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## Advisory Board of Plumbers

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### PUBLIC HEARING

July 18, 2023

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES

STATE OF WASHINGTON

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Advisory Board of Plumbers

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VERBATIM REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS BEFORE

MR. TODD ALLRED, CHAIRPERSON

July 18, 2023

9:30 a.m., Tuesday

Pages 1 to 52

Located at  
Department of Labor & Industries  
7273 Linderson Way SW  
Conference Room S118  
Tumwater, Washington

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Reported by:

Pamela J. Nelson, RPR, CCR License No. 2948  
of  
Capitol Pacific Reporting, Inc.  
PH: 800.407.0148  
www.capitolpacificreporting.com  
admin@capitolpacificreporting.com



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P R O C E E D I N G S

--ooOoo--

MR. TODD ALLRED: All right. Everybody, welcome to the plumbing advisory board meeting. We'll get started. It starts at 9:30. We'll get started right on time. And good to see everybody. Last quarter -- it's been a quarter since we saw everybody. And we have guests in the room and in attendance as well. And --

THE COURT REPORTER: Pam.

MR. TODD ALLRED: "Pam." Thank you, Pam.

Pam is our court reporter. We're starting to -- all the meetings will be recorded moving forward from this point. So, careful what you say.

All right. Find the agenda here.

Okay. Let's go around the room and everybody introduce themselves, I think. We'll start with you, Ben.

Is that on? Test. Test.

MR. BLOHOWIAK: Ben Blohowiak, Washington State attorney general's office. I'm counsel for the Board.

MR. TODD ALLRED: Todd Allred. I'm a plumbing business owner and I'm Chair.

MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Melissa McBride, chief of compliance for contractor registration, plumber certification, and Board secretary.



1 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: Antonio Cruz, journeyman  
2 plumber.

3 MR. JED SCHEUERMANN: Good morning.  
4 Jed Scheuermann with the IAPMO group.

5 MR. RYAN MCMAHAN: Ryan McMahan, plumbing  
6 contractor.

7 MR. BRAD MOORE: Brad Moore, journeyman plumber.

8 MR. DAVE WEISBECK: Dave Weisbeck, city of  
9 Medical Lake, public member.

10 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: Scott Fowler, specialty  
11 plumber.

12 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yeah, we want to pass it  
13 around. Start over here.

14 MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: My name is Martin. I own a  
15 plumbing company out of Bellingham.

16 (UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER): Plumber. Grandpa.

17 MICHAEL: Michael, journeyman plumber.

18 MR. TOM BOZEMAN: Tom Bozeman, journeyman  
19 plumber.

20 MR. CHRIS PALMER: Chris Palmer, plumbing  
21 contractor.

22 MS. SARAH KECK: Sarah Keck, business manager of  
23 a plumbing company.

24 MR. DAVE CIPRUT: Dave Ciprut, director of  
25 Compliance & Outreach for the Washington State Association



1 of High Trades.

2 MR. COREY WILKER: Corey Wilker, Local 32  
3 plumbing agent.

4 MR. JASON SWITZER: Jason Switzer, WSA Local 26.

5 MR. RAY SHIPMAN: Ray Shipman, building official  
6 for City of Dupont.

7 MR. DALE PARTIN: Dale Partin, tech specialist  
8 for the plumbing program.

9 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Bruce Springer, technical  
10 specialist, plumbing program manager.

11 MR. BRIAN HORBACK: Brian Horback, deputy  
12 assistant director of Field Services for Public Safety for  
13 L&I.

14 MS. BETHANY RIVERA: Bethany Rivera, customer  
15 service specialist for plumber certification.

16 MS. ALISHA WELLS: And I'm Alisha Wells with  
17 plumber certification, program specialist.

18 I also want to note that we have Angela Zurlini - sorry  
19 if I don't have that right - with the ATG; Atlas Home  
20 Services, I believe is just the sound; Alicia Curry with  
21 L&I; Colter Pattullo with L&I; and Steve Rushing with L&I,  
22 and I believe Jesse Jamison is on here as well.

23 MR. TODD ALLRED: Thank you. Thank you, Alisha.

24 One of the things that I want to announce to everybody  
25 is when we speak, we want to be speaking into the



1 microphone. Pam has requested that if we read anything,  
2 that we read it -- kind of tone it back just a notch so that  
3 we read it slow enough so she can record all of the words  
4 correctly. So keep that in mind.

5 The first thing on the agenda is the approval of  
6 minutes.

7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: So moved.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Seconded.

9 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Seconded.

10 MR. TODD ALLRED: Any questions? Discussion?  
11 Corrections?

12 (No audible response.)

13 All right. Very good. We'll call for a vote to  
14 approve the minutes.

15 All in favor?

16 (Chorus of ayes.)

17 Opposed? Abstentions?

18 Motion carries. Thank you.

19 Next is our legislative update.

20 Melissa, this is you.

21 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes. Okay.

22 So before legislation, we saw some pretty big changes  
23 for plumbers. This last legislative session was contractor  
24 registration with significant changes, which I wanted to  
25 share with you. Some of those changes that are occurring



1 happen July 23rd of this month for this year. And those  
2 are, for successorship for contractor registration, you can  
3 now deny a registration for contractor if the applicant is  
4 called the successor to a previous business where -- what  
5 that means is if I have a judgment and I no longer am  
6 eligible to register as a contractor, I will go to my  
7 brother, my sister, my mom, and have them register for me.  
8 So, before, that has happened in order to obey judgments,  
9 and we don't have any way to is stop that. So this  
10 legislative change now let's us deny registration for  
11 successorship.

12 It also requires an applicant to be 18 years of age at  
13 the time of application. Right now there is no age limit to  
14 be a construction contractor, or age requirement.

15 And then the last taking effect this month is we can  
16 now accept an ITIN, which is an individual tax  
17 identification number, in lieu of a Social Security number.  
18 So this legislation is taking effect in three parts. So  
19 this is the first part.

20 The second part takes effect July 2024, and it's a bond  
21 increase amount. And the bonds for general contractor are  
22 going from \$12,000 to \$30,000, and for a specialty  
23 contractor, from \$6,000 to \$15,000.

24 Also taking effect July of next year is penalty amount  
25 increase, and it will be a maximum \$10,000 penalty for





1 working unregistered. And that doesn't mean, all of a  
2 sudden, anybody who is working out of compliance is getting  
3 a \$10,000 penalty. That's the maximum. It's going to be  
4 used -- we're going create an escalation strategy, very  
5 strategic about how we would implement that, and it's going  
6 to be used on the repetitive violator's egregious act. It's  
7 not going to be, you know, for those first and second  
8 offenses.

9 The last change is taking effect July of 2026. It's a  
10 homeowner recovery fund. So that will be if the bond pays  
11 out, somebody else puts a claim in, gets a bond, there's no  
12 bond left for them, they can then come to the Department to  
13 seek reimbursement from the Homeowner Recovery Fund.

