



*Minnesota Building Permit Technicians Association  
10-Year Anniversary  
1997-2007*

**Volume 10, Issue 5**

**September 2007**

*“The goals of the Minnesota Building Permits Technicians Association is to provide, promote, and support education, networking, professionalism, certification, and recognition of its membership.”*

**President**

Cecy Lukoskie – City of Shoreview  
4600 Victoria Street North  
Shoreview, MN 55126  
651-490-4683 \* 651-490-4750 (fax)  
[clukoskie@ci.shoreview.mn.us](mailto:clukoskie@ci.shoreview.mn.us)

**Vice President**

Britt Pease - City of Andover  
1685 Crosstown Blvd. NW  
Andover MN 55304  
763-767-5122  
[Bpease@ci.andover.mn.us](mailto:Bpease@ci.andover.mn.us)

**Secretary**

Barb Benesch – City of Mounds View  
2401 County Highway 10  
Mounds View, MN 55112  
763-717-4028 \* 651-765-1660 (fax)  
[barb.benesch@ci.mounds-view.mn.us](mailto:barb.benesch@ci.mounds-view.mn.us)

**Treasurer I**

Jennifer Harmer – City of Elk River  
13065 Orono Parkway  
Elk River, MN 55330  
763-635-1062 \* 763-635-1090 (fax)  
[jharmer@ci.elk-river.mn.us](mailto:jharmer@ci.elk-river.mn.us)

**Treasurer II**

Lisa Kelleher – City of Elk River  
13065 Orono Parkway  
Elk River, MN 55330  
763-635-1063 \* 763-635-1090 (fax)  
[lKelleher@ci.elk-river.mn.us](mailto:lKelleher@ci.elk-river.mn.us)



**OUTSTANDING  
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!**

**Minnesota Building Permit Technicians Association**

*Legal Strategies for Effective Code Administration*

*October 23rd, 2007*

*The Mermaid Event Center & AmericInn, Mounds View*

**Region III Institute**

*February 4-8, 2008*

*Northland Inn Brooklyn Park, Minnesota*

**52nd Annual Institute for Building Officials**

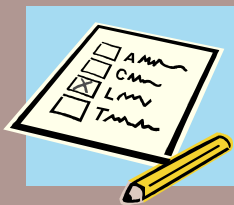
*January 9-18, 2008*

*Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul,*

*Minnesota*

**~SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS~**

**2008 MBPTA Officer Nominations....are now being accepted!**



**President  
Vice-President  
Secretary  
Treasurer I  
Treasurer II**

**(Please e-mail your nominations to [barb.benesch@ci.mounds-view.mn.us](mailto:barb.benesch@ci.mounds-view.mn.us))**

## **\*\*Thank You!\*\***



A big thank you to **Jennifer Harmer and Lisa Kelleher** and the City of Elk River for hosting the July meeting!!

Another huge thank goes out to **Steve Nelson**, Building Official for the City of Shoreview, for his informative presentation on "The Fundamentals on Roofing, Siding and Windows" and recent code changes. Steve has been a huge advocate of MBPTA and we want to thank him greatly for his support!



### **As a result of the recent Code changes, did you know that now.....**

1) No roof overlays will be allowed in the Metropolitan Area—this includes detached accessory structures.

2) All **new** basements require an egress window and **every** sleeping room requires an egress window.

Exception—Basements used only to house mechanical equipment and do not exceed 200 square feet need not to have an egress window.

3) The maximum stair rise is 7-3/4 inches and the minimum tread depth is 10 inches.

4) Guardrails on decks, porches, balconies, ramps or raised floor surfaces 30 inches or more above the floor or grade shall not have any openings greater than 4 inches.

Exception—Openings for required guards or sides of stair treads shall be no larger than 4-3/8 inches.



## **Just For Fun**

Crickets are sensitive to changes in air temperature, and chirp at faster rates as the temperature rises. If you've a mind to, it is possible to use the chirps of the cricket common throughout the North America to gauge temperature. To get a rough estimate of the temperature in degrees Fahrenheit, count the number of chirps in 15 seconds and then add 37. The number you get will be an approximation of the outside temperature. This formula is said to be accurate within one degree. A variation is to count the chirps in 13 seconds, and add 40.

