



# Building Inspectors Association

Northeastern Wisconsin Organized 1971

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## Minutes: November 7, 2024

**Business Meeting-** President Doug Hoerth called the meeting to order at 9:30AM with 35 people in attendance.

*(No additions or amendments to the agenda were noted)*

**Member Introductions-** Members introduced themselves. No new members were present.

**Reminders/Updates-**

- If anyone has ideas or suggestions for speakers or meeting topics please reach out to Peter Feters or Andrew Prickett who serve on the Education Committee.

**Approval of Minutes-** A motion was made to approve the 9/5/24 minutes. The motion received a second and carried.

**Executive Committee Reports:**

**Secretaries Report-** Nicole Krahn gave an update on the Annual Meeting and 2025 Membership list online signups. The signups are now electronic and payments can be made online with PayPal, Venmo or by using a credit card.

**Presidents Report-** Nothing was noted.

**Treasurer's Report-** Rob Cormier was not present and no report was provided..

**Committee Reports:**

**By-Laws-** No report given.

**Code Coordinating-** Dennis Jensen stated that DSPPS has hired a UDC code consultant. He was told that the new consultant has 10 years of experience and used to work for General Engineering.

**Information & Schooling-** Andrew Prickett and Peter Feters are working on planning the educational training for 2025. Please reach out to them with any training ideas.

**Publicity & Historian-** No report given.

**Registration Coordinator-** Dennis Jensen stated that we had 44 people in attendance at the October ICC training event in Green Bay. Without having the exact numbers he felt that we broke even on this event from a cost perspective. Members stated that it was great training for everyone who attended. Please check your commercial CEU's to make sure that they were applied to your account by ICC as it appears that they haven't been entered yet.

Dennis noted that there are several ICC presenters who are retiring this year. It was noted that Jim Solander and Brian Flannery are going to be doing training for ICC. Dennis also stated that there is one last planning meeting for the 2025 Winter Code Updates. The sign-up for this event should be mailed out to inspectors within the next few weeks..

**Website Coordinator-** Doug Hoerth stated that the new website is up and running. Please take a look at it and let him know if you have any issues.

**Nominating Committee-** It was noted that Chris Jensen will be stepping down from this committee for 2025. If anyone is interested in serving on this committee please let Pat Erich know. Pat is still on the committee so we'll be looking for someone to step up and take the open nominating committee position at the Annual Meeting.

Doug also noted that the Vice President and President positions are open. Nicole is staying on as secretary so please let Doug know if you're interested. There was a discussion on amending our bylaws to see if we could extend the president's term. This would allow Doug to stay on as president for longer (max 4 years). Andrew Pricket stated that he really would like to see newer members step up and participate in our association but he could step in and be Vice President if they can't find anyone.

**Sunshine-** No report given.

**Speaker:** Patrick Kennedy, Plumbing Inspector for the City of Fond du Lac, gave a presentation on plumbing code updates. The training provided 3 CEU's for any plumbing licenses. Patrick's email is [pkennedy@fdl.wi.gov](mailto:pkennedy@fdl.wi.gov) or you call him at (920) 322-3574 with any questions.

Patrick stated that the new plumbing code is almost a year old but several people do not feel comfortable with the changes and there hasn't been proper training. A few of the items that Patrick went over were:

- Product references
- Definitions; SPS 381.01
- Standards; SPS 381.20
- Plan submittals required; Table 382.20-1
- Size of drain piping; SPS 382.3
- Vent terminations; SPS 382.31 (16)
- Air admittance valve section was added to the code; SPS 382.31 (17m)
- Hot water supply systems; SPS 382.40(5) Tankless water heaters are not typically sized properly. Make sure you're getting water calculations submitted for these.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Doug Hoerth gave an update on the ICC training in Long Beach CA. He stated that it was a great learning experience and he highly recommended it for anyone who wants to experience it. Andrew stated that we need to get pins for anyone that will be attending in 2025 as trading pins are a big deal and used as a great way to network.

The December Annual meeting signup is active. Please sign up by November 17th to secure your spot.

The January meeting will be moved to January 9<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be a round table discussion. Dennis Jensen stated that he can provide a 2 hour training session for this. Please email Dennis Jensen with ideas for topics for the round table.

***Roundtable Discussions:***

- Chelsea attended the Brown County Builders Association. She stated that a couple builders voiced a few complaints. A few of the complaints were:
  - Contractors asked if we could be more uniform with inspection tags/stickers and the notification of inspection results. Several inspectors noted that they do not use inspection tags anymore and results get emailed directly to the contractors after the inspection. Some municipalities use inspection software and some are still using paper and pen.
  - Contractors noted that they'd like footing inspections sooner than 48 hours. They noted that it's hard to get timely inspections for footings.
  - Contractors want occupancy placards/permits issued for new homes and additions. It was noted that some municipalities do not issue occupancy permits.
  - Contractors would like more open discussions and conversations with inspectors. It was noted that they could join our association and attend training events.
  - Contractors noted enforcement is not uniform. It was noted that we need to set up training for new inspectors to help provide uniformity. It was also noted that we all send in questions to the state and we get different answers. Members stated that we should ask for an open request to get a copy of all of the questions/answers or have the builders petition DSPS to post the questions with official interpretations on their website. A suggestion was made to provide a members only section on our website where we could post questions/comments.
  - Contractors need copies of their building permits because they're not getting their permits in time. There are a few municipalities that are not issuing the permits in time due to staffing limitations.
- Discussion on where to post state interpretations or if we could do an online blog.
- Discussion on problems with taking DSPS tests. There are questions on some of the exams that don't pertain. Brandon Piper has been informed of this. Kelly Williams was not helpful with DSPS regarding this item. It was noted that study materials are not allowed besides the code book. There also seems to be a disconnect between Piersen Testing and DSPS when questions arise. Chelsea stated that she's also hearing complaints from the contractors regarding testing.

***Adjournment-*** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion received a second and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole Krahn  
BIANEW Secretary

Website: [www.bianew.org](http://www.bianew.org)