14 And this is actually going to be the first time in  
15 Washington State history where a state agency is reimbursing  
16 consumers. That fund is going to be funded strictly from  
17 penalty amounts. So it's going to be the underground  
18 economy activity that is funding the account. And there's  
19 some caps on it. We can't pay over \$25,000. We can't pay  
20 out more than 80 percent of the account from the previous  
21 balance. So there's a lot to figure out without some major  
22 changes, one of the most significant legislation changes  
23 I've ever seen in contractor registration.

24 So I just wanted to give you an update on that. I know  
25 there's -- it doesn't affect the plumbing contractors, but I



1 know there's several that also have the construction  
2 contractor business as well.

3 MR. TODD ALLRED: So, point of clarification.

4 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes.

5 MR. TODD ALLRED: On the fine escalation that you  
6 were talking about, that is for construction contractors?

7 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes.

8 MR. TODD ALLRED: So anybody that has a GC?

9 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Any violations to 18.27;  
10 so, yes.

11 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay.

12 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: So plumbing infractions,  
13 electrical, those are not included in this penalty increase.  
14 Strictly violations to the contractor registration laws.

15 MR. TODD ALLRED: Any questions on that for  
16 Melissa?

17 (No audible response.)

18 No? Okay. All right.

19 Did you have anything else you want to add?

20 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: No, not with that.

21 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay.

22 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: I think I'll be next again.

23 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yeah, you will be.

24 All right. We're going to move on in the agenda. It  
25 looks like we're maybe a little ahead of schedule.



1 Plumbing program activity.

2 That's you, Melissa.

3 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: That's me. Thank you.

4 Okay. So I believe at the last meeting I spoke about  
5 how we had new -- we got a new staff on board, Bethany, who  
6 introduced herself. It's been so great having Bethany along  
7 with Alisha and Whitney. They have been working so hard.  
8 There's no backlog. They are current on plumbing contractor  
9 applications, affidavits, voice mails, emails, everything.  
10 They are caught up, and they are staying caught up on that,  
11 so...

12 MR. TODD ALLRED: Really?

13 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: You should not be seeing  
14 that big backlog that you've been experiencing over the last  
15 couple of years.

16 With that, the last quarter - let me make sure I have  
17 my right notes here - they processed 137 new plumbing  
18 contractor applications; they renewed -- since we're just  
19 coming up on the first renewal cycles, 101 plumbing  
20 contractors were renewed; 289 exams were taken. 142 of  
21 those passed, with 147 failed. We don't have it drilled  
22 down as far as reasoning. We just have that high-level  
23 number right now. And we have 140 -- I'm sorry, 421 new  
24 trainees since the last quarter.

25 And on the affidavits since last quarter, let's see, we



1 had a total of 1,085 affidavits submitted. And of that, 91  
2 of those were completely denied for either being too old to  
3 accept affidavit or their certificate had lapsed during that  
4 time frame. Other than that, there was 102 of those  
5 applications -- or affidavits were not accepted on original  
6 submittal, either the affidavit wasn't notarized or the  
7 dates weren't filled out, it was altered, there was some  
8 reason that they couldn't be accepted on first submittal.  
9 But of those 102, we're just waiting for them to be  
10 resubmitted. And as long as that reason for denial is  
11 corrected, they will be submitted and those hours will be  
12 granted.

13 And so, overall, there was an 8 percent denial rate of  
14 all the affidavits submitted that could not be accepted.

15 MR. TODD ALLRED: That was last quarter?

16 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes. Even broke it down  
17 into hours. Total hours approved: 957,054 hours were  
18 approved.

19 So that's kind of what's going on in the program right  
20 now. Hopefully -- hopefully, you've been -- paperwork has  
21 been getting processed quickly. Whether or not it's  
22 accepted is one thing. But those letters are going out to  
23 the trainees. And I know I do get quite a bit of emails  
24 from the plumbing contractor company wondering what's  
25 happened. Happy to answer those emails and questions, but



1 the notification does go directly to the trainee's address  
2 of record.

3 MR. TODD ALLRED: Is that in rule?

4 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: That it goes to the  
5 trainee's address?

6 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yeah.

7 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: No. It's just because of  
8 their certification, so the communication goes with them.  
9 And it's also -- with the way the system is set up, it's  
10 their record, their certification, so it's all addressed to  
11 their address.

12 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay.

13 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: That's all. That's all  
14 we've been doing the last quarter.

15 MR. TODD ALLRED: Are you done with that?

16 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes.

17 MR. TODD ALLRED: That's good stuff. Thank you,  
18 Melissa.

19 So we're all caught up, and the industry can have an  
20 expectation that when they contact Labor & Industries in the  
21 plumbing department, that they can get somebody, get some  
22 attention and get things resolved.

23 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: May I?

24 Yes, you can have that expectation; however, I do want  
25 to clarify there are three, and, you know, they go to lunch,



1 they get sick. And so they take phone calls. It's not  
2 uncommon that three are on the phone or maybe two are on the  
3 phone and one is in the bathroom. So you might not get  
4 through in the first ring, but you will get that call back  
5 in the event that they are not all three readily available.  
6 But they are there answering calls, taking care of you.

7 MR. TODD ALLRED: Very good. Very good. That's  
8 excellent.

9 We may get some -- we may get a message out to the  
10 industry and let them know that Labor & Industries has  
11 reported that they're caught up. Different aspects of the  
12 industry can let membership -- their people know that that's  
13 the case, and we'll see if you get flooded again.

14 All right. Very good. Is that all you have for us?

15 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes.

16 MR. TODD ALLRED: Are there any questions, any  
17 additional input from anybody on the Board?

18 MR. BRAD MOORE: Good job.

19 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. Thank you. Thank you,  
20 Melissa.

21 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes.

22 MR. TODD ALLRED: And you're up for numbers of  
23 plumbers.

24 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Okay. I think this is what  
25 you were working on, Todd?



1 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yes.

2 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: You wanted these numbers  
3 for the groups you're having?

4 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yes.

5 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: And wanted to look at the  
6 difference between 2020 for different licensed categories  
7 compared to 2023.

8 So the PL01, the journey-level, in 2020 there was  
9 4,291. As of the last week, there's 4,388. So in the last  
10 two years, there's been a 2 percent increase in  
11 journey-level plumbers.

12 For the residential specialty, that went from 1,053 in  
13 2020 to 1,201 in 2023, with a 14 percent increase.

14 For pump and irrigation, that actually went down  
15 2 percent. There was 293 pump and irrigation, and now  
16 there's 231.

17 And the last being the residential service. Obviously  
18 that wasn't really a category; so it went from zero in 2020  
19 and we now have 24.