Source: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/mysteries/>



### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR INFORMATION**

As always, please make sure you send all RSVP's and mailing list information to Barb Benesch. You only need to RSVP if you are coming to the meeting. You need not respond if you will not be able to make it (unless you are an officer).

**If you are currently receiving a hard copy through the mail, and you have access to e-mail, please let me know and I will put you on the e-mail list.**

We would love to receive articles for this newsletter! If you have any information, ideas or tidbits you would like to share, let us know.

**Barb Benesch, Secretary** \* Fax (651) 765-1660 \* Phone (763) 717-4028  
[barb.benesch@ci.mounds-view.mn.us](mailto:barb.benesch@ci.mounds-view.mn.us)

*If you are interested in becoming a member of MBPTA, further information is available on our website.*

### Attention MBPTA

#### Members:

If you would like serve on an MBPTA Committee, please contact any MBPTA Officer. Volunteers are needed--thank you!

We're on the web...visit us at  
[www.MBPTA.org](http://www.MBPTA.org)

If you would like information regarding the Building Permit Technician program, you can obtain information by visiting the Inver Hills Community College website at [www.inverhills.edu](http://www.inverhills.edu) or the North Hennepin Community College website at [www.nhcc.edu/schedule/](http://www.nhcc.edu/schedule/). The courses are under "Building Permit Technology."

**Please contact Barb Benesch at 763-717-4028 or [barb.benesch@ci.mound-view.mn.us](mailto:barb.benesch@ci.mound-view.mn.us) by Friday, Sept. 21st only if you are planning to attend.**

## **NEXT MEETING AGENDA:**

**Tuesday, September 25, 2007—9:30 a.m.**

**City of Blaine** (see page 4 for directions)

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Approval of minutes for July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting
4. Approval of Treasurer's Report
5. Committee Reports
  - a. Education/Planning - Cecy Lukoskie
  - b. Annual School - Michele Engberg
  - c. By-Laws - 2008 Draft - Cecy Lukoskie
  - d. Communication Committee - Barb Benesch/Barb Williams
  - e. 10K Lakes Representative - Aaron Broken
  - f. State Advisory Board - Carri Levitski
6. General Business
  - a. Region III - Cecy Lukoskie (2008 Membership)
  - b. Budget - 2008 Draft - Cecy Lukoskie
  - c. October Seminar - Cecy Lukoskie - Update
  - d. Nominations for officer's - Cecy Lukoskie
  - e. Caring for our community - Aaron Borken
  - f. Open Floor for Comments/Questions/Discussions
7. Adjourn

Education: Doug Morem, Goodhue County Building Official is will be doing a presentation on Code changes.

**Next Meeting: City of Shoreview - November 27<sup>th</sup>,**

**Annual Business meeting only**

**Bring a non-perishable food item for the Minnesota food shelf. Or donate cash, \$1.00 will buy \$9.00 worth of food for the Minnesota food shelf.**

All meetings are the LAST Tuesday of every other month @ 9:30 a.m., unless notified otherwise.

**'PIECES' FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**



**DIRECTIONS TO BLAINE CITY HALL:**

The meeting will be held upstairs on the second floor in the Cloverleaf room. (Top of the stairs, make an immediate right).

From the South: Take Hwy 65 north to 109th Ave. Turn right (by Super Target). Go through two stoplights. The second light is Radisson Rd. Take the first right onto Town Square Drive.

From the North: Take 35 south to 35W and exit at Lexington Avenue. Take a right at the top of the ramp and go to 109th Avenue. Take a left on 109th Avenue and go about 2 miles. Town Square Drive is on the left just before the stoplights.

