

Meeting Minutes: Plumbing Board

Date: October 15, 2024
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Minutes by: Lyndy Logan
Location: Minnesota Room, DLI, 443 Lafayette Rd. No., St. Paul, MN 55155

Members

1. Karl Abrahamson (Secretary)
 2. Sam Arnold
 3. Kent Erickson (Vice Chair)
 4. Jonathan Lemke
 5. Justin Parizek – joined via phone at 10 a.m.
 6. Scott Stewart
 7. Rick Wahlen – WebEx
 8. Mike Westemeier (DLI CO’s Designee)
 9. Shane Willis – WebEx
 10. Philip Wood
- David Weum (MDH CO’s Designee) (non-voting)

Members Absent

Richard Becker (Chair)
Adam Johnson
Bruce Pylkas

DLI Staff & Visitors

Adam Case (Board. Counsel, DLI)
Krystle Conley (DLI) – WebEx
Allison Eastman (DLI) – WebEx

DLI Staff & Visitors continued...

Thomas Eisert (DLI)
Todd Green (DLI) – WebEx
Brad Jensen
Lyndy Logan (DLI)
Hannah Mardaus (DLI) – WebEx
Steve Nuebel (DLI) – WebEx
Chuck Olson (DLI)
Sean O’Neil (DLI)
John Roehl (DLI)
Jon Boesche (MN ABC)
Nick Erickson (Housing First)
Jeff Hill (MWQA)
Mike Johnson (J-Berd Mechanical)
David Nickelson (Uponor) – WebEx
Tom Pakkala (Local 15)
Angie Peterson (METC) – WebEx
Jim Peterson (MN PHCC)
Jarrett Purdue (DNR) – WebEx
David Radziej (MN PHCC)
Scott Thompson (My Plumbing Training)

1. **Call to Order, Vice-chair**

- A. *Vice-chair Erickson* called the meeting to order at 9:37 AM. The secretary took a roll call, and a quorum was declared with 9 of 13 voting members present; Justin Parizek joined via phone at 10 a.m., resulting in 10 voting members present in person or via WebEx.
- B. Announcements – Introductions (members and attendees): *Vice-chair Erickson*
 - Everyone present in person and remotely can hear all discussions.
 - All votes will be taken by roll call if any member attends remotely.
 - All handouts discussed and WebEx instructions are posted on the Board’s website.
 - WebEx instructions/procedures can be found on the board’s website at:
<https://www.dli.mn.gov/about-department/boards-and-councils/plumbing-board>

2. Approval of meeting agenda

A motion was made by Arnold, seconded by Wood, to approve the agenda. The roll call vote was unanimous with 9 votes in favor; the motion carried.

3. Approval of previous meeting minutes

A motion was made by Abrahamson, seconded by Lemke, to approve the Jul. 16, 2024, meeting minutes. The roll call vote was unanimous with 9 votes in favor; the motion carried.

4. Regular Business

Expense reports were approved.

5. Special Business

A. Enforcement & Licensing update

- Plumbing enforcement actions are updated monthly and can be found here: <https://www.dli.mn.gov/business/plumbing-contractors/plumbing-enforcement-actions>.

- Contractors who have been fined due to unlicensed activity can be viewed in the [CCLD Review Newsletter](#).

- **Licensing Unit/License & Registrations**

○ Plumbing contractors	1,776
○ Registered employers	56
○ Master plumbers	3,663
○ Journeyworker plumbers	3,260
○ Registered unlicensed plumbers	5,637
○ Water conditioning contractors	62
○ WC masters	129
○ WC journey workers	185
○ Registered unlicensed WC	178
○ Backflow prevention testers	716
○ Backflow prevention rebuilders	900
○ Exams administered in CY 2024 (to date/all trades)	7,048
○ Exams administered PLB-specific in CY 2024	395

- Master (**102**), Journeyworker (**293**)

- **Enforcement Unit**

○ Active plumbing investigations	90
○ Orders issued to date (CY)	62
○ Investigations closed	96

B. Department update – Mike Westemeier

C. CCLD Division update – Todd Green (**see Attachment A**)

Justin Parizek joined the meeting at 10 a.m. via phone resulting in 10 voting members present in person or remotely.

A motion was made by Wahlen, seconded by Abrahamson, to take a 10-minute recess from 10:10 to 10:20 a.m. The roll call vote was unanimous with 10 votes in favor of the motion; the motion passed.

- D. RFI PB0183, Section 706 – Jim Peterson, Minnesota PHCC – see **Attachment B (RFI) and C (Plumbing fittings and direction of flow)**

This question was withdrawn by Peterson and will be submitted as an RFA to the 2024 UPC ad hoc Rulemaking Committee: *Is the use of Plastic ¼ bend, and Tapped Short ¼ bend fittings (for no hub) at the end of a trap arm for connection to the trap adapter allowed?*

A motion was made by Abrahamson, seconded by Westemeier, to provide the following interpretation to RFI PB0183 as shown below. The roll call vote was unanimous with 10 votes in favor of the motion; the motion passed.

Question: For both horizontal to horizontal, and vertical to horizontal runs when long pattern plastic or long sweep for cast iron systems are not made, are short sweep 1/4 bends for cast iron systems, and plastic 1/4 bends considered to be fittings of equivalent sweep?

Answer: In drainage systems with piping over 6 inches, a quarter bend LS, SS, or any fitting listed by the manufacturer as a long pattern or long sweep fitting can be used in the horizontal to horizontal or vertical to horizontal installations. Equivalent sweep includes any combination of 45-degree 1/8 bends or 22-degree 1/16th bends.

Analysis: Any combination of fittings would include street fittings. In most cases, the call is to require the use of two, 45-degree elbows for a 90-degree change of direction, thinking that the chapter requires a combination Wye and 1/8 bend (or two 45-degree changes) some will also allow the use of “Long sweep or long pattern ¼ bends,” but when the manufacturer does not list a product as a long pattern or long sweep fittings over 6 inches, one must revert to the two, 45 interpretation.

6. Committee Reports

- A. 2024 UPC ad hoc Rulemaking Committee update – Secretary Abrahamson
- Abrahamson reported that the Committee continues to meet monthly and has just finished Chapter 11. At future meetings, the Committee will proceed with outstanding RFAs and tabled items.
- B. Construction Codes Advisory Council (CCAC) – Abrahamson (rep) / Lemke (alt)
- Abrahamson gave a brief recap from the last CCAC meeting held on July 30, 2024 – see [presentation](#).

7. Complaints and Correspondence

None

8. Open Forum

None

9. Board Discussion

None

10. Announcements

Next regular quarterly meeting – 9:30 a.m., 3rd Tuesday of each quarter – DLI / WebEx

- Jan. 21, 2025
- April 15, 2025
- July 15, 2025 (annual meeting – election of officers)
- Oct. 21, 2024

11. Adjournment

A motion was made by Abrahamson, seconded by Lemke, to adjourn the meeting at 11:19 a.m. The roll call vote was unanimous with 10 votes in favor of the motion; the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karl Abrahamson

Karl Abrahamson
Secretary

Green meeting practices

The State of Minnesota is committed to minimizing in-person environmental impacts by following green meeting practices. DLI is minimizing the environmental impact of its events by following green meeting practices. DLI encourages you to use electronic copies of handouts or to print them on 100% post-consumer processed chlorine-free paper, double-sided.