20 MR. TODD ALLRED: And when did you pull these  
21 numbers in 2023?

22 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Last week. It was as of  
23 last week.

24 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay.

25 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: It was, like, Wednesday or



1 Thursday of last week.

2 MR. TODD ALLRED: July?

3 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes, yes.

4 MR. TODD ALLRED: Very good.

5 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Okay.

6 MR. TODD ALLRED: Scott, I have a question for  
7 you.

8 Do you have any -- you're in the pump industry. Do you  
9 have any idea why you guys have gone down?

10 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: Well, our whole industry  
11 people-wise has gone -- I hope everybody can hear me. Our  
12 whole industry pump-wise and drilling-wise has gone down.

13 So there used to be 10,000 licensed well drillers in  
14 the state of Washington. Now there's 735. So it's just --  
15 we can't find young guys who like to get muddy and dirty and  
16 rusty, and so... And then, yeah, we're just making by with  
17 what we've got, so... There's a whole bunch of trainees, I  
18 know, coming up, but, yeah, just the way it works.

19 MR. TODD ALLRED: Thank you, Scott.

20 Any questions for Melissa on the plumbing numbers,  
21 certified numbers for Melissa?

22 (No audible response.)

23 All right.

24 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Actually, I forgot to give  
25 one.





1 MR. TODD ALLRED: Oh, yeah. Let's get that one  
2 in there.

3 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Sorry.

4 For the trainees, which I left out, there was 421 new  
5 trainees. And I don't have -- that was as of the quarter.  
6 420 new ones as of last quarter.

7 Sorry, I forgot to mention that one.

8 MR. TODD ALLRED: But we don't know how many we  
9 had --

10 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: No. I'll have her pull  
11 that --

12 MR. TODD ALLRED: -- in total?

13 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: -- but I did not get that  
14 number.

15 Do you want that in general, or for your work sessions,  
16 or both?

17 MR. TODD ALLRED: It would be good to have both,  
18 yeah.

19 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Okay.

20 MR. TODD ALLRED: Thank you, Melissa.

21 Okay. We're going to move on to the subgroup report.

22 If you guys recall at the last -- at the last  
23 quarterlies meeting, we were mandated per RCW 18.106 to  
24 convene a subgroup to evaluate the ratio changes that we had  
25 on sunset. And so we convened that subgroup. We had our



1 meetings, and I handed out the -- this paper that went  
2 around, and on the back page is the results.

3 And so I'm looking for a motion from the Board here  
4 today. The process is this: That if we approve this  
5 language from the Board here, we're going to give this to  
6 Mr. Blohowiak here to take to -- per the RCW, to take to  
7 Chairs of the labor committees and Senate and House, making  
8 the recommendation that we keep ratios as is, on a 3-to-1 on  
9 PLO3 -- or PLO2, PLO2 and -- 2, 3, and 4, I think is what it  
10 is.

11 So we want to keep the ratios the same for another  
12 cycle and then we'll evaluate. There's some other things  
13 that are in the works to see if we get our industry manned a  
14 little bit better. I don't know if I'm really at liberty to  
15 say what those things are at this point because they are  
16 still in the works, but may -- may get a bunch of our  
17 trainees certified.

18 So what we want to do is get -- and once we have that  
19 -- once Mr. Blohowiak delivers that to them by December --  
20 he has until December 1st to get it to them, then the  
21 industry can then go and talk to legislators and try to get  
22 a bill passed -- get this bill passed in senate session to  
23 make sure we keep our ratios the same.

24 I think it's clear from the stakeholders' leadership  
25 group amongst the industry. If anybody disagrees, I'll



1 listen to anything anybody has to say about it, but I think  
2 we still have a seriously undermanned industry. And so  
3 that's our goal, is to keep the ratios like this to ensure  
4 that we can safely man our industry, take care of the public  
5 health.

6 So here is the -- the process was that the group of  
7 eight people met. So it was four people from the PHCC -  
8 plumbing, heating, and cooling contractors of Washington -  
9 we had three -- three folks from the Washington State  
10 Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters, and we had one  
11 representative from the Mechanical Contractors Association  
12 of Western Washington. And we sat down. We had a  
13 discussion. The meeting went a little longer than I  
14 anticipated because I thought it was going to be much  
15 quicker. But, anyway, here is the language that we're  
16 proposing:

17 Due to the impact of the global pandemic, after the  
18 changes from Senate Bill 6170 were adopted, the Plumbing  
19 Advisory Board subgroup, pursuant to RCW 18.106.070, has  
20 concluded unanimously that the ratio change for residential  
21 plumbing of 3-to-1 needs to remain in existence for another  
22 (1) year.

23 This is the resolution coming out of the subgroup. And  
24 the reason that it's only one year is because the RCW states  
25 that we have to do this again in 2025, after the 2025



1 session, and then it moves into a three-year cycle for the  
2 sunset.

3 (Consulting with Mr. Blohowiak.)

4 Excuse me. After the 2024 session. Correction. Thank  
5 you.

6 See, you bring value. Awesome. Love it.

7 Anyway, I would entertain a motion to accept this  
8 language or any questions. Well, we can have questions  
9 after a motion.

10 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: So moved.

11 MR. TODD ALLRED: Thank you, Antonio.

12 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: Second.

13 MR. TODD ALLRED: Second. Thank you, Scott.

14 All right. Any discussion?

15 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: So it says here for just the  
16 02s. Did you want to include the other ones too, the 03s  
17 and the 04s, or is it just about residential plumbing? On  
18 your -- not in the RCW but in your little explanation.

19 MR. TODD ALLRED: I'm looking for where you're  
20 talking about that it says 02.

21 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: Residential.

22 MR. TODD ALLRED: Oh, residential plumbing?

23 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: Yeah. In the RCW, do we want  
24 to label each one, each category, or just leave it  
25 representing the plumbing contractors?



1 MR. TODD ALLRED: Would the current --  
2 Mr. Blohowiak, can you talk to us about is this specific; is  
3 the law specific to only PLO2 residential plumbing?

4 MR. BLOHOWIAK: I'm looking at it right now.

5 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: What you've got written down  
6 there, it just represents plumbers and pipefitters, so  
7 heating and cooling.

8 MR. TODD ALLRED: Scott, what is your question?

9 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: Well, does that include all of  
10 the categories you want it to include? Because in your  
11 little --

12 MR. TODD ALLRED: From my perspective, yes.

13 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: Because your little preamble  
14 above it just said residential. It didn't say anything  
15 about the other --

16 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yeah, we didn't have any ratio  
17 changes on commercial plumbing. We only had ratio changes  
18 on PLO2. We changed PLO2 supervision. I don't think it  
19 affected PLO -- (cross-talk).

20 Bruce, do you know? Can I ask you, Bruce?

21 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: I'm trying to remember how  
22 it reads. I think -- I walked off and forgot my statutes.

