

## **IABO Meeting Minutes**

Regular Business Meeting  
March 13, 2025  
City of Johnston City Hall

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00am by President Luke Maloney. Roll Call of Officers was called by Secretary David Kuhn.

President: Luke Maloney - Present  
1st Vice President: Ryan Mayer - Absent  
2nd Vice President: Gary Hansen - Present  
Secretary: Dave Kuhn - Present  
Treasurer: Ben Pothoff - Present  
Past President: Adam Ostert – Present

### **Confirmation of quorum**

Luke Maloney confirmed a quorum of the membership was present. 18 members were present in person with 10 additional members participating via Zoom. Due to a technology glitch, members in the room were not able to hear any comments made by Zoom participants.

### **Approval of the January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Adam Ostert. A second to the motion was offered by Cory Simpson. A voice vote followed with unanimous support.

## **Communications and Board Reports**

### **Treasures Report**

The report was presented by Ben Pothoff. Ben reported the current balances total \$87,913.44. Outstanding encumbrances are \$1,016.35 for Luke's travel to ICC Leadership training. Ben also stated IABO currently has 281 paid memberships and 34 unpaid memberships. Additionally, there are 10 retired memberships. Ben asked that members contact him if they are unsure of their status. The January IABO training event revenue totaled \$33,921.40 with expenses still being calculated. MICCC hosted a training event on January 30<sup>th</sup> with 60 registered attendees. The event generated a net revenue of \$1,206.33. Per IABO's recent policy, \$500 will be made available to MICCC via gift cards of their choosing for use by their organization. Ben also indicated IABO intends to work with US Bank to identify higher yield accounts for savings as well as obtain secured credit cards to minimize fraud exposure. A motion to approve the Treasure's report was provided by Tim Hennes and a second was offered by Neil Bombei. The voice vote for approval carried unanimously.

### When Disaster Strikes Training

Luke Maloney gave an update on the When Disaster Strikes training hosted by IABO. Four training events were held with two located in central Iowa and two in eastern Iowa. The total revenue generated was \$8,588.08 with expenses of \$7,361.25 for a net profit of \$1,226.83. IABO will continue to dial back the cost to members for these types of training events to provide the greatest benefit to the membership.

### State of Iowa Building Code

An update was provided by Iowa Building Code Commissioner David Ruffcorn. He reported a hearing has been held by the Iowa Building Code Council to review moving to the 2024 I-Codes. After much discussion by the council, staff were given directions to proceed with the process. Two additional meetings have been scheduled for April 22<sup>nd</sup> and April 23<sup>rd</sup>. If anyone would like to propose amendments to any of the I-codes, those should be submitted to David Ruffcorn. Mechanical, electrical and plumbing codes are on a different path and not part of the State Building Code adoption process. Energy will also be excluded from the Building Code adoption process. Dave responded to a member's question regarding the submission of CICC amendments by indicating the State Building Code will only be applicable to State reviewed projects. It is anticipated the final adoption will occur around the first of the year. Some discussion was held regarding having the IABO Code Committee review the proposed amendments are prepare a letter of support if applicable. Dave also mentioned the State of Iowa has two very large projects coming up and are seeking additional staff to perform plan reviews on a temporary basis. Those selected would be under a 780-hour employee contract. Please contact David Ruffcorn if you are interested.

### Iowa Department of Public Health

No report provided

### Iowa Department of Public Safety

No report provided

### Electrical Examining Board

An update was provided by Brian Young via the Zoom message feature due to a technology glitch in the meeting room. Brian indicated staff and the Electrical Examining Board are working on the adoption of the 2023 NEC with a proposed effective date of July 1, 2025. He stated that virtually the same amendments that are currently in effect will be moved forward. They have completed 4 out of the 5 required public hearings and the one left is with the ARRC at the capital sometime in April. The specific date is not set at the present time. The next Electrical Examining Board meeting will be on March 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. Brian also reminded those in attendance that all temporary electric services should be inspected.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Legislative Committee

