. This company was advertising as being able to do plumbing work and was also checked by setting up a "sting" operation. This company did, however send out a licensed plumbing contractor and licensed plumbers.

Mr. Griffiths said that the enforcement section will be recruiting for another enforcement officer for the Northwest area possibly for a home-based office.

C. Summary of enforcement actions previously taken by the division for cases 1 through 6, outlined on the enforcement board report. (No board action required)

D. License suspension for Massada Development Inc. (No board action required)

Mr. Griffiths noted that the company failed to pay penalties assessed by OSHA and Workers Compensation Division in default of \$20,000. Until the fines owed are paid, the license suspension will remain in effect.

E. Program update

Chief Plumbing Inspector Terry Swisher noted that the board's code committee worked through all proposed code amendments, which will be brought to the board at its October meeting.

IV. Communications - None

V. Appeals - None

VI. Unfinished business - None

VII. New business

A. Request from Mario Oriando of Thermafit Industries for approval of the Product Standard IAPMO IGC 257-2009

Mr. Oriando, Thermafit Industries, noted that he is before the board asking for [approval of a design](#) that is different from what is specified in the current standards acknowledged in the Uniform Plumbing Code. Mr. Oriando said that 1 of the approved standards, FM 1680, mentions that Factory Mutual will accept alternate designs that meet the performance requirements. The standard approval is that the coupling shall be constructed with an outer shield of stainless steel, and that the coupling shall be tightened with stainless steel worm gear clamps.

The Thermafit Industries design differs in that it consists of a hinged outer shield of specially formulated fire resistant ABS plastic; the shield is tightened with bolts engaging nuts embedded in the shield but the inner rubber gasket is in full compliance with the standards acknowledged in the Uniform Plumbing Code. Because of the differences, IAPMO determined that it was necessary to develop a separate standard for this design. That standard, IGC 257-2009a, mirrors the standards in the requirements for the gasket and for testing the coupling assembled to piping. Only the details relating to the shield differ. Because of that, IAPMO gives the product a regular listing with no restrictions.

**Motion by Skai Dancey to approve the Product Standard IAPMO IGC 257-2009
Motion carried unanimously**

B. Request from STUDOR, Inc. for approval of the Product Standard ASSE 1050-2009

Brett Cook, building official, City of Boardman, and past board member, made this comment related to Product Standard ASSE 1050-2009 and 1051-2009, "I have a problem with seeing a standard approved when the manufacturer himself has admitted in past State Plumbing Board meetings that the product has failed."

Motion by Jack Vilendre to approve the Product Standard ASSE 1050-2009.

Although Chair Gray and Vice-chair Robin Scheffer voted in favor of the motion, they both wanted the record to show that they both hesitated to vote for the motion.

Motion carried unanimously

C. Request from STUDOR Inc. for approval of the Product Standard ASSE 1051-2009

Motion by Jack Vilendre to approve Product Standard ASSE 1051-2009

Motion approved unanimously

D. Request from STUDOR, Inc. for approval of the Product Standard NSF 14-2009

Motion by Jack Vilendre to approve Product Standard NSF 14-2009

Motion carried unanimously

VIII. Announcements - None

IX. Adjournment

There being no other business Chair Gray adjourned the board meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Debi Barnes-Woods
Division Boards Coordinator