

Craig Hoium Named Code Official of the Year 2009

The Association of Minnesota Building Officials (AMBO) is a statewide organization committed to serving the public interest and the professionals that ensure safety in the building environment. AMBO represents more than 800+ building officials and hundreds of building inspectors employed by municipalities and counties across the state of Minnesota whose job is to ensure that the minimum provisions of the Minnesota State Building Code are implemented and enforced. Safeguarding public health, safety and general welfare through structural strength, means of egress, sanitation, light and ventilation, energy conservation, and fire protection are issues the code official deals with every day on simple construction projects such as a residential deck to a high tech medical facility or commercial buildings. The code official's commitment to public safety is on a level equal to the police and fire departments responsibilities.



At the recent Upper Great Plains Region III Educational Institute held in Brooklyn Park the past February, Craig Hoium, Community Development Director for the City of Austin, was recently recognized as Code Official of the Year for 2009 for his outstanding contributions to building safety in the state of Minnesota. Craig served as chairman for AMBO for the years 2006-2007 and also served as chairman for two terms for the S.E Minnesota Chapter of Code Officials.

During his first term as chairman, the Association of Minnesota Code Officials was recognized for the organizations accomplishments by the International Code Council. As the past chair of AMBO he stepped in to assist with responsibilities when the current chairman had to step aside for a portion of this past year of 2009. Craig fulfilled those duties in a number of capacities. As an educator rather than an enforcer, Craig traveled around the state annually attending various local code official chapter meetings to provide direct communication, promote uniformity and generate discussions about current topics of importance to the local code official. Craig also played a pivotal role in coordinating communications with code officials about proposed legislative activity that would have direct impact on citizens and code officials alike.

Other professional involvement includes committee participation in code development, education, public relations, and the governor's code advisory council.

Craig has 32 years of public employment experience with 20 years in code enforcement. He was appointed to his current community development director position in 2000 for the City of Austin. With his years of experience, Craig's recognition by his peers as Code Official of the Year is well deserved.