**ICC Contacts**

1-888-ICC-SAFE  
(422-7233)

Web address: [www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org)

ICC eNews:

<http://www.iccsafe.org/news/eNews/subscribe.html>

ICC Chapter eNews

[http://www.iccsafe.org/membership/chapters/eNewsletter/eNew-](http://www.iccsafe.org/membership/chapters/eNewsletter/eNew-subscribe.html)

[subscribe.html](http://www.iccsafe.org/membership/chapters/eNewsletter/eNew-subscribe.html)



Hello everyone,

We had our July meeting at the City of Elk River. Thank you to Jennifer Harmer and Lisa Kelleher for hosting the meeting. Mr. Steve Nelson, City of Shoreview Building Official, gave a presentation on "The Fundamentals on Roofing, Siding and Windows". Due to lengthy discussions on agenda items, our regular meeting lasted longer than expected. Steve's presentation was informative and valuable, but unfortunately because of the length of our meeting, he did not get adequate time for his presentation. Steve is always there to help, support and encourage this organization, and I just want to send a huge *thank you* for your time and continued support of MBPTA. The presenters at our meetings donate their time and put much effort into their presentations to educate us, so in future, I will do my best to keep our meetings on track so we finish up the meetings in a timely manner. For our members that had to leave before the end of the presentation; if you wish, send me an email and I will get you a copy of Steve's PowerPoint presentation. Our September 25<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at the City of Blaine, where Doug Morem, Goodhue County Building Official, will be giving a presentation on "Code Changes". I am delighted to have Doug Morem join us and thank you to Michele Engberg for arranging this educational opportunity.



We also discussed the upcoming education at the MBPTA seminar, and the Region III and U of M Institutes. We have started promoting our October 23<sup>rd</sup> fall seminar by placing the brochure on the MBPTA website and it also went out with the July newsletter. MBPTA will be presenting "Legal Strategies for Effective Code Administration". We had a successful seminar last year and I'm hoping that this year's education will meet, or even exceed, that seminar. Please join us! Final education plans are also in process for the U of M and Region III institutes. Look for their brochures on our website at MBPTA.org.

Our Annual Business Meeting is scheduled for November 27<sup>th</sup>. We are in the process of developing a new board position "Secretary II" to assist with secretarial duties. This position is subject for approval in the 2008 bylaws.

We have opened the nominations for 2008 Officers. To nominate an MBPTA member, please make sure you contact that individual first for their approval and then inform Barb Benesch, Secretary of MBPTA at [barb.benesch@ci.shoreview.mn.us](mailto:barb.benesch@ci.shoreview.mn.us). All Officers positions are one-year terms. Please consider being an Officer or volunteering your time on a Committee---it's some work, but the experience is priceless!

*I will not be running for re-election in November.* I have some personal obligations that prevent me from running for a third-year term as President. I have had two wonderful years as your President and had a lot of fun. I just

**'PIECES' FROM THE  
PRESIDENT'S DESK**  
(continued)



cannot say enough about how great it has been being a part of MBPTA and what a privilege it has been to serve as MBPTA President. From my heart, I say thank you so much to the board members that helped me and to you, the members who have attended the bi-monthly meetings. I encourage everyone to continue to participate as much as possible. Do not let another year go by thinking that you don't have time. Take a good look at the dedicated few that, year after year, make this organization possible for all of you. They, too, have busy schedules, but they commit themselves for you and this organization.

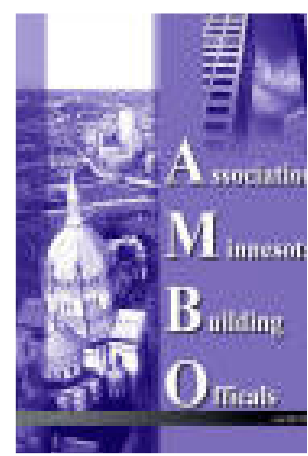
I look forward to seeing you in September.

