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STATE PLUMBING BOARD
Lake Superior Room
702 West Kalamazoo Street
Lansing, Michigan 48933

MINUTES
June 7, 2016
10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Mr. Anthony D'Ascenzo, Chairperson
Mr. Daniel Nixon, Vice Chairperson
Mr. Walter Maner
Mr. Aaron Fedewa
Ms. Dana DeBruyn
Mr. Ernie Sarkipato

MEMBERS ABSENT
Mr. Curt McNitt

DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL ATTENDING
Ms. Alesha Gensler, Deputy Director, BCC
Mr. Joseph Madziar, Chief, Plumbing Division
Mr. Andy Neuman, Assistant Chief, Plumbing Division
Mr. Kole Myers, Senior Plumbing Inspector
Mrs. Sara Leiby, Secretary, Plumbing Division
Ms. Marnie Wills, Deputy Director, OPLA

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE
Ms. Cindy Maher, MPMCA
Mr. Barry Pines, PIC, ASSE MI, ASSE International & ASPE National
Ms. Laura Kopack, MCA Detroit
Ms. Jan Culbertson, AIA MI
Mr. David Flint, University of Michigan
Mr. Brianne Hall, PIC & Eastern Michigan ASPE

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Chairperson D'Ascenzo called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A quorum was present at that time.

2. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Board Member Maner moved to nominate Anthony D'Ascenzo as Chairperson. Board Member Nixon seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Board Member Maner moved to nominate Daniel Nixon as Vice Chairperson. Board Member DeBruyn seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Board Member Nixon moved to nominate Walter Maner as Secretary. Board Member Fedewa seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Board Member DeBruyn moved to approve the agenda for the June 7, 2016, State Plumbing Board meeting. Board Member Maner seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Member Fedewa moved to approve the board minutes from the **June 9, 2015**, meeting. Board Member DeBruyn seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. APPROVAL OF EXAMINATION MINUTES

A. Board Member Nixon moved to approve the examination minutes of the Journey Plumber and Master Plumber Examinations held on **March 2, 2016**, and the Plumbing Contractor Examination held on **February 24, 2016**. Board Member Maner seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

B. Board Member Fedewa moved to approve the examination minutes of the Journey Plumber and Master Plumber Examinations held on **December 2, 2015**, and the Plumbing Contractor Examination held on **December 16, 2015**. Board Member DeBruyn seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

C. Board Member Nixon moved to approve the examination minutes of the Journey Plumber and Master Plumber Examinations held on **September 23, 2015**, and the Plumbing Contractor Examination held on **September 9, 2015**. Board Member DeBruyn seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

D. Board Member Nixon moved to approve the examination minutes of the Journey Plumber, Master Plumber, and Plumbing Contractor Examinations held on **July 30, 2015**. Board Member Fedewa seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

E. Board Member Fedewa moved to approve the examination minutes of the Journey Plumber and Master Plumber Examinations held on **June 10, 2015**, and the

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Plumbing Contractor Examination held on **June 17, 2015**. Board Member Maner seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

6. CHIEF'S REPORT

Mr. Joseph Madziar provided information on the following:

A. Welcomed Mr. Ernie Sarkipato to the State Plumbing Board. Mr. Sarkipato is a District Engineer with the Office of Drinking Water & Municipal Assistance within the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

B. Mr. Irvin Poke, prior Director of the Bureau, retired on April 30, 2016. Mr. Keith Lambert is the current Acting Director of the Bureau of Construction Codes. Ms. Alesha Gensler is the new Deputy Director of the Bureau of Construction Codes.

C. The Bureau of Construction Codes is currently being reorganized. Two new divisions, Licensing/Complaints and Administrative Services, have been created as part of the Bureau reorganization.

D. Plumbing Division staff is working on the 2016 renewal cycle for all plumbing license types.

E. The new operating system, Accela, has been implemented.

F. The Plumbing Division has been providing state assistance under the Governor's direction by mapping water faucets sampled for lead content, supervising faucet replacement, and supplying material for almost 1,400 faucets.

7. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

A. Ms. Marnie Wills provided background information on the Skilled Trades Act. The Act is modeled after the Occupational Code. It includes enforcement provisions, and streamlines application processing. Plumbing is included in Article 11 and closely resembles the current State Plumbing Act 733 of 2002.

Chairperson D'Ascenzo expressed his concern with a weakening of the State Plumbing Board and need for Board meetings.

B. Board Member Maner stated that House Bill No. 5714 was recently introduced by Rep. Nesbitt to address the separation of the master plumber and plumbing contractor renewal fees.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. The Department and two board members are currently rewriting the plumbing examinations in preparation for the examinations to be conducted by a 3rd party, PSI. This will allow for greater convenience for eligible exam applicants due to more dates and locations available to examine. Before the new examinations are

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administered, the Board, in consultation with the department, shall review and approve the form and content of the examinations.

Chairperson D'Ascenzo explained the examinations will be shortened due to legislative budget constraints and there will no longer be a practical copper portion for the journey plumber examination. Board Member Nixon conveyed concern that the whole examination fee will go to the 3rd party, while the Division will still be reviewing applications for eligibility.

B. The 2015 Michigan Plumbing Code is expected to be adopted February 2017.

C. Ms. Alesha Gensler provided clarification of board duties. Applicant appeals will be presented to the Board and the Board can assist with rule promulgation. Prior to the meeting, the Board will determine if there is business to address to meet as scheduled.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Barry Pines, representing Tri-County Plumbing Inspectors, provided Section 23 (4) of the State Plumbing Act 733 of 2002 and expressed desire for licensees to be refunded fees collected during the 2016 renewal cycle. Mr. Pines believes it would be a huge mistake to eliminate the practical portion of the examination and expressed concern if House Bill 5112 passes.

Ms. Jan Culbertson, representing AIA MI Government Advocacy Committee, advocated for a regulatory path for potable and non-potable uses for rainwater harvesting.

Ms. Cindy Maher, representing the MPMCA, inquired on how many hours will be required for the 2015 Code Update Course.

Mr. David Flint, representing the University of Michigan, explained that the University is interested in getting its voice heard as an owner/user and will be applying for membership on boards. Mr. Flint also would like to see continuity between plumbing devices within the hoist plate of elevators.

10. NEXT MEETING

September 20, 2016

11. ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Nixon moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:08 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. Board Member Maner seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Chairperson Anthony D'Ascenzo

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