

MINUTES
HOUSE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 25, 2024

TIME: 1:30 P.M.

PLACE: Room EW41

MEMBERS: Chairman Clow, Vice Chairman Ehlers, Representatives Crane(13), Palmer, Barbieri, Dixon(1), Andrus, Furniss, Mitchell, Cornilles (Snyder), Crane(12), Lanting, Petzke, Redman, Berch, Green, Rubel

**ABSENT/
EXCUSED:** Reps. Barbieri, Furniss, Rubel

GUESTS: The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

MOTION: **Rep. Crane(12)** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2024 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

MOTION: **Rep. Green** made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2024 meeting. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

Chairman Clow explained the last day to introduce RSs will be Friday, February 9, 2024.

Chairman Clow turned the gavel over to **Vice Chairman Ehlers**.

DOCKET NO. 24-0101-2301: **Vice Chairman Ehlers** introduced **Amy Lorenzo**, Bureau Chief, DOPL who explained the proposed rule changes didn't affect the licensing status of current or future licensees but did create benefits and efficiencies.

Testifying **in support** of the rule changes, **Peyton Nunes** from AIA-Idaho thanked everyone for their hard work on the rules process.

MOTION: **Rep. Redman** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-0101-2301**. **Motion carried by voice vote.** **Rep. Crane(13)** expressed support for the motion.

DOCKET NO. 24-0701-2301: **Amy Lorenzo**, Bureau Chief, DOPL explained this rule change is a chapter repeal due to the consolidation of the Board of Architectural Examiners with the Board of Landscape Architects.

ORIGINAL MOTION: **Rep. Redman** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-0101-2301**.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Chairman Clow** made a substitute motion to approve **Docket No. 24-0701-2301**.

VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Vice Chair Ehlers** called for a vote on the substitute motion to approve **Docket No. 24-0701-2301**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-3930-2302: **Amy Lorenzo**, Bureau Chief, DOPL explained the proposed rule changes were to simplify language and remove redundancies, while maintaining a commitment to consumer protection and public safety.

In response to committee questions, **Ms. Lorenzo** explained fire sprinklers are not required for 1-2 family dwellings in this rule. **Ms. Lorenzo** introduced **Sam Zahorka**, Executive Officer, Building Code Board, and State Building Official who explained fire code requires fire sprinklers for 1-2 family dwelling under certain circumstances. He shared situations where local fire departments will require fire sprinklers in rural areas where water availability is insufficient. Ms. Lorenzo also explained **Docket No. 24-3930-2302** is anchored in the 2018 **Idaho Energy Conservation Code**.

Testifying **in support** of the rule changes, **Peyton Nunes** AIA-Idaho explained her organization has been an active participant in the rules process and appreciates the balance which has been struck.

MOTION: **Chairman Clow** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-3930-2302**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-3931-2301: **Amy Lorenzo**, Bureau Chief, DOPL explained the proposed rule changes simplify and remove redundant language.

In response to committee questions, **Ms. Lorenzo** explained most changes were just technical restructuring of the text except for continuing education where it was condensed to allow for more discretion for training.

MOTION: **Rep. Petzke** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-3931-2301** **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-3950-2301: **Vice Chair Ehlers** introduced **MiChell Bird**, Bureau Chief, DOPL who explained the proposed rule changes were to simplify language and while this is a fee rule, fees have not changed.

In response to committee questions, **Ms. Bird** explained there was no push back regarding the change to the working capitol requirement. The last time the working capitol requirement was changed was at least 10 years ago. She further shared the purpose of increasing to the working capitol requirement is to stay aligned with the current economic conditions and ensure the contractor would have enough liquidity to complete projects. She also explained during the two years she has been with the Public Works Board, there have been no reports of contractors unable to complete projects due to not having enough financial resources available. She shared the specialty SIC codes will be available for selection for the applicant.

ORIGINAL MOTION: **Rep. Palmer** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-3950-2301** with the exception of section 100.03.d.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Rep. Berch** made a substitute motion to approve **Docket No. 24-3950-2301**.

Speaking to the original motion, **Rep. Mitchell** expressed concern the increased capitol requirement may create a barrier contributing to a shortage of construction companies.

VOTE ON SUBSTITUTE MOTION: **Vice Chair Ehlers** called for a vote on the substitute motion to approve **Docket No. 24-3950-2301**. **Motion failed by voice vote.**

VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION: **Vice Chair Ehlers** called for a vote on the motion to approve **Docket No. 24-3950-2301** with the exception of section 100.03.d. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

DOCKET NO. 24-1801-2301: **MiChell Bird**, Bureau Chief, DOPL who explained the proposed rule changes eliminated 3 pages of outdated or restrictive rules and created an additional pathway to licensure for appraisers by adopting the Practical Application of Real Estate Appraising for the experience requirement of various licensure types. In addition, this rule has no fee changes.

In response to committee questions, **Ms. Bird** explained when an applicant first applies, they pay for both the application fee and the license fee, at renewal they only pay the license fee. She also shared real estate appraiser industry is federally regulated as such they are audited every two years. The addition of the Valuation Bias and Fair Housing Laws course is a newer federal requirement. She explained if the State of Idaho doesn't pass the audit successfully, Idaho appraisers would then not meet those qualifications and consequently, would not be able to work on federally funded transactions. Ms. Bird also explained in order to lessen wait time for appraisals, especially in rural areas, there is a need for more appraisers in Idaho. She shared the new training pathway will address this concern while maintaining rigor.

MOTION: **Chairman Clow** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 24-1801-2301. Motion carried by voice vote.**

Vice Chair Ehlers returned the gavel to **Chairman Clow**.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Representative Ehlers
Chair

Michelle A Anderson
Secretary