Take care,  
Cecy

## MBPTA EDUCATION

### **Region III Institute**

February 4-8, 2008 , Northland Inn Brooklyn  
Park, Minnesota



**Basic Plan Review  
and Fundamentals  
of Code Admini-  
stration;**

**And  
Data Practices  
and Contractor  
Licensing...**

**...are a couple of  
highlights for the  
institute.**

### **ICC Educational Institute 2008 Upper Great Lakes Region III Program Descriptions**

**Basic Plan Review Fundamentals and Code  
Administration  
Peter Kulczyk and Herman Hauglid**

The program will discuss the fundamentals of plan review and code administration requirements as they apply to a given residential structure. The administration portion will review the building official's powers and duties, alternative materials and methods, permit requirements, submittal documents, and required inspections. The basic plan review element will provide several examples of plan review applications such as a new residential structure, deck, porch, and finished basement. This program will be beneficial to the permit technician, novice inspector, or even as a refresher for the seasoned inspector.

**Minnesota Data Practices and Minnesota Con-  
tractor Licensing Requirements  
Desyl Peterson and Charlie Durenberger**

This is a two-for-one course providing all your answers regarding data practices and contractor licensing. Determine what each Building Safety Department is required to save by law and how long must the documents be retained. Also update your Minnesota contractor licensing knowledge and the requirements of the building inspection

### **CONGRATULATIONS, CARRI!**

A huge congratulations goes out to long-time MBPTA member and past officer, Carri Levitski and her husband Alex, for the birth of their son, Alexander Vladimir Levitski II (Xander) who arrived on August 22nd!



# MBPTA EDUCATION

## How to Become a Certified Permit Technician

### Books needed for the test

2006 IBC (chapters 1-3, 6, 12 and 34)  
2006 IZC  
2002 Legal Aspects  
Basic Code Enforcement 8th printing  
You Can Build It has been removed from the exam

### Additional Study Material

ICC Study CD  
ICC Permit Technician Study Companion

## Exam Details and Fees

\$170.00 computerized  
60 multiple-choice questions—  
Open Book—2hour limit  
General Administration 39%  
Legal Aspects 22%  
Plans and Documents 25%  
Zoning and Site Development 14%

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Mark your calendars!

**52nd Annual Institute for  
Building Officials**  
*January 9-18, 2008:  
Continuing Education and  
Conference Center, St. Paul,  
Minnesota*

## MBPTA MEETINGS

**Just a reminder that  
if you are not a cur-  
rent member of  
MBPTA, the fee to  
attend a meeting is  
\$20. Thanks!**

Would you like to see some-  
thing appear in the next  
newsletter? Please contact  
Editor Barb Benesch at  
barb.benesch@ci.mounds-  
view.mn.us

## Skills for Today's Exceptional Building Department

### Course Description

This two-day seminar examines skills that enhance technical, legal, and administrative functions of today's effective building department. The seminar has a broad scope including essentials of building permitting, calculating fees, fundamental concepts of zoning, basics of construction documents, general problem solving, legal aspects of code administration, public communications, and specific provisions of the International Building Code. Participants will have opportunities to navigate the reference materials and increase their familiarity with code administration resources.

### The Instructor

Steve Burger has worked in building code enforcement since 1972. He has held a wide variety of positions including permit technician, building inspector, plans examiner, and building official. Mr. Burger holds multiple certifications including Certified Building Official, Plans Examiner, Mechanical Inspector, Electrical Inspector, and Fire Code Inspector. He has served on many ICBO and ICC committees and has been teaching educational code seminars since 1998. He is the author of the 2006 ICC Permit Technician Study Companion. Currently, Mr. Burger is the Director of Building Safety Services at Bureau Veritas Code Consultants of Phoenix, Arizona.

### Who Should Attend

The broad scope of this seminar will provide items of interest to building inspectors, building officials, permit technicians, other building department personnel, construction professionals, as well as others who are interested in building code administration and enforcement.

### Books

Seminar attendees should bring the books listed below. If a title is not available to the participant, it may be purchased from ICC, or from the Minnesota Bookstore.

Alternately, the University of Minnesota, in cooperation with the Minnesota Bookstore, will have books available for purchase at the Institute.