23 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: It's right here.

24 MR. TODD ALLRED: Should we hand him the  
25 microphone?



1 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes. Thank you. It's  
2 right here.

3 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: I'm trying to remember the  
4 statutes on it. I think it allowed --

5 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: It's right here. Do you  
6 want it?

7 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Yeah.

8 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: -070, right?

9 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: I'll read it again.

10 I just left my glasses...

11 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: I can read it if you want.

12 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Let me look at it again.

13 Because as far as I always remember reading it, it was  
14 supposed to be 01s that count and the 04s don't count  
15 because they get their own ratio. But I think everybody  
16 else counted -- is this thing on?

17 THE COURT REPORTER: I don't think it's on.

18 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Just push the button.

19 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: So from what I remember of  
20 the statute, it was 01s didn't count, 02s and then 03s, 03As  
21 would fall under that rule, if I remember right. 01s that  
22 are -- that are 04s, which is the residential service,  
23 that's -- that's limited to one person. So you can't -- you  
24 can only have one trainee on that. But I think the -- I  
25 think the 03, 03As was written that way.



1           Let me read it again. I'll come back and maybe I'll  
2 change my mind, but... O3, O3As, and residential  
3 were particularly ones that were given that, that pass.

4           MR. TODD ALLRED: So I think, Scott, that it  
5 applies to residential plumbing.

6           MR. BRAD MOORE: The O2 and O3.

7           MR. TODD ALLRED: O2 and O3.

8           MR. SCOTT FOWLER: And O3A.

9           MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: And it's until 2025, the  
10 ratio change?

11           MR. TODD ALLRED: Yes, it would go until 2025,  
12 because after the 2024 session, then we do this again to  
13 make the recommendation for the next year. So I think the  
14 sunset will set in the sunset in '25, right?

15           MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes. So this  
16 recommendation that you just voted on is until 2026. And  
17 when you're saying extend it for another year, until 2026 is  
18 what you're recommending?

19           MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Yeah.

20           MR. TODD ALLRED: After December 31st, 2025. So  
21 it would be January 1, 2026, for another year.

22           MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Thank you for clarifying.

23           MR. TODD ALLRED: So it would -- it would expire  
24 on December 31st, 2026 if we didn't -- if the industry  
25 didn't -- if the industry didn't renew it and keep the



1 ratios, then it would go back to 2-to-1 on January 1, 2026.

2 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: So here's -- it reads in  
3 here that not more than three trainees working on one -- any  
4 one residential structure jobsite for every certified  
5 specialty plumber or journey-level plumber working on a  
6 -- as a specialty plumber.

7 So that tells me that if your -- your specialty plumber  
8 is an O3A and an O3, the only difference is going to be is  
9 that we're not going to let you have an O3 on a  
10 commercial -- on a public water system. It also belongs to  
11 journeymen. So it's a crossover. It's going to require  
12 1-to-1, but anyplace else you would be able to have three --  
13 three specialties -- or three trainees is what I meant.

14 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: So I just want to make sure  
15 that the RCW that we're doing here represents that.

16 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yes.

17 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: Because it doesn't set it out.  
18 It just says -- yeah, it's a little vague, and I don't like  
19 vague.

20 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yeah. So, Scott, I can tell  
21 you that there's stakeholders' meetings. Leadership has  
22 been meeting. They've had four meetings so far. The  
23 language has been drafted. Once this is taken to the  
24 legislature, to the Chairs of the committees, then they are  
25 aware that we have to do something about a sunset.





1           The language has been drafted but not approved by the  
2 committee yet completely. We still have another meeting to  
3 go, where we're meeting with Labor & Industries to finalize  
4 our language and make sure that what we intend is how they  
5 interpret it, et cetera, and get their feedback as well as  
6 other things.

7           So the final language in the actual bill could shift a  
8 little bit, but this is the resolution coming out of -- this  
9 is not legal language. This is the resolution coming out of  
10 the subgroup.

11           Does that answer your question?

12                   MR. SCOTT FOWLER: Yeah.

13                   MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay.

14           Any other questions? Comments? Input?

15                   (No audible response.)

16           All right. Well, are we ready to move to a vote?

17           All in favor of accepting the decision coming out of  
18 the subgroup to keep ratio changes the same for another  
19 year? All in favor?

20                   (Chorus of ayes.)

21           Opposed?

22                   (No audible response.)

23           Motion carries. Thank you.

24           Fantastic. Awesome. That's a good thing for our  
25 industry.



1           Okay. Mr. Scheuermann for our IAPMO update.

2                   MR. JED SCHEUERMANN: Thank you, sir.

3           Jed Scheuermann with the IAPMO.

4           Some good things are happening. A lot of -- some of  
5 this will be review from the last time I spoke with you.  
6 Our conference reminder, that it is the 24th through the  
7 28th of September in San Antonio.

8           And for those of you who don't know, our conference  
9 this year is actually co-located. There's actually going to  
10 be three organizations working together on this conference.  
11 It will be IAPMO; it will be ARCSA, the American Rainwater  
12 Catchment Systems Association; and ASSE, the American  
13 Society of Sanitary Engineering.

14           So folks going to this conference actually get a lot of  
15 opportunities for some very broad education. We've  
16 obviously got the code-type stuff from IAPMO; we've got  
17 backflow prevention and sanitary engineering stuff from  
18 ASSE; and then ARCSA, rainwater catchment, that's becoming  
19 an increasingly big thing as we look at water stress in  
20 different parts of the country, particularly in the west and  
21 in the south. So rainwater catchment is rising to the fore  
22 as something that's becoming much more common and popular.

23           Our keynote speaker this year is going to be George  
24 McGraw from Dig Deep. Dig Deep is a charitable organization  
25 that believes that access to potable water is a basic human



1 right that all people should have, and their specific  
2 emphasis is to deal with 4 million Americans that do not  
3 have access to potable water today.

4 On the chapter side, last week we went up in Sequim.  
5 Thanks to Antonio and Brad and Ed Holmes and several others  
6 who, over the years, have been working hard together with a  
7 lot of folks up there and myself. And so last week we had  
8 19 people at the chapter meeting up there, and there's some  
9 real good buzz and energy for the newest chapter of IAPMO.

10 Jason Switzer, back there, is going to get the  
11 Rainier-Olympic chapter reinvigorated again. And I look  
12 forward to helping you with that.

13 A couple weeks ago I met at Perry Tech with the  
14 plumbing program there, and met the apprentices there and  
15 the instructors there, and we have high hopes to get  
16 something going in the Wenatchee/Yakima/Chelan-type area for  
17 an IAPMO chapter over there as well.

18 And on the foundation side, our IWish Foundation from  
19 IAPMO has wrapped up a couple of projects lately. We did a  
20 project at Bacone College in Oklahoma, which is the  
21 Creek Nation, where we built a laundry at one of their  
22 universities.

