

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Building Board of Appeals**

**June 9, 2015**

The Rapid City Building Board met on June 9, 2015. The following members were present: Steve Malone, Steve Struble, Myron Tatum, and Michelle Seaman.

Staff Present: Brad Solon, Building Official, Carla Cushman, City Attorney, and Serenna Zeisler, Building Services Secretary.

Others Present: Dave Eccleston, and Troy Nayman.

Asbridge opened the meeting at 7:32 a.m.

1. Set Agenda

**Malone moved to set the agenda, seconded by Seaman, the motion carried 4-0, with Struble and Tatum also voting yes.**

2. Dave Eccleston-Continuing Education Discussion

Solon explained the continuing education ordinances. Solon stated the amount of continuing education hours varies from trade to trade and ordinance to ordinance. Solon stated they passed the 1504, three or four years ago and it originally required 12 continuing education hours for all contractors, however the Mayor at the time formed a committee with Bill Freytag leading it as the chairman, and they changed it to 6 continuing education hours per license period. Solon stated, then this board reviewed their decision and passed it and it then went onto City Council. Malone asked if the ordinance affects all the licenses or just certain ones. Solon stated the 6 hours pertains to contractor A & B licenses, roofing contractors, sign contractors, and all mechanical licenses. Zeisler stated all the licenses require 6 continuing education hours in a three year period, unless they are licenses that are regulated by the state, such as electrical and plumbing licenses. Malone asked Tatum what the State requires for continuing education hours for plumbers. Tatum responded they require 4 hours per year. Malone asked Struble how many hours the state requires for electricians. Struble stated 8 hours per year of continuing education, so every two years when they need to renew their state license, they need a total of 16 hours. Seaman asked if all the licenses (with the exception of electrical and plumbing) require 6 hours of continuing education in a three year period. Zeisler responded that is correct. Dave Eccleston stated RSCS (Refrigeration Service Engineer Society) requires 12 continuing education hours per year. Malone stated there are some licenses that should require more continuing education hours than other licenses. Eccleston stated he is not here to say that every contractor across the board should have 12 continuing education hours per year, he is

here to state he would like the mechanical licenses to have more than 6 continuing education hours per license period. Malone stated he agrees. Seaman stated she would also like to see the roofing contractors continuing education hours increased as well. Seaman stated the only type of contractor that she does not feel would need more continuing education hours would be the sign contractors. Solon stated some of the larger sign companies will go to the national conventions. Malone asked if the board had previously had 6 continuing education hours prior to the Mayor's board changing it. Solon and Seaman stated yes. Struble asked what brought this discussion to the board. Eccleston stated he brought it to the board in that the mechanical licenses continuing education hours needed to be increased. Discussion continued. Struble asked if the City inspectors had been seeing a problem with the workers in the field. Seaman stated she has noticed problems in the field of mechanical work and having to come back and repair or correct things because of an installation error. Tatum stated the inspectors also back the work up. Solon and Zeisler stated most of the mechanical contractors have more than enough hours when they come in to renew their license. Solon stated it's the sign contractors, roofing contractors, and the residential contractors that have trouble bringing in 6 continuing education hours. Seaman stated she has concerns about raising the sign contractor's continuing education hours since it is so hard for them to obtain them. Discussion continued. Malone stated that some of the workmanship that a person sees now isn't because of the lack of continuing education hours, it's because the lack of people. Malone stated he agrees that two continuing education hours per year is not enough. Tatum added that is why we can lean on the inspectors to check the work that is being done; they make sure it is correct and up to code. Struble stated if the board put a notice in that they are considering changing the continuing education hours that could open the door for the next couple of meetings to further discuss it with contractors. Malone asked Cushman if they could change an ordinance in the meeting. Cushman stated there needs to be an ordinance proposal that the board voted to approve, if they decided on a number today, she could draft an ordinance for the next meeting to vote on it, and the board could move it to city council. Solon stated after the board voted on an ordinance change then we would need to hold a public meeting for contractors to attend. Malone stated he would like to see a motion made to either leave it the way it is, or have an ordinance drafted to increase any license that requires 6 continuing education hours to more. Discussion continued. Seaman stated she would like to see a 12 continuing education hours required for three year license period. Struble asked if there are classes available to the contractors to obtain 12 continuing education hours per license renewal. Solon stated yes. Seaman asked if the city still hosts a mechanical class every year for mechanical contractors. Solon stated, yes we do. Malone stated 4 hours per year obligates a contractor to put in an effort.

**Struble made a motion to have an ordinance drafted to increase the continuing education hours to 4 hours per year or 12 hours per three year license period and also adding the gas fitting contractors as well, seconded by Seaman, motion passed 4-0, with Tatum and Malone also voting yes.**

3. Discussion on Reciprocity for Gas & Mechanical Licenses

Solon explained that gas fitting contractors from Wisconsin were doing work at Wausau and Dave Baumberger, gas inspector for the city, asked why they weren't licensed with the city. Dave made the two contractors come to the city office and take a test to get licensed. Wausau then spoke to the Mayor, stating they did not feel their contractors needed to take a test to be licensed with the city of Rapid City because they were licensed in Wisconsin. The argument then became that we should allow reciprocity. Solon stated that Dave does not agree with reciprocity due to different codes in each state. Tatum stated he agrees with Dave. Malone asked if other contractors get reciprocity. Solon stated yes, only if there has been a similar exam taken.

**Tatum made a motion to reject the proposal, seconded by Struble, motion passed 4-0, with Seaman and Malone also voting to reject the proposal.**

4. Approval of the May 12<sup>th</sup> 2015 Meeting Minutes of the BBOA

**Struble made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Seaman, the motion carried 4-0, with Malone and Tatum also voting yes.**

5. Adjourn

**Meeting adjourns at 8:31**