

AMBO Board Meeting
March 20th, 2006
1:00PM conference call

1. Roll call.

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| a. Craig Hoium | f. Sid Fossan |
| b. Randy Kardell | g. Gary Yoder |
| c. Pat Higgins | h. Dave Fisher |
| d. Steve Nelson (absent) | i. Gary Hagedorn |
| e. Bill Schlenvogt | |

Others: Patrick Parsley, Steve Torell, Roger Axel, Brian Hoffman, John Tilton

2. Approval of 02-07-06 minutes. Craig Hoium moved to approve as written noting that item 8 is still tabled. Gary Hagedorn seconded. Motion passed.

3. Financial Reports. Gary Yoder moved acceptance of the financial reports as submitted and Craig Hoium seconded. After a discussion of the institute finances and available cash the motion was passed. Dave Fisher will check with NSFA on payment for their presentation.

4. Election of Officers:

- a. Roger Axel nominated Craig Hoium for Chairman and Gary Yoder seconded. There being no other nominations, the majority of the board voted for Craig as Chairman.
- b. Gary Yoder was nominated for Vice-Chairman and Gary Hagedorn seconded. There being no other nominations, the majority of the board voted for Gary Yoder as vice-chairman.
- c. Roger Axel suggested that Dave Fisher be nominated for the treasurer/secretary position. Dave will consider the nomination possibility. The seat will remain empty till our April 24th meeting.

5. 2006/2007 Educational Institute update. Roger went over some of the comments and the financial situation with the Institute. He noted that the plan for 2007-2010 is to call it the "Upper Great Plains Region Institute" and that the region is considering the AMBO proposal for name usage. This will entail region input into the planning and a day of training to be donated from the region chapter. The web site has some of the comments posted and more pictures will be forth coming.

6. Regional Update: Patrick Parsley reported that the MBPTA accepted the AMBO offer to cover their regional membership cost if they would like to join. They have voted to join the region and have appointed Cecy Lukoskie as their regional representative. *(MN has not established appointment criteria for representation on the regional board. If more than three chapters from MN join the region-a schedule of representation must be set up. I suggest we initiate a process for naming regional representatives and set up a committee to promote the involvement of the FMAM, Chiefs Association and MAHCO.)* It was further noted that the Region Board will be considering the AMBO institute proposal at their April 10th, meeting.

7. Contractor Training update: Roger noted that the training is going well and that quite a few of the contractors have our AMBO code book. He stated that so far he and Russell are working on the 2007 curriculum. He suggested that a committee be set up to explore curriculum possibilities for 2007.

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8. Committee policy: Rick Davidson request: Tabled

9. 2006 MN Code Books: No action was taken as the state amendments are not ready. (*The editing and communications with ICC was to have been done by Keith Will with the assistance of Greg Johnson. I would suggest that one of the board members take this on and make contact with Keith and Greg to make sure we are ready as quickly as possible for the development and sale of the MN codes.*)

10. Legislative committee report: The proposed language is being introduced by Senator Scheid SF3319 and Representative Cox HF3641.

We have 20 authors in the House including; Davids; Klinzing; Latz; Juhnke; Ellison; Wardlow; Zellers; Westerberg; McNamara; Olson; Walker; Tinglestad; Abrams; Dorman; Goodwin; Abeler; Charron; Meslow; Krinkie; and Simon will be added. Please support them, especially if you work or live in their district!

Lobbyist Dan Campo has been working the halls for support and potential issues. The only opposition that may occur (and has some Legislators concerned) would be from the Pipe Fitters/Plumbers. We need to assure them that qualified trade persons provide a valuable applicant pool for inspector positions and no one wants to exclude them. An important theme to consider – we are construction inspectors, not separate building, plumbing, mechanical, etc.

The first committee meeting is *Government Operations Committee at 10am Friday.*

Attached is the proposed Bill language and some talking points to assist us in presenting (and Legislators in asking the right questions). Hope they capture most of the significant points.

Other Bills

SF3023/HF3391 – Language added commercial building permits and environmental review to current 60 day time deadline for approval. This is the section that has applied to the zoning review/approval process. Added was a 15 day deadline for residential permits. We notified the Builders Association and asked if this is what they really wanted? A city would need to deny the permit application and return it to the applicant if the deadline was approaching and we were waiting for a plan revision from the designer. Apparently BATC and the LMC talked with the author and building permits were removed. However, local environmental applications review/approval is left in. If this occurs no further action by us should be needed.

HF 3393 – Establishes a Department of Commerce license for private housing inspectors (this is what ASHI apparently opposes). Included is an exception for city/county staff performing property maintenance, point-of-sale, and truth-in-housing inspections. Unless we hear differently, AMBO is not engaged in this Bill – hard to argue with minimum qualifications to do inspections.

HF3450 – Establishes Building Systems and Mechanical Code Councils to adopt codes and set certification/licensing requirements. Boards would be established by the Governor. This is contrary to the recent reorganization of DOLI and including all construction code functions in a collectively working

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department. Probably not any significant support for this radical change to a nonexistent problem, but we need to follow and respond as needed.

SF3176/HF3525 – 96 pages relating to the consolidation of codes and staff into DOLI. Any informed commentary of potential implications from someone who has read all of it would be welcome. Our lobbyist has indicated that a lot of issues are occurring with this and BAM is trying to include a number of items. Also, BAM may be introducing a Bill yet.

11. Code development committee reports: No reports. It was noted that both committees are working on proposals for changes to the 2006.

12. Other Business.

- a. **Plumbing Certification test:** Randy Kardell noted that there are 26 SW members interested in the test. The ICC test date is September 9th, 2006. He will be working with SE, ICC, and Gary Hagedorn to establish test sites for that date and possible training. Craig Hoium volunteered to be a contact person for SE. The cost of the test has been set at \$125 for the residential plumbing inspector and \$195 for the commercial inspector.
- b. **Membership fees:** Dave Fisher presented his research and thoughts on AMBO membership fees and the issue of them being too high. Roger noted that the long term goals and the business plan for the Association included a membership budget annual income of \$40,000 to finance the activities we provide and an administrative position. Pat Parsley stated the same and added that we are at about \$12,000 at the present time. There seemed to be some agreement that the fees for larger cities may need a lower cap, there is no interest in tying the AMBO fees to the local chapter fees, and the any action taken would have to be for the 2007 schedule. Dave will bring back more information and all board members are to open the fee question to their respective chapters for input.
- c. **Communications:** John Tilton presented his memo of communications objectives. Pat Parsley clarified the web access procedure and agreed to get John and our webmaster in communications. The board encouraged John to explore the newsletter idea and push the board members for ongoing articles. Roger will get the award information and Institute pictures to John for posting. The board is encouraged to visit various local chapters to help bridge the perceived communications gap. (*I think there was a suggestion to set up a committee to assist John.*)

13. Meeting adjourned: Next meeting date. April 24th, 2006

Respectfully

Patrick Parsley CBO
AMBO Executive Secretary
(*Italics are added notes and not part of the minutes*)