23 A couple of weeks ago we got back from Alabama. We did  
24 seven more homes where we improved the sanitation systems  
25 and installed high-efficiency plumbing fixtures to reduce



1 the amount of sewage created by those homes.

2 And in two weeks, we're headed back down to the  
3 Navaho Reservation to pilot some projects there on the  
4 sanitation side with Indian Health Services and Navaho EPA.

5 And that is my report.

6 MR. TODD ALLRED: Thank you, Jed. That's good  
7 work with IAPMO doing all those things with the  
8 IWish Foundation there.

9 And I just have one question for you. Why are you  
10 choosing to go to the Navaho Nation in the middle of August?

11 It's kind of a joke.

12 MR. JED SCHEUERMANN: No worries.

13 Is this on?

14 MR. TODD ALLRED: You might have to push the  
15 button.

16 MR. JED SCHEUERMANN: Hello? Okay.

17 You know, need -- human need for potable water does not  
18 change with temperature. In fact, I would argue it actually  
19 increases. So as difficult as it is to work in triple-digit  
20 numbers in the Navaho Nation in August, the people are  
21 working it there, and we need to do what we can to bring  
22 potable water to them.

23 MR. TODD ALLRED: Good answer. Good answer.

24 You can probably just keep that over there to pass it  
25 around.



1           Okay. The next thing on the agenda is talking about  
2 future meeting locations.

3           Last -- at the last quarterly meeting, we decided to  
4 meet in -- was it Tri-Cities?

5           MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: It was up for discussion in  
6 this. I don't think there was a decision.

7           MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. We didn't make a  
8 decision?

9           MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Right.

10          MR. TODD ALLRED: Anyway, the thinking was that  
11 if we moved around the state a little bit, we might get more  
12 involvement from the industry. Although I think some people  
13 traveled to get here, it might be easier for them in  
14 different places. We might get some local involvement as  
15 well if we moved around to different L&I offices around the  
16 state.

17          So any input on that?

18          MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: I do.

19          MR. TODD ALLRED: Yes.

20          MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: So it wouldn't necessarily  
21 be L&I offices. We have an office in Spokane, but that is  
22 not big enough depending on how many people come. So I  
23 believe we would model -- if it was chosen that we would  
24 move locations, we would model similar to what the  
25 electrical board does. Like, they hold their board meetings



1 at the hotel in Spokane. So it might not be at a Labor &  
2 Industries office. I think there was talk of maybe  
3 Perry Tech maybe. They were going to look into that as  
4 well. So we would find facilities, but it won't necessarily  
5 be an L&I office, just for clarification.

6 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay.

7 Okay. Does anybody have any input on that? Anybody  
8 want to do that?

9 MR. BRAD MOORE: I think it's a good idea,  
10 absolutely.

11 MR. JED SCHEUERMANN: I'm certainly not opposed  
12 to it. I think if you get engagement in different parts of  
13 the state geographically and create an opportunity for them  
14 to join the meetings, I think that's a good thing.

15 MR. TODD ALLRED: Do you have anything to say,  
16 Antonio?

17 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: I'm just curious what the cost  
18 implications are and who pays for that.

19 MR. TODD ALLRED: The cost?

20 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: Yeah. That's my only concern.

21 MR. TODD ALLRED: Did anybody inform you that  
22 there is -- there are reimbursement funds available for  
23 being -- when you're assigned -- when you get appointed to  
24 the Board?

25 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: No, I mean for the meeting



1 spaces, not for us personally.

2 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. Gotcha.

3 If we have to pay for a space, does that come out of  
4 the fund?

5 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes.

6 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. So, yeah, there would be  
7 a cost, I'm sure.

8 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: Okay.

9 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yes, Alisha.

10 MS. ALISHA WELLS: I just have one thing to add.

11 So for the meeting dates and times that we have to  
12 publish, I would need a location notice. So we would have  
13 to decide, each meeting, where the next one was going to go  
14 so I can get it up and ready for the public and for our days  
15 and locations, just to keep that in mind.

16 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. All right.

17 MR. JASON SWITZER: I know Perry Tech is not here  
18 today, but I know that the last time they had stated that  
19 not only do they have the room, but they would -- it would  
20 be at no cost to use Perry Tech, I believe. Like I said,  
21 they're not here today, but I think that's a good spot.

22 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. With that being said, do  
23 you guys want to have the meeting at Perry Tech? Do you  
24 want to contact them? Do you want to meet here? Do you  
25 want to meet in Renton -- or, I should say, Tukwila, right?



1 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Tukwila, yes.

2 MR. TODD ALLRED: That office is still open?

3 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes, yes. All of our  
4 offices are open, just some don't have large facilities.  
5 But they are all open.

6 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. Well, we know there's  
7 one in Tukwila.

8 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: We do four of these a year,  
9 right?

10 MR. TODD ALLRED: Four, yeah.

11 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: Okay. So could we split the  
12 state into quadrants and just do --

13 MR. TODD ALLRED: That's a great idea.

14 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: I think our Vancouver  
15 office does have a very large facility too. I don't know if  
16 that's kind of the area you're thinking. But we can figure  
17 that out. You guys decide the location, and we can figure  
18 out the...

19 MR. BLOHOWIAK: So the electrical board uses  
20 Vancouver Community College when we have our meetings there.  
21 I'll be there next week, so...

22 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Okay.

23 MR. BLOHOWIAK: Just a heads-up.

24 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yeah. Thank you, Ben.

25 I don't have a dog in the fight as to where we meet, if





1 we -- you know.

2 MR. BRAD MOORE: Well, the last two were on this  
3 side of the state. So should we try Perry Tech for the next  
4 one?

5 MR. TODD ALLRED: I think that's a great idea.  
6 Anybody else have an opinion?

7 (No audible response.)

8 There it is: Perry Tech.

9 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Okay.

10 MR. TODD ALLRED: How does that work? Do you  
11 guys handle contacting them and arranging it?

12 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Yes, yes. And If I do  
13 remember correctly - I'd have to look through the notes here  
14 - I believe they were going to go back and verify. They  
15 were very willing to offer the facilities at no cost, but I  
16 think they were going to go back and do verification of  
17 that. So I can call them up and check on that.

18 (Mr. Allred consulting with  
19 Mr. Blohowiak.)

20 MR. TODD ALLRED: All right. So we've got a  
21 procedural thing. What we'll need to do is probably just  
22 have a vote -- have a motion that we have the meetings  
23 around the state. So let's make a suggestion, and we'll  
24 vote on it, and then it can be the responsibility of the  
25 Department to arrange it.