### Book List

2006 International Building Code

2006 International Zoning Code

Legal Aspects of Code Administration (copyright 2002)

Basic Code Enforcement (copyright 1999, eighth printing or later)

# MBPTA EDUCATION (CONT.)

## **LEGAL STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVE CODE ADMINISTRATION**

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**ICC Instructor:  
Linda Pieczynski**



### **Booth Volunteers Needed!**

MBPTA is looking for volunteers to “man” our booth at the Region III Education on Wednesday, February 6th and Thursday, February 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If we can get enough volunteers, we can take shifts.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact President Cecy Lukoskie

**THANK YOU!!**

**October 23rd, 2007**

**The Mermaid Event Center & AmericInn  
Mounds View**

**Description:** Provides guidelines for administering the legal aspects of codes with regard to enforcement, prosecution and maintenance.

**Objectives:** Upon completion, participants will be better able to:

- Describe the historical consequences of ignoring the regulation of building construction and materials.
- Interpret and apply local government, state and federal legislative laws as they apply to the administration and enforcement of a building code.
- Establish or document rules of procedure used before a board of building code appeals.
- Interpret and apply certain provisions of constitutional law and property law concepts as they apply to the administration and enforcement of a building code.
- Examine theories of legal liability.
- Interpret basic principles of negligence and civil rights acts and examine possible defenses and immunities.
- To register, go to [www.mbpta.org](http://www.mbpta.org) and print out registration form.
- Use guidelines that are presented in the course to testify effectively in a court of law.

**eNews** - The International Code Council's award-winning electronic newsletter, distributed monthly, keeps members and interested parties up to with International Code Council programs and relevant industry activities.

Read the current issue as [www.iccsafe.org/news](http://www.iccsafe.org/news).

# 2007 MBPTA Membership

**Annual MBPTA membership dues** varies by size and type of your City or organization. The membership period is January 1 through December 31 of each year. The 2007 Membership Application can be found at:

**WWW.MBPTA.ORG**

Benefits of Membership Include:

- Quality Education and Training Opportunities**
- Discounts on Seminar Rates**
- Wide Variety of Networking Opportunities**
- Continuing Education Credits for ICC Certification**
- Scholarships for Higher Learning Programs for Members and Children of Members**

Mail your check and completed membership form to:

Jennifer Harmer

City of Elk River  
13065 Orono Parkway  
Elk River, MN 55330

**Make checks payable to:  
MBPTA**

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**MBPTA currently has openings on several committees.**

**Contact any MBPTA officer for further information.**

## ***Safety organization cannot explain why some smoke detectors did not detect smoke***

It's a serious problem that affects millions of smoke detectors, and it probably affects the ones in your home right now.

Tests conducted by WTHR and area fire departments have shown in slow-burning smoky fires, the most popular type of smoke detector in the United States may NOT detect smoke.

The testing showed some ionization smoke alarms (the least expensive kind which is now estimated to be in more than 90% of all U.S. households) did not sound until long after they were surrounded by thick smoke and dangerous carbon monoxide gas. In some of the tests, they did not activate at all.

So then how did those smoke alarms get a seal of approval from [Underwriters Laboratories](#), one of the world's leading testing and safety organizations?

A UL seal means a smoke alarm is "listed" by the organization which has determined the smoke detector meets industry standards for safety and effectiveness. The UL seal is very powerful. It is considered proof that a product works, and the nation's largest smoke alarm manufacturers defend their ionization smoke alarms by pointing out they've been tested and approved by Underwriters Laboratories.

"The reality is, if it's a UL listed smoke alarm, when that smoke hits the alarm, it will sound the alarm," said UL consumer affairs manager John Dregenberg.

Dregenberg told 13 Investigates that all UL-approved smoke alarms work because they are tested inside UL's 1.5-million-square-foot testing facility near Chicago to make sure they meet strict standards.

But UL admits it cannot explain why multiple tests conducted by WTHR and fire departments from Indianapolis, Wayne Township, Brownsburg and Speedway showed ionization smoke detectors that did not activate in rooms full of heavy smoke.

