



State of Idaho
Division of Occupational and Professional Licenses
Idaho Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Board

BRAD LITTLE Governor
RUSSELL BARRON Administrator

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Draft Minutes of 02/21/2024

Board Members Ted Sermon, Chair **Division** John Nielsen, Executive Officer
Present: Bill Carter, Vice-Chair **Staff:** Lea Kear, Legal Counsel
Mike LaPray Erin Einarsson, Board Support Specialist
Garret Christoffersen

Board Members

Absent: Judy Van Cleave

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 AM MT by Chair Ted Sermon.

APPROVAL OF 11/09/2023 MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the November 9, 2023, meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD BUSINESS

Adoption of 2024 Uniform Mechanical Code (UMC): Executive Officer (EO) John Nielsen suggested that the board come to a consensus about adopting the 2024 UMC after receiving feedback from industry. EO Nielsen addressed that any code adopted would be a statute change that would be brought before the legislature. Once adopted the board would then formulate amendments to the code. Based on the feedback received at the meeting, the Board elected not to move forward with the 2024 UMC and will begin amendments to the current codes.

Gas Piping Underground: EO Nielsen proposed addressing gas piping underground (penetrating a building) as a potential negotiated rule making topic. EO Nielsen noted that it is currently allowed under the Uniform Plumbing Code (UMC). Clarke See of Intermountain Gas Company noted when inspecting buildings where the foundation has been penetrated below grade, the migration of natural gas has often been detected and that any migration of natural gas is unsafe. Consensus from the industry in attendance was to not allow it.

Gas Pressure Test: EO Nielsen addressed that there has been a suggestion of changing the rule so that tests are set at 60psi across the board. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and HVAC (HVC) Boards Merger: There was discussion of possibly combining the HVC and LPG boards into one board. EO Nielsen, Chairman Ted Sermon and the LPG Board Chairman Tom Daniels have met to discuss the potential merger and there will be additional discussions on how to effectively merge the two boards. A statute change would be required, and the earliest it would be able to go before the legislature is at the 2025 Legislative Session. This topic will be addressed at future meetings.

DIVISION BUSINESS

Cash Balance Report: EO Nielsen addressed the Cash Balance Report; specifically, the Division's 5-Year Financial Projection. The Board's restricted fund currently has a cash balance close to 80% of annual operating costs and is trending upwards. The Cash Balance Report is currently being reviewed by the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee (JFAC). DOPL has recommended that any fines collected from civil penalties be used to fund education programs and not be used to fund operations.

Financial Report: The Idaho HVAC Board's Financial Report, REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES as of January 24, 2024, was provided.

Notice of Violation (NOV) Report: The Idaho HVAC NOV Report from January 18, 2023, to February 12, 2024, was provided.

Legislative Update: EO Nielsen provided a summary of legislative status. [House Bill 509](#) (H0509) was referred to the Commerce and Human Resources Committee. [House Bill 505](#) (H0505) was referred to the Business Committee and is on the House Floor. [House Bill 478](#) (H0478) has been passed by the House and will move on to the Senate. [House Bill 563](#) (H0563) was referred to the State Affairs committee. It is out of committee with a pass recommendation.

Public Comment: Kenny Calkins, President, Cloverdale Plumbing Company requested the clarification that Gas Piping Underground (penetrating a building) is not allowed. EO Nielsen confirmed that per the International Field Gas Code (IFGC) it is not allowed. Mr. Calkins requested clarification as to whether the Gas Pressure Test was voted on and EO Nielsen replied that it was an information item only and was not voted on.

Chairman Sermon thanked EO Nielsen for his time and dedication to the HVAC industry and to the HVAC Board. EO Nielsen thanked Mike Paschall, DOPL Building Safety Program Supervisor and the HVAC inspectors for their commitment and perseverance.

Chairman Sermon thanked Board Member Randy Hart for his service to the HVAC Board. Board Member Hart has retired from the board. The HVAC Board is seeking to fill two board positions.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:54 AM.