1                   MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: I was going to add, because  
2 if we're going to try to get motels and all that, we're  
3 going to have to try to get them for these dates and time  
4 frames. So you're going to have to make sure that we can  
5 get that so -- you know, if we go to Perry Tech and they  
6 can't get us in on the next date that we're supposed to be  
7 there, that can be a problem too. So we have to make sure  
8 that all works before we settle on something, I think. And  
9 I think we can just send that out. If we call up Perry Tech  
10 and they say, yeah, they can bring us in, then we can send  
11 that out to the Board and let them know that's where we're  
12 going.

13                   Does that work?

14                   MR. TODD ALLRED: Yeah, that works.

15                   MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: So, yes, you'll figure out  
16 the locations, and we'll figure out the logistics.

17                   MR. TODD ALLRED: Yeah. So I just need to have a  
18 motion. I can't make a motion, because I'm the chair, so...

19                   MR. SCOTT FOWLER: I'll make the motion.

20                   MR. TODD ALLRED: Scott makes the motion.

21                   MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: Second.

22                   MR. TODD ALLRED: Antonio second.

23                   And all in favor?

24                   Is there some discussion?

25                   The motion is -- what is your motion, Scott?



1 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: The motion is that we look at  
2 moving -- I think it's the Spokane area. Is that where  
3 Perry Tech is?

4 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: Yakima.

5 MR. TODD ALLRED: Perry Tech is in Yakima.

6 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: We look at the Yakima area for  
7 our next meeting.

8 MR. TODD ALLRED: That's the motion?

9 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: That's the motion.

10 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: Second.

11 MR. TODD ALLRED: Second?

12 All in favor?

13 (Chorus of ayes.)

14 Opposed?

15 (No audible response.)

16 Motion carries.

17 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Okay.

18 MR. TODD ALLRED: Did we do that right, Ben?

19 MR. BLOHOWIAK: Yep.

20 MR. TODD ALLRED: All right. Thank you.

21 MR. JED SCHEUERMANN: Question. Would it be  
22 helpful to do, like, more than just the next one, for you  
23 folks as staff?

24 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: That would be helpful also  
25 for filing with the Code Revisor's office or -- so we can



1 get the Public Meetings Act -- get all locations published.

2 MS. ALISHA WELLS: Antonio brought up a good  
3 suggestion. Do we, like, do it by quarters? Maybe we pick  
4 locations for each quarter, and then we can, like, either  
5 stick with those locations and then do it for the year or --  
6 and then reconvene at --

7 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: Or if we just bisect the state  
8 and do an east side and west side, and east side and west  
9 side.

10 MS. ALISHA WELLS: Yeah. We just need to know  
11 what the location is for the documentation.

12 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: Because we can guarantee that  
13 50 percent of the state is covered one half of the year, and  
14 the west side is covered the other half of the year, and we  
15 can pick it based on what is most equitable to all of the  
16 players.

17 Do you want to make that motion?

18 MR. TODD ALLRED: Do we want to amend it?

19 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: That would be a friendly  
20 amendment to my motion.

21 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: Second.

22 MR. TODD ALLRED: Second?

23 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: I thought we already voted.  
24 So that would probably be a new motion.

25 THE COURT REPORTER: I'm sorry. What,



1 Mr. Fowler? Say that again.

2 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: So the new motion is we look  
3 at alternating east side/west side --

4 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: Four times a year.

5 MR. SCOTT FOWLER: -- four times a year.

6 MR. BRAD MOORE: Second.

7 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. Brad seconded the  
8 motion.

9 Any questions or discussion?

10 MR. WEISBECK: What does the meeting room need?

11 MR. TODD ALLRED: The question is what does the  
12 meeting room need?

13 MR. WEISBECK: Does it need Zoom? And how many  
14 people?

15 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: For capacity, I don't know  
16 what to expect. I think 50. Just because of what we saw in  
17 some meetings, we would want a capacity of at least 50, I  
18 believe. Need remote options, mics, whether it's Zoom  
19 or -- we can arrange that, but we would need to have a  
20 remote option as well, so some sort of audio-visual system.

21 MR. TODD ALLRED: Do you have a place in mind?

22 MR. WEISBECK: Yeah, I have a room.

23 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. At your city?

24 MR. WEISBECK: Uh-huh, which is 10 miles outside  
25 of Spokane.



1 MR. TODD ALLRED: Perfect.

2 MR. WEISBECK: So the question I think at this  
3 point would be Zoom. I have a room that's capable of Zoom,  
4 but I can probably, at the max, only hold about 45. But it  
5 has a dais and everything else, so -- but I would have to  
6 look to see how many I can put in there.

7 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay.

8 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: It's hard to know, right?  
9 Like, if you have 45, if it's like this, it would fit, so...

10 MR. WEISBECK: It's in the Spokane area. And  
11 people from Spokane do not come over here. I don't know  
12 what would happen --

13 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: We've got some.

14 MR. TODD ALLRED: Welcome. We're glad that we  
15 have some east-siders here.

16 MR. BRAD MORE: My guess would be the first time  
17 we do it over there, we'd have probably some pretty good  
18 participation.

19 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yeah. The IAPMO chapter is  
20 quite active over there, right?

21 MR. JED SCHEUERMANN: It has been historically  
22 very large: 70 people.

23 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yeah. So, hard to say.

24 So the motion is to have two meetings on the east side,  
25 two meetings on the west side alternating?



1 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: Correct.

2 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. Any other questions?

3 Comments?

4 (No audible response.)

5 Call for a vote. All in favor?

6 (Chorus of ayes.)

7 Opposed?

8 (No audible response.)

9 Motion carries.

10 You have your marching orders.

11 MS. MELISSA MCBRIDE: I will march away, sir.

12 MR. TODD ALLRED: Thank you.

13 Okay. We'll move on to old business.

14 Any old business?

15 (No audible response.)

16 Hearing none, we'll move on to new business.

17 Any new business?

18 I have one thing that I would like to ask about under  
19 new business. This is probably going to involve Bruce a  
20 little bit.

21 Bruce, the PLO -- this has to do with PLO4 hours. So  
22 say you get a trainee who has PLO4 hours. Can those hours  
23 be applied to testing PLO2?

24 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: No, because there's service  
25 hours. So you're not going to get the rest of them because



1 they are also an 04 doing -- being supervised by an 02 and  
2 01. That's the difference. That's where they would have to  
3 go to.

4 MR. TODD ALLRED: If the trainee is being  
5 supervised by an 02 or 01, you would just claim on the  
6 affidavit that those are what the hours are for; is that  
7 right?

8 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: You lost me.

9 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. So if you had a trainee  
10 who's got in -- say in a one-year period you've got six  
11 months under the PLO4 supervision, and then he was working  
12 three months under PLO2, and three months under a PLO1. You  
13 would just have separate affidavits --

14 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Yep.

15 MR. TODD ALLRED: -- for each of those to account  
16 for those hours?

17 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Account for those hours,  
18 correct.