A legislative update was provided by Brian Bishop. He stated last week was the first funnel and that there are several bills IABO has been tracking. One significant bill regarding contractor licensing included a provision that would cap permit fees at \$500. Brian, Ryan Mayer and IABO

lobbyist Jim Obradovich spoke to senator Webster about this bill at the sub-committee meeting. The bill passed out of the sub-committee with the fee portion removed. Another bill of interest relates to fire sprinkler requirements in seven or less town homes. That bill has made it through the funnel but has not made it to the floor yet. IABO is still monitoring various bills regarding radon as well as disaster reconstruction. Brian commented on the great job our lobbyist does keeping the committee informed and engaged. Ben Pothoff mentioned that at some point having Jim attend an IABO meeting to educate the membership of the legislative process may be beneficial. Potentially after the session has ended for the year. Luke Maloney thanked Ryan Mayer, Jim Obradovich, Brian Bishop for talking to senators about various proposals at the capital

#### Education Committee

No report provided

#### Membership Committee

Gary provided a report on behalf of the committee. He indicated the committee is looking to increase the membership. They are reaching out to jurisdictions that have never been members as well as past members that have dropped off. If anyone is interested in helping or joining the committee, please contact a committee member. The committee is also seeking to offer free memberships through the end of the year for new members. Waving the fees would require action by the membership. A motion was made by Roger Schemmel to allow membership fees to be waived through the end of the year for new members. A second was made by Cory Simpson and the voice vote carried unanimously.

#### Endorsement / Nominating Committee

Luke congratulated Tim Hennes on his retirement and noted Tim's retirement creates an opening on the endorsement committee. Ben Pothoff is also stepping down from this committee due to other commitments. Shane Hoeper has been appointed to this committee.

#### Scholarship Committee

Brandon spoke about the committee's activities. He provided an overview of the current scholarship program as well as history of the funding amounts. The committee is seeking to increase funding for scholarships to \$6,000 to account for an increase in tuition costs. Examples of current tuition rates were provided. The committee is also looking to increase the quantity to four scholarships. The proposed increase is requested starting next year. Luke indicated the executive board has had some discussion on this topic. Board members provided their feedback. Comments from the board included targeting the building trades as opposed to collegiate. The board also noted the return on investment for the scholarship program is undetermined as well as noting the potential to create an annual IABO budget would be helpful. Ben Pothoff mentioned the annual report submitted by each chapter to ICC does award points for initiatives such as scholarships. Dave Kuhn proposed more latitude for the committee to determine how best to disperse the funds once the funding amount is determined by the board. Luke indicated the request for additional funding would be addressed at a future meeting once some of the ongoing tax related liabilities are known.

### Code Development / Program Committee

Adam indicated he has reached out to an individual to give an overview of the Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule (BCEGS) process at a future meeting.

### Audit Committee

No report provided

## **Regional Reports**

### ICC

Brian Bishop stated 50 people participated in the ICC membership meeting recently and that calls for committees are always coming up. Building Safety Month is coming up. Brian also stated nominations for several different ICC awards are open. The Group B proposed code change proposals came out today and the code hearings for Group B begin at the end of April.

### Region III

Region III president Roger Schemmel provided an update. He recapped the annual Region III training event held in February. He mentioned there was good representation from Iowa at the event. On Wednesday the board held a meeting where they had the opportunity to meet with the incoming ICC CEO John Belcik. Roger also indicated the Brent Snyder award was presented to Butch Warrington who retired as the Building Official for Sioux Falls South Dakota. Region III plans to have a presence at the fall code hearing in Cleveland.

### EICCC

Ben Pothoff provided the update. He mentioned there were 24 members in attendance at the February EICCC meeting. At the meeting there was a conversation about requirements in the new code including updated snow loading requirements. EICCC will be creating an emerging leader's initiative with their group. A representative with Diamond piers provided an overview of their products. The next EICCC meeting is scheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup> in Robins Iowa.

### MICCC

Dennis Patrick provided an update. MICCC held training on the existing building code on January 30th. 60 people attended the training. MICCC is planning to schedule a fall training as well to use their 2025 ICC training credit. MICCC is also discussing the ASCE 7 impacts and seeking to find a common approach in the metro for snow load and frost depth.

### Iowa Permit Techs

Luke Maloney indicated written correspondence from the Iowa Permit Techs was received. He said the Iowa Permit Techs want to make sure all of their members are aware that the annual training they held in November 2024 included a complementary membership. If you did not attend the event, your membership fees are due. The letter also indicates that planning for the 2025 Iowa Permit Tech annual conference is underway.