The following exchange is from a conversation between Dregenberg and 13 Investigates:

**Segall:** Do we agree that in a situation like that the smoke alarms should be going off?**Dregenberg:** There should be an alarm sounding... what we're really looking at is when the smoke concentration in a room is a hazard to human life,

## Smoke detector—Continued from previous page.....

that's when the smoke alarm should go off.

**Segall:** But we're talking about a room full of smoke.

**Dregenberg:** The fact is we know if it's a working smoke alarm, when the smoke hits that alarm, it will sound.

**Segall:** That just doesn't make sense. You stated when the smoke hits the alarm, we know it's going to go off. But yet we see situations where that doesn't happen.

**Dregenberg:** I'm talking about from a scientific standpoint, when the smoke gets to the alarm in the proper density in the proper concentration, it will go off.

**Segall:** Is there any scientific explanation for why, in this real world situation, we have smoke detectors that are not going off in a room full of smoke?

**Dregenberg:** I really don't know.

Dregenberg did point out all of the tests conducted by WTHR and Indiana fire departments are considered unscientific. And he is right.

### Scientific testing

That is why WTHR visited the laboratory of Dr. Don Russell in College Station, Texas. His lab is inside an old home on the campus of Texas A&M University, and it is where Russell has tested hundreds of smoke alarms over the past ten years.

"This is science," said Russell, a professor of electrical and computer engineering. "I've been doing this a long time."

During WTHR's visit, Russell and some of his engineering graduate students set slow smoky fires on polyurethane couch cushions inside the lab to test the response time of six ionization and six photoelectric smoke alarms.

The tests were conducted in a dark room so the researchers could scientifically monitor smoke levels with light obscuration meters -- the same way UL tests smoke levels. Infrared

cameras and high-tech computer programs constantly monitored the smoke and the alarms, and allowed the research team and 13 Investigators to watch the tests on a computer monitor from a nearby room -- safe from smoke and toxic gasses.

The results of the Texas A&M tests were nearly identical to those in Indiana.

The average activation time of the photoelectric smoke alarms was 10 minutes and 32 seconds faster than that of the ionization smoke alarms. Three of the ionization detectors did not activate until well after the amount of smoke in the room exceeded acceptable UL levels. Those three alarms sounded at an average smoke obscuration level of 14.9%, which means if you were in the room at the time the smoke detectors sounded, thick smoke would have prevented you from seeing an object -- such as a door or a person -- seven feet away from you.

(UL's safety standard for smoke alarms indicates that a smoke alarm must activate before 10% smoke obscuration. That means the smoke density surrounding the smoke alarm must not exceed 10% per foot or, put another way, you could still see an object ten feet away.)

### "A big problem"

"After an hour, we had fifty percent of the smoke detectors -- ionization smoke detectors -- not sounding," Russell said. "You saw it. I saw it. Our eyes didn't lie. The smoke was there. It was scientifically measured on both side of the smoke detectors. It's clearly thick and those smoke detectors were not going off. I call that a big problem."

It's a problem Russell has seen with ionization smoke alarms since he first began testing smoke detectors a decade ago. He says in smoldering fires, his tests show at least one in five ionization smoke alarms never sounds at all.

And yet those alarms are approved by UL. Doctor Russell says he thinks he knows why:

"Their science isn't any good, frankly. As a scientist, practicing science that doesn't replicate what the world really is in terms of physics is worthless."

Russell and other critics of UL say for decades, smoke detectors have been tested in laboratory settings that do not reflect real-life scenarios. They also argue UL's testing standard is outdated.

Some of the people who help design the standard for Underwriters Laboratories agree the current testing process for smoke alarms is long overdue for change.

