



The Association of Minnesota Building Officials

Committed to serving the public interest and the professionals that ensure safety in the built environment



AMBO

**PO Box 784
Fairmont, MN
56031**

Board of Directors

Chairperson

Gary Yoder
Building Official
City of Owatonna

Vice Chairperson

Gary Hagedorn
Building Official
City of Blaine

Secretary/Treasurer

David Fisher
Building Official
City of Maplewood

Past Chairperson

Craig Hoiium
Building Official
City of Austin

Directors

Randy Kardell
Building Official
City of Willmar

Sid Fossan

Building Official
City of Cokato

Patrick Higgins

Building Official
City of Minneapolis

Bill Schlenvogt

Building Official
City of Cloquet

Dale Schoeppner

Building Official
City of Eagan

November 21, 2008

A message to current Ambo members and others working in or with interest in code enforcement:

I am requesting assistance from all of you joining the Association of Minnesota Building Officials, renewing your membership or volunteering for committee work. I realize that at this time our economy is sliding and construction is slow which affects all of us but we must continue to drive our profession to the greatest extent possible otherwise we could lose some of what we have already achieved.

Our Association was founded on the premise of providing quality education, providing support and involvement with the code change code change process and being vigorously involved with legislative actions that affects all of us. We have been successful in all of these core areas however our costs and the number of people needed to accomplish our goals continue to grow. One of my concerns is our operating budget which I feel needs to be scrutinized to ensure that we are not spending more than we have.

The Region III Educational Institute has grown and is providing attendees with high quality education however we still have not achieved a balance in the operating budget for the Institute. Our legislative work has proven very valuable in resisting poorly written or unneeded rules that concern not only our profession but the citizens of our state. I believe our costs for this work is paramount and we need to focus more of our effort with legislative actions or possibly pay a dear price down the road. The code change process nationally and statewide has been a challenge due to the number of people needed to be involved with committee work and the rising costs incurred with travel expenses however this is also highly important for all of us.

We have been very fortunate to have motivated and dedicated people involved in all of these areas and they have proven themselves again and again. We need more people with new ideas and new enthusiasm to continue to improve these three vital areas that this Association was founded on because we cannot continue to ask and expect the same individuals to sacrifice their personal time for everyone. This organization is not about one person or a chosen few it is about everyone in our profession working together to bring our duties to the forefront and enhance our abilities to allow all of us to do the job we have before us which is protecting our citizens.

Thanks to a lot of hard work by Pat Higgins and his committee attendees to the 2008 ICC Annual Business Meeting in Minneapolis were extremely pleased with welcoming and hospitality shown to them. "Minnesota has its act together." Again a group of our peers going above and beyond to accomplish something that reflects positively on all of us.

Please get involved and support our efforts which are actually supporting all of us by renewing your membership, becoming a new member, recruiting new members and or volunteering to be involved with one of our committees. Try out our website, simply AMBO and find contact information etc. Feel free to contact me or anyone on our board

Executive Officer

Roger Axel
763-531-5122

Executive Sec/Treas

Patrick Parsley
507-238-9461

or our committee chairpersons if you have any questions regarding membership or committee work. We really look forward to your assistance, ideas and criticisms. I really hope that you take advantage of our educational offerings this coming February. It is not only a good place to learn, it is a great way to meet new people from our state, surrounding states and from around the nation to share ideas and knowledge.

Many years ago when I first started as a building inspector I needed help and there was always those that are gone from us now or retired that were more than willing to give me their time and knowledge which did not benefit them financially. I continue to seek out information from others and always receive something useful. This is the way that we help each other and those with lesser experience. Therefore when people ask me “what do I get out of being a member of AMBO” I would suggest the ability to receive help and knowledge and the satisfaction of providing the same. We need to continue to do this to provide leadership to those new to code enforcement as was done for all of us and so it will continue.

I wish all of you good health and happiness and look forward to seeing you in February.

Gary Yoder
Your Chairman

Executive Officer
Roger Axel
763-531-5122

Executive Sec/Treas
Patrick Parsley
507-238-9461