## lowACE

Ben Pothoff provided an update on behalf of a staff member that serves on the lowACE board. The organization is seeking to make some changes. Traditionally the group has held one event per year with limited interaction outside of the event. They are looking to change that and host regular business meetings. They will be offering an online training event hosted by ICC on April 28th, 2025. The training will be free for lowACE members and \$50 for non-members.

## **Old Business**

### Building Code +Up grant

Luke Maloney indicated IABO has received a contract from Iowa Homeland Security which is currently being reviewed by IABO's attorney. The membership will be updated when additional details are known.

### Tax Situation

Luke Maloney indicates that due in part to being a revolving IABO board, somewhere along the line some steps got missed. Adam Ostert indicated that based on conversations with previous board members, it's likely that no tax documents had been filed in the past 15 to 20 years. Luke stated as a result, IABO's federal tax ID number has been dissolved. The federal government no longer sees IABO as an organization. However, Iowa still does. IABO's attorney is in the process of preparing the required paperwork and getting it submitted to the appropriate agencies. As part of the process a name change will be necessary which could trigger an audit of tax filings down the road. The overall process could take up to three months to complete. Discussions are ongoing about retaining the current accounting firm for the required annual tax filings in the future. A request was made by Luke for the membership to approve additional funds related to the filing status and tax situation. The funds would only be utilized if the \$5,000 previously authorized by the membership was insufficient. A motion to approve requested funding as needed for resolving tax issues was offered by Tim Hennes with a second by Brian Bishop. A voice vote passed unanimously.

## **New Business**

### Insurance

Ben Pothoff shared that the board had conversations to determine if an insurance policy would be appropriate to cover events, as well as general liability. Ben has been in contact with an insurance agency which has proposed a policy for events as well as general liabilities. Policies are about \$400 each so a total of \$800 annually. A motion was made by Brian Bishop to authorize up to \$1,000 for insurance as the board sees fit. A second was provided by Tim Hennes. The voice vote in support passed unanimously.

### Building Safety Month

Luke Maloney reminded the membership May is designated as Building Safety month. IABO signed their proclamation and sent it off to Rick Hauffe with ICC. If jurisdictions would like their proclamations signed, please submit them to IABO and we will get them signed by ICC. If any members have ideas for Building Safety Month, please share them with a board member. The IABO, EICCC and MICCC proclamations will be posted on the IABO website.

#### Funding request for apparel order

Lucas Pump provided an update via the Zoom chat due to difficulties with audio in the room. He stated the apparel website is set-up to run from April 4th through April 18th. We will have an IABO meeting on May 8th and he would like to have the apparel distributed at that meeting. It can be delivered to the Cedar Rapids City Services building, like our previous order. We would like to offer three logo options but only offer the \$25 coupon code for only the IABO logo (not the EICCC or MICCC). However, Mike from Bizfitters says they are unable to provide that limit. The board is seeking approval from the membership to fund up to \$25 per member to subsize IABO logoed merchandise. Last time apparel was ordered, IABO's expense was \$1,700. A motion to approve a \$25 coupon for IABO apparel was offered by Roger Schemmel with a second by Neil Bombei. The voice vote for approval was unanimous.

#### Challenge Coins / Pins

A request to purchase challenge coins / pins was presented by Gary Hansen. He provided an overview of previous pins and poker chips purchased by IABO to give away at the ICC and IABO ABMs. Pin's typically cost about \$1.50 each. IABO is designing a challenge coin and is working with ICC to use their logo along with the IABO logo. Challenge coins cost roughly \$4.00 to \$5.00 each. Gary is seeking approval for funding and will report back at the next meeting with cost estimate and final design. There was general support from the membership to continue moving forward with a membership vote to approve funding coming at the next meeting.

#### **Member topics**

##### Code discussion

A question was submitted by Henry regarding the plumbing code. The question dealt with single toilet rooms in the UPC vs the IPC. Are jurisdictions utilizing the 50 occ limit per the UPC or the 15 per the IBC. Similar discrepancies with M occupancies. There was general discussion from the membership on how they addressed the issue.

##### General Questions

Discussion was had regarding temporary electrical poles and delays in getting services connected by the utility companies. Seeking alternate methods for temporary to permanent services.

##### Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:42am was made by Tim Hennes. A second was offered by Adam Ostert and the voice vote carried unanimously.

Minutes submitted by:

David Kuhn – IABO Secretary