



Building Inspectors Association

Northeastern Wisconsin Organized 1971

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Business Meeting - President Luke Fischenich called the meeting to order at 9:21 a.m.

Member Introductions - 31 members were present.

Approval of Minutes - A motion was made to approve the 2/5/26 minutes. The motion received a second and carried.

Executive Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report - Matt Bablitch presented the treasurer's report. A motion was made to approve the report. The motion received a second and passed. Financial statements are available for review upon request.

Secretary's Report - Lori Fulcer - There are 99 members to date in 2026, including 11 honorary, and 7 new.

President's Report - Luke Fischenich - DSPPS Official Statement: Plastic Venting for Gas-Fired Appliances. Directed to rely on manufacturer specs. Under the Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code (SPS 320–325), plastic venting materials for gas appliances are permitted when they are listed and installed in accordance with the appliance manufacturer's instructions and the applicable standard.

Wisconsin follows NFPA 54 (National Fuel Gas Code) logic for venting materials as found in **SPS 323.04**, which guides the installation and maintenance of gas-fueled appliances, requiring that they comply with the appliance listing.

- The manufacturer's installation instructions control the acceptable venting materials.
- If the manufacturer allows ASTM D1785 / ASTM D2665 PVC or similar plastic pipe, it may be used.
- **Please Note:** Most **Category IV condensing furnaces** have very low flue gas temperatures (often around 100° – 140°F). Because of this, manufacturers have tested their appliances with plastic vent systems and included them in their listing. DSPPS Acknowledges that ASTM D1785 and ASTM D2665 are not listed for conveyance of flue gas, however, if an appliance manufacturer has conducted internal testing of the vent system as part of the appliance listing and has certified ASTM D1785/ASTM D2665 as an approved installation method for conveyance of flue gas and publishes in their installation manual it is allowable as per **SPS 323.04(1)(b)**

The important requirement is that the material must be:

- Listed
- Installed per the *appliance* manufacturer's instructions — not the vent pipe manufacturer's ratings

Typical standards referenced include:

- ASTM D1785 – Schedule 40 PVC pressure pipe
- ASTM D2665 – PVC DWV pipe and fittings
- ASTM F441 / F442 – CPVC pipe standards

These materials are commonly permitted for Category IV condensing furnaces where flue gas temperatures are low.

UL 1738 is a vent system standard specifically for gas appliance venting systems.

However, under the UDC:

- UL 1738 is only required if the manufacturer specifies it.
- If the appliance manufacturer lists PVC or CPVC pipe in their installation manual, it can be used even though the pipe itself is not listed to UL 1738.

For UDC furnace installations:

- Follow the manufacturer's venting instructions first.
- Use materials the manufacturer specifically lists as acceptable.
- Install the vent per the ASTM standard and manufacturer instructions.
- UL 1738 vent systems are only required when the manufacturer calls for them.

For UDC appliance installations:

A one-for-one replacement of an existing appliance does not require the venting material to be replaced unless:

- Use materials the replacement appliance manufacturer specifically lists as acceptable.
- UL 1738 vent systems are only required when the manufacturer calls for them.
- Venting materials are required to be replaced only when the appliance manufacturer's installation venting instructions require a different type of venting material.

This position statement is issued by DSPS for guidance under the Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code (UDC). For questions, contact the Division of Industry Services.

<https://dps.wi.gov/Documents/Programs/UDC/PlasticVenting.pdf>

Committee Reports:

By-Laws - Peter Fetters, Luke Fisichenich - none

Code Coordinating - Pat Eirich, Dennis T. Jensen, & Alison Humski

Dennis reported that a one-year code curriculum program is under consideration, potentially in partnership with Northeast Technical College. Efforts would include developing the curriculum and securing an instructor, with a preference for a retired professional who can commit sufficient time. DSPS may provide support for training. The program would focus on preparing participants for commercial work, including plan review and exam readiness with a potential target launch in 2027.

Committee Reports continued:

Information & Schooling - Andrew Prickett, Peter Feters

May Q&A with Dennis. Any last minute topics you want to share? Send on to Dennis!
This will count for two hours of continuing ed.

HVAC and Construction in June. BIANEW hosts annual municipality-led on-site inspections for teaching and training purposes. We're currently seeking potential properties for June with a possibility in Wausau with Roman. **If your municipality has housing stock that may be a good fit, please reach out as soon as possible.**

Publicity & Historian - Doug Hoerth - Not present.

Registration Coordinator - Dennis Jensen, Brett Guilette

Winter Code Updates per Dennis: Attendance increased by 10% across all associates and venues compared to last year. Green Bay had 180 participants. UDC recorded 93 in-person attendees, with the remainder joining virtually. Approximately 45% of participants were contractors, and over 100 were from the commercial sector. There is an ongoing need for presenters, as reliance on DSPS is limited.

Website Coordinator - Doug Hoerth - Not present.

Sunshine - John Zarate, Jane Drager - Nothing to report.

Nominating - Chris Jensen, Pat Eirich - Nothing to report.

Auditing Committee - Doug Horth, Luke Fischenich, Andrew Prickett, & Lori Fulcer - Nothing to report.

Speaker - Jacquelyn Miller (APA) Wall Bracing & Common Framing Errors

Shortly after the presentation began, the venue lost power. After a 20-minute delay, the venue closed due to severe weather and the inability to restore electricity. We are hoping to reschedule Jacquelyn to present in the fall if schedules allow.

Upcoming Important Dates: May 7, 2026, Q&A with Dennis. June 4, 2026, On-sites.

Adjournment - A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:14 a.m. The motion received a second and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Fulcer
BIANEW Secretary

Website: www.bianew.org