## RENO 2007 Annual Conference and Education Program



SEPTEMBER 30—OCTOBER 3  
Grand Sierra Resort  
Reno, Nevada

The ICC Annual conference is right around the corner! This year's conference is packed with plenty of activities and includes something for every interest::

[http://abm.iccsafe.org/2007/pdf/reg\\_brochure.pdf](http://abm.iccsafe.org/2007/pdf/reg_brochure.pdf)

**Innovative Education Courses and Seminars**  
**Demonstration of the SMARTcodes System**  
**Cutting-Edge Green Building Presentations**  
**Western States Seismic Policy Council events**  
**First-Ever IT Solutions for Code Officials Symposium**  
**Expanded Exposition**  
**Shake It Up at the Seismic Safety Zone**  
**First-Year Special Administration Exams**  
**New Plumbing, Mechanical and Fuel Gas Aisle**  
**Special Events (Golf Tournament, 5K Run, Bob Fowler Ride)**

## **DRAFT MINUTES—Tuesday, July 23, 2007— Elk River City Hall**

The meeting was called to order at 9:33 a.m. The following officers were present at this meeting: President Cecy Lukoskie, Vice-President Britt Pease, Secretary Barb Benesch; Treasurer I Jennifer Harmer and Treasurer II Lisa Kelleher. The following members and guests were present: Connie Duellman, Jeanne Witczek, Michelle Engberg, Robin Roscoe, Roger Axel, Patty Boysen, JoAnne Beckes, Debra Hegedus, Gail Keykal, Steve Nelson, Karen Zacho, Tina Beckfeld, Jackie Onischuck, Jeanne McManus, Mary Howe, Kristin Rosenboom, Patti Wasmund, Katie Schlundt, May Vang, Debi Close, Robbie Hiltz Rhonda McDonald and Kristin Beckfeld.

Introductions took place.

There were no corrections to the minutes. Robbie Hiltz made a motion, seconded by Robin Roscoe, to approve the minutes of May 22, 2007. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer I Harmer gave the Treasurer's Reports for June 2007, noting that expenditures were \$134.58 with \$150 in deposits, and July 2007 had expenditures of \$280.41 with no deposits. She also reported the balance in our account (copy of the reports are attached).

JoAnne Beckes made a motion, seconded by Gayle Keykal, to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

### Committee Reports:

Education/Planning - President Lukoskie reported that the MBPTA fall seminar is at the Mermaid Entertainment and Conference Center in Mounds View. She indicated that the seminar information had been forward by e-mail to AMBO, MAHCO, 10K Lakes and the Southwest Building Officials to get the information out to their members and to place on their websites. She added that the books for all registrants this year are free of charge.

Annual School - Member Michele Engberg reported that she had attended the Region III meeting on July 9. She added that another meeting is scheduled for August 6<sup>th</sup>. Member Axel inquired as to what logo we would be using the new "10 year" logo or our current one. It was decided that we would be using are new "10 year" logo on any future correspondence. Member Axel distributed a class list for the February 2008 Region III Education along with class descriptions. Member Engberg briefly described the classes that would be pertinent to Permit Technicians. She reminded the group that the number one requested topic from our survey a while back, "basic plan review", was a scheduled class at the education and encouraged everyone to participate. She also indicated that she would provide Secretary Benesch with detailed class descriptions to be placed in the next newsletter.

Member Engberg also described the classes for the U of M education in January. She again indicated that she would get these descriptions to the Secretary to be placed in the next newsletter. She added that one of the educational days would be a "panel discussion" with a question and answer session. She also noted that the U of M bookstore would be at two of the education days so that books could be purchased on site if needed.

She added that an MBPTA booth will be available for both the January and February educations and that staffing for the booths are needed. More information regarding dates and times would be placed in the next newsletter as well.

Member Engberg informed the group that the U of M was requesting authorization from MBPTA for their endorsement and the use of the MBPTA logo for education activities regarding permit technicians. She read aloud a draft resolution that she prepared regarding this issue. She noted that the major change in the U of M education brochure was that MBPTA, as well as the other chapters, was now shown as an endorser not a sponsor.

Robbie Hiltz made a motion, seconded by Patti Wasmund, to approve the resolution entitled, "A Resolution Whereby the Minnesota Building Permit Technicians Association (MBPTA) Authorizes the Endorsement of and the Use of the MBPTA Logo for Education Activities for Building Permit Technicians". Motion passed unanimously.