19 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. That clears up some  
20 confusion. Thank you.

21 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: No problem.

22 MR. TODD ALLRED: Any other new business?

23 MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: Is it time for questions?

24 MR. TODD ALLRED: I was going to say if it's  
25 under public comment, this is the time. If you're here and





1 you want to make a comment, it's under new business that we  
2 can do that.

3 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Before we get started, I  
4 have something -- I don't know if everybody knows, but the  
5 plumbing UPC was not adopted July 1st. And because of that,  
6 it's not going to get adopted until -- it's got moved out to  
7 November 1st. So the UPC is not -- is in limbo for  
8 adoption.

9 So that being said, we move -- our continuing education  
10 courses are based off of a, you know, change in the codes.  
11 Since we thought it was going to get adopted July 1st and it  
12 didn't, we have a lot of courses that came in. They're  
13 brand-new. They're for 2021. But because of that, I --  
14 what I do is I looked at it and go, okay, we can't enfor-  
15 -- I mean, how do I put this? I'm not going to enforce  
16 that you have to do a 2021 code book until we get to the  
17 adoption.

18 So if you still use it, have a class in, say, 2018,  
19 we'll -- the department would accept it. Okay. It's not in  
20 our -- it's not in our WAC rules, but it's somewhere where I  
21 can make the thing work.

22 So we have people still trying to hustle to try to get  
23 the 2021 in and they haven't got there yet, but it's not  
24 adopted, which also means that it's going to move out any  
25 testing that's going to be required for 2021 until that gets



1 adopted.

2 MR. TODD ALLRED: What code are you currently  
3 testing on?

4 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: 2015.

5 MR. TODD ALLRED: You test on 2015?

6 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Yep.

7 MR. TODD ALLRED: And we're using the 2018 in the  
8 State, right?

9 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Yes.

10 MR. TODD ALLRED: And the 2021 is delayed until  
11 November 1st of this year?

12 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Yep.

13 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. And then at some point  
14 you'll be testing the 2021 code?

15 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Yes.

16 MR. TODD ALLRED: Do you have an expectation of  
17 when that will be?

18 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Well, I was trying to get  
19 something done before September, but that's not going to  
20 work now. So it's going to have to be sometime after  
21 November, depending on what people are doing. It will  
22 probably be January 1st. I'll try for that date to get it  
23 done.

24 MR. TODD ALLRED: So an approximate date for 2021  
25 code testing -- or for trainees testing to get certified, a



1 target date of January 1st to go to 2021?

2 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: 2021, yeah.

3 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. Thank you. Thank you,  
4 Bruce.

5 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Yep, no problem. That way I  
6 can also get PCI, because they're the ones that proctor it,  
7 so... That's one of the biggest holdups we have to go  
8 through now, is trying to get all of that stuff out to them  
9 and making it work right.

10 MR. TODD ALLRED: Okay. We may have some public  
11 comment. Can you hand the microphone to them for me, Bruce?

12 MR. BRUCE SPRINGER: Sure.

13 MR. TODD ALLRED: Thank you.

14 When you guys come up for public comment, if you would  
15 state your name.

16 MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: So this is on? Okay.

17 So, actually, I'm bringing a couple of questions for  
18 some people that couldn't make it here. My name is Martin.  
19 So, hopefully, I get four minutes, not two minutes.

20 THE COURT REPORTER: Your last name?

21 MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: Lavergne.

22 THE COURT REPORTER: Thank you.

23 MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: And, by the way, is that  
24 required in this, for me to identify myself in this meeting?

25 MR. TODD ALLRED: No. No, it's not.



1           MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: So for the rest of you, if  
2 you don't want to identify yourself, you don't have to.

3           MR. TODD ALLRED: I apologize for that.

4           MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: It's all good.

5           So I don't want to pop the bubble on being all caught  
6 up and all that kind of stuff, but I wanted to present a  
7 different view on it because I'm speaking for the working  
8 man that's working in the field every day.

9           And when he calls for assistance, like questions with  
10 CEUs or his license or things like that, oftentimes he only  
11 gets to call in on his lunch break, and then when we calls  
12 L&I, they're on their lunch break. Or he gets to only call  
13 or email after hours, or leave a voice mail, and then when  
14 the voice mail is returned, he's working. And so a lot of  
15 times they get way behind the curve on their questions. And  
16 so I don't know if that's, like, something that you can help  
17 affect or not from the L&I point of view.

18           I have a little story here, and for just time  
19 constraints, I'll just start out.

20           This is my story to get my PLO1 card. And 47 days  
21 later, six and a half hours spent in L&I, I received the  
22 license. And what it comes down to is not a healthy working  
23 relationship. The whole experience is like being taken out  
24 back and whooped with a tree branch. You have to fight for  
25 what's yours.



1           So that was one guy's story. I've got more details in  
2 between of what it took to get information about his  
3 license. And so that's -- that's just the working man that  
4 wanted me to communicate that, you know, to you all this  
5 morning. So I just -- there is another view there.

6           And so my question is how do these guys get help? I'm  
7 one of -- I have two guys that are part of that 8 percent  
8 that got rejected. And the letters are form letters. They  
9 don't say anything about why they got rejected. So how do  
10 they call in and get that information? Like, maybe I can  
11 take that back or make it public.

12           Go ahead.

13           MR. BEN BLOHOWIAK: So I'm just going to stop you  
14 real quick.

15           So this is an opportunity for you to speak with the  
16 Board to let them know about your concerns and questions.  
17 This is not a Q-and-A forum --

18           MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: Right.

19           MR. BLOHOWIAK: -- and it's not customer service  
20 time.

21           MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: Right. I'm just bringing  
22 up the issue of getting questions answered from L&I isn't  
23 very -- it's not as rosy as it might seem. And I'm getting  
24 some input from people that are actually working putting  
25 pipes in the walls every day, and they only have limited



1 times to write emails. They're not administrative people,  
2 that kind of thing, and so, you know, they get behind the  
3 curve ball.

4 So I'm looking for is there a particular point of  
5 contact or a process that we can help these people and  
6 publish that information so that they can get that kind of  
7 information back to them quicker?

8 MR. BLOHOWIAK: So that's not a question the  
9 Board can answer right now.

10 MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: Gotcha.

11 MR. BLOHOWIAK: So the Board has heard you and  
12 appreciates that. I would encourage you to contact the  
13 Department directly during normal business hours. But right  
14 now, this is not the forum for that type of back-and-forth,  
15 so...

16 MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: Thank you. Well, now  
17 you're aware of it as a Board. Yeah.

18 So do I get to be another person now and get two more  
19 minutes?

20 MR. TODD ALLRED: Say that again.

21 MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: Do I get to be another  
22 person now and have another two more minutes?

23 MR. TODD ALLRED: Do you have another issue?

24 MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: Yes.

25 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yes.