Bylaws - President Lukoskie reported that a draft copy of the bylaws would be available at the September meeting for approval at the November meeting. She encouraged input from the members regarding any revisions. Both Members Engberg and Wasmund requested copies be forwarded to them for review.

**Communications Committee** - No report.

**10K Lakes** - Member Steve Nelson informed the group that he had attended the 10K Lakes summer conference at Cragun's Resort in Brainerd. MBPTA Vice-President Pease also attended. Mr. Nelson briefly described the conference and the facility and stated that the conference in an excellent way to meet new people and network.

Member Nelson also added that there were six recipients of the 10K Lakes scholarships and one of our own members, Kristina Beckfeld, a BIT student from the City of Friday, was one of the recipients.

**State Advisory Board** - Neither Member Levitski or Member Singer were able to attend the last committee meeting. However, Member Axel reminded the group that there is a four-year bachelor BIT program available through Southwest State University and also that all BIT classes at Inver Hills and North Hennepin Community Colleges will be available on line this fall. There will also be some web-enhanced classes available.

### General Business

**Region III** - President Lukoskie participated in a phone conference meeting on June 14. She announced that the Region III Committee has approved the "Brett Snyder Award" and that the first one will be presented at the Region III Institute in February 2008. She also mentioned that Region III approved their education endorsement policy, and is working on their guidelines for Region III endorsement of candidates and representatives policy. Region III would like to schedule a meeting at the AMB in Reno and an approval was made to purchasing pins. It was suggested that the Region III minutes be placed on the MBPTA website so that all members have access to them.

**Combining Education/Annual School Committees** - this item discussed previously in the meeting. At that time President Lukoskie announced that individuals are working on the bylaw changes in this area and that a draft copy of the bylaws will be submitted at the September meeting.

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**2007 ICC ABM** - President Lukoskie announced that she would be attending the Annual ICC Education conference in Reno, Nevada. She expressed that she would like another board member to attend to assist her with the meetings and other activities that will be taking place there. She informed members that the cost from the MBPTA budget for two people to attend the conference would be \$2,300 and that her registration fee of \$400 would be waived since she is the MBPTA President. She expressed that she would feel more comfortable asking the membership's permission to send another officer even though the Bylaws indicate expenditures such as this one can be made with the approval of two officers. Member Axel mentioned that he would also be at the conference to assist President Lukoskie in any way he could. Vice-President Pease indicated that she would be willing to make the trip but needed approval from her employer for the time off before committing.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding whether or not the second person attending the conference would have to be an officer or could it be any MBPTA member.

Roger Axel made a motion, seconded by JoAnne Beckes, to use MBPTA funds to send two members to the 2007 ICC Annual Education in Reno, Nevada to help promote the 2008 ABM here in Minnesota. Motion passed unanimously.

At this time Member Axel distributed copies of the 2008 AMB logo that will be used for T-Shirts, pins, post-it notes, cups, etc.

**Caring for the Community** - No Report.

**Nominations for Officers** - President Lukoskie reminded members that we need to start thinking about 2008 officer nominations and that if there were any questions to e-mail her directly.

**Open Floor** - President Lukoskie mentioned an e-mail that she received from the Building and Fire Safety Official at the City of Turnwater in Washington State complimenting our newsletter. Kudos was given to Secretary Benesch for her work on the newsletter.

President Lukoskie provided a little information regarding the Oregon Permit Technicians noting that there were 58 certified technicians in that State an increase of 11 just from January 2007.

She also mentioned that Secretary Benesch had received an e-mail from Member Barb Williams of the Communications Committee indicating that Williams had on the website, the latest approved minutes, the July newsletter, October's Legal Strategies Seminar information and sign-up sheet, U of M and Region III Institute dates, and links to additional permit tech websites.

**Adjournment** - Jeanne Witczek made a motion, seconded by Debi Hegedus, to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Immediately following the meeting Steve Nelson, Building Official for the City of Shoreview, gave an informational PowerPoint presentation regarding the fundamentals of roofing, siding and windows.

***Celebrating 10 Years... M.B.P.T.A. 1997 to 2007***