1 MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: Okay.

2 So there's a plumber that works for the city parks.  
3 He's actually a journeyman plumber, but he's wondering if  
4 his work is legal because he doesn't work for a plumbing  
5 company. So he's off doing plumbing for the City at the  
6 Parks Department, and when he does fixture changes or  
7 remodels or that kind of thing, is he doing work legally or  
8 illegally?

9 That's the question that he's posing. And then there's  
10 another one that's along the same line that works for the  
11 port. And he's not a licensed plumber, but he's doing  
12 plumbing for the port.

13 So the question is, is he working illegally or legally  
14 when it comes to contractor compliance and being a  
15 journeyman and that kind of thing?

16 So that's the question.

17 (Mr. Allred consulting with  
18 Mr. Blohowiak.)

19 MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: It doesn't look like it's  
20 going to get answered, so...

21 MR. TODD ALLRED: Thank you. At this point in  
22 time, it would not be appropriate for the Board to give any  
23 legal advice or decisions on any of that stuff. But you can  
24 certainly contact Mr. Springer or the ladies over there to  
25 probably get those questions answered because I think



1 they're really good questions. I don't know the answer  
2 myself, and I would like to know myself.

3 So I do know that there's been -- I do know that  
4 there's been some issues in the past around prisons.  
5 We've visited -- the Plumbing Advisory Board visited  
6 Clallam Bay prison. There's trainees over there that are  
7 working under a journeyman plumber, and they can't get their  
8 hours because they're not a plumbing contractor -- the  
9 prison system is not a plumbing contractor. So there's some  
10 details in the law around that. So I would encourage you to  
11 contact the Department.

12 MR. MARTIN LAVERGNE: Will do.

13 MR. TODD ALLRED: Any -- any other public  
14 comment?

15 MS. ALISHA WELLS: We have one public comment  
16 from the Teams meeting. And I'll see if I can get the  
17 comment up there as well.

18 All right. Thank you.

19 One moment while I bring up the comments from the  
20 screen.

21 They have a question about supervision for the 01 and  
22 04. Let's see. Okay. Scroll up. So we have -- the  
23 questions start with can you submit more than 2,000 hours  
24 per year for 04 and 02? Are you addressing that they were  
25 2,000 hours per year on a 12-month stand per affidavit?





1           Next question: 04 hours do not apply to 02 hours. One  
2 of the members say that you can submit both. Does that mean  
3 that's 1,000 each?

4           And I stated that, yes, it is 2,000 hours per year. So  
5 if you need to -- saying you have to meet that requirement.

6           And then last question is, even if a journeyman is  
7 supervised with a 1-to-1 ratio, is there no way to get a  
8 service permit if you are within the supervision  
9 requirements?

10           So that's their last question addressed to the Board  
11 for public comment.

12           MR. TODD ALLRED: Can you repeat that last  
13 question?

14           MS. ALISHA WELLS: Even if a journeyman is  
15 supervised with a 1-to-1 ratio, is there no way to get a  
16 service permit if you're within the supervision  
17 requirements, without sacrificing commercial or 02 hours?

18           MR. BLOHOWIAK: So, again, I would -- you know,  
19 this isn't -- this isn't a Q and A or customer service  
20 forum. It's an opportunity, again, for the Board to hear  
21 from the -- to hear from the public and from the industry  
22 about concerns and questions and comments they may have.  
23 But if there are specific questions to the administration  
24 of, you know, certification of hours, things like that, and  
25 there's problems coming up with that, the Board can hear



1 that information, put together a report, can advise the  
2 Department that these are the concerns of the industry and  
3 the public, but these general customer service questions,  
4 the Department will answer those in turn outside of the  
5 meeting. Those are questions for the Department to answer.

6 Again, the Board's advisory capacity, in its role  
7 working with the Department, this is not the time and place  
8 to answer those sorts of questions. But certainly after the  
9 meeting if any of the Department employees are here and we  
10 want to talk with any of the public, you're certainly  
11 welcome to do that. Just as far as putting on the record  
12 and the Board's involvement in this process, you're  
13 simply -- you're here to take in the information from the  
14 industry and public, and then to report back to and advise  
15 the Department on any changes that may or may not need to be  
16 made.

17 So I just want to clarify the Board's role and what  
18 we're doing here this morning.

19 MR. TODD ALLRED: To the person asking the  
20 questions through the Teams meeting, you know, it's not our  
21 place as a Board to answer the technical questions of how  
22 the Department administers the program for us. So I  
23 would -- I would direct you to the plumbing program to ask  
24 those questions.

25 And the good thing for you is that the person that



1 you're talking with is one of the people that can help  
2 answer that for you outside of this meeting. Okay?

3 Any other public comment?

4 MR. RAY SHIPMAN: I'd like to spin a little bit  
5 off of what was said earlier about the code adoption cycle.

6 I've been in the building code industry for a long  
7 time, and I've never seen one as messy as it is right now  
8 with the State Building Code Council during COVID. But I  
9 wanted to bring it before the Board's attention that I'm  
10 sure you're aware that the State Building Code Council is  
11 now making WACs and rules on the plumbing code and does not  
12 have a representative from the plumbing industry on their  
13 council. It's like anybody can be a part of the council.  
14 Anybody can attend meetings. Anybody can provide comment.

15 So I'm just encouraging maybe some even from the Board  
16 or even the tradesmen to get actively involved in the State  
17 Building Code Council and their process and get a voice from  
18 the plumbers on the council.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. TODD ALLRED: Yeah, we were -- we were well  
21 aware of that, Mr. Shipman, of the situation with the State  
22 Building Code Council.

23 Right, Corey?

24 I will say, from this chair, that it only makes sense  
25 that if you're going to administer and make changes to the



1 plumbing code in the state of Washington, that there should  
2 be a plumber involved; otherwise, they're just guessing.

3 Any other public comment?

4 (No audible response.)

5 Did you guys come all the way from Spokane and not --

6 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mine was Q and A, so --  
7 you know.

8 MR. TODD ALLRED: Oh. Okay. Well, if the folks  
9 are here that you have questions for, you can ask after the  
10 meeting, yes. Any of you, I think you should approach these  
11 folks and ask your questions.

12 Any other new business?

13 (No audible response.)

14 All right. Entertain a motion to adjourn?

15 MR. ANTONIO CRUZ: So moved.

16 MR. BRAD MOORE: Second.

17 MR. TODD ALLRED: All vote.

18 All in favor?

19 (Chorus of ayes.)

20 Very good. We are adjourned.

21 Thank you very much, everybody. Have a great day.

22 (Adjourned at 10:32 a.m.)

23

24

25




C E R T I F I C A T E

1  
2  
3 I, PAMELA J. NELSON, the undersigned Washington Court  
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9 I further certify that the said transcript of proceedings,  
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