

Washington State Home Inspector Advisory Licensing Board Meeting Transcript – June 9, 2022

00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:01.500

Kevin (Guest)

Seeing home inspector board.

00:00:02.290 --> 00:00:07.800

Kevin (Guest)

Today is June 9th 2020 two 10:00 AM. I called this meeting to order.

00:00:09.130 --> 00:00:12.420

Kevin (Guest)

A couple of pre meeting things, please keep your.

00:00:14.070 --> 00:00:15.300

Kevin (Guest)

Connection muted.

00:00:16.980 --> 00:00:18.430

Kevin (Guest)

This is being recorded.

00:00:19.570 --> 00:00:27.220

Kevin (Guest)

If you're a board member or a public person, state your name prior to your statement or your question.

00:00:28.640 --> 00:00:38.260

Kevin (Guest)

And we'll start with our call to order our roll call and if the board would go ahead and introduce himself or Kim, why don't you take A roll call for us?

00:00:40.060 --> 00:00:43.220

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

Thank you. So first Kevin wrapped breakfast.

00:00:44.530 --> 00:00:45.050

Kevin (Guest)

Here.

00:00:45.730 --> 00:00:46.530

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

Jordan Howard.

00:00:48.390 --> 00:00:48.820

Jordan Howard, InspectNW

Here.

00:00:51.870 --> 00:00:52.190

Jon Ashlock
Here.

00:00:53.400 --> 00:00:53.830

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)
Music.

00:00:54.560 --> 00:00:55.210

Kristine Messick (Guest)
Here.

00:00:56.120 --> 00:00:56.640

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)
Madison.

00:01:00.230 --> 00:01:00.880

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)
John Hester.

00:01:01.510 --> 00:01:01.980

Don HEster (Guest)
Here.

00:01:03.230 --> 00:01:04.080

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)
About with everybody.

00:01:06.370 --> 00:01:07.180

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)
That elenbaas.

00:01:08.880 --> 00:01:09.170

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)
Deb.

00:01:09.350 --> 00:01:11.280

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)
Here, Kim, could you also speak up?

00:01:12.830 --> 00:01:15.110

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)
Uh, sure. Alana price.

00:01:18.740 --> 00:01:19.070

Price, Lona (DOL)
Here.

00:01:19.890 --> 00:01:20.640

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

Jerry Honeywell.

00:01:25.450 --> 00:01:26.220

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

Bill Dutra.

00:01:25.650 --> 00:01:26.110

Honeywell, Shari (DOL)

Here.

00:01:27.830 --> 00:01:28.450

Dutra, Bill (DOL)

Present.

00:01:29.140 --> 00:01:29.890

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

Rick Slovak.

00:01:31.700 --> 00:01:32.330

Storvick, Richard (DOL)

Here.

00:01:33.320 --> 00:01:33.820

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

Pearson.

00:01:35.270 --> 00:01:35.570

Peterson, Keith (DOL)

Here.

00:01:37.280 --> 00:01:38.230

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

Melissa kirshner.

00:01:39.260 --> 00:01:39.580

Kershner, Melissa (DOL)

Here.

00:01:40.690 --> 00:01:44.770

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

I know there's a lot of stuff, so as I missed anybody, you can let me know or.

00:01:45.590 --> 00:01:46.110

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

They said.

00:01:48.540 --> 00:01:49.430

Kevin (Guest)

There is that everyone.

00:01:51.190 --> 00:01:52.120

Naegeli, Catharine (DOL)

Kathy Nagla here.

00:01:52.600 --> 00:01:52.840

Kevin (Guest)

No.

00:01:58.070 --> 00:01:58.750

Kevin (Guest)

OK.

00:01:59.820 --> 00:02:05.670

Kevin (Guest)

Uh, for those attending from the public group, there will be an opportunity for public comment.

00:02:06.570 --> 00:02:10.680

Kevin (Guest)

At the end of the agenda, so if you would hold your questions or comments to that point.

00:02:11.370 --> 00:02:28.300

Kevin (Guest)

There is a I believe a 3 minute time maximum, but that you will have an opportunity to speak to any of the matters at the end of the meeting. So we'll begin with approval of the minute meetings from our March 10th, 2022.

00:02:29.960 --> 00:02:33.070

Kevin (Guest)

Meeting if you would board members, if you would review the.

00:02:33.890 --> 00:02:36.040

Kevin (Guest)

Attached minutes take a moment.

00:02:39.390 --> 00:02:40.870

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

We actually, yeah.

00:02:43.510 --> 00:02:45.900

Kevin (Guest)

Do I have a a motion to approve?

00:02:46.930 --> 00:02:48.990

Jon Ashlock

Like to make a motion to approve the Minutes as written.

00:02:49.550 --> 00:02:50.200

Kevin (Guest)

Who's that?

00:02:49.860 --> 00:02:51.390

Jon Ashlock

This young John Ashcroft.

00:02:52.520 --> 00:02:55.100

Jordan Howard, InspectNW

Jordan Howard inspect northwest I 2nd.

00:02:56.050 --> 00:02:56.580

Kevin (Guest)

OK.

00:02:58.430 --> 00:02:59.090

Kevin (Guest)

Motion is.

00:02:59.170 --> 00:03:01.180

Kevin (Guest)

So all in favor.

00:03:02.800 --> 00:03:03.450

Kevin (Guest)

Yay.

00:03:03.090 --> 00:03:03.410

Jon Ashlock

I.

00:03:03.850 --> 00:03:04.960

Jordan Howard, InspectNW

I I.

00:03:04.360 --> 00:03:06.160

Kevin (Guest)

OK. Well, OK.

00:03:06.070 --> 00:03:06.640

Jordan Howard, InspectNW

Jordan Howard.

00:03:07.340 --> 00:03:07.830

Kristine Messick (Guest)

I.

00:03:07.380 --> 00:03:17.430

Kevin (Guest)

And we're going to move into our new business. We go to one item on our new business agenda, which is that just a board discussion of the virtual learning.

00:03:18.440 --> 00:03:25.400

Kevin (Guest)

Uh, just a quick preface, this is a discussion of the the changes to allow virtual classroom training.

00:03:27.010 --> 00:03:31.910

Kevin (Guest)

That was enacted during the COVID pandemic to allow.

00:03:33.360 --> 00:03:46.140

Kevin (Guest)

Home inspection training to continue through the pandemic and as we are getting to the waning moments of that, the discussion is is to the pros and cons.

00:03:56.720 --> 00:03:59.000

Kevin (Guest)

Like to have everyone at least take a moment and.

00:03:59.700 --> 00:04:00.250

Kevin (Guest)

And.

00:04:02.000 --> 00:04:04.650

Kevin (Guest)

Express their thoughts on that well.

00:04:05.990 --> 00:04:07.250

Kevin (Guest)

John, you want to start?

00:04:08.550 --> 00:04:12.270

Jon Ashlock

Yeah, John Ashlock, so I am definitely in support of the remote learning.

00:04:12.980 --> 00:04:42.320

Jon Ashlock

Umm, right now you gotta take a look for even K through 12 right now 55% of K through 12 is remote. And actually even prior to the pandemic, the K12 program remote was around 25%. So just under little middle school up to high school. That was that amount. Colleges, trade schools. They've always had remote TCC who does a lot of trades. They're fully remote in Portland, is actually even offering an electrician program which is accepted by the states tell too, which is fully remote.

00:04:42.420 --> 00:04:44.170

Jon Ashlock

With the exception of final training.

00:04:45.740 --> 00:05:03.580

Jon Ashlock

One thing I'm kind of curious on the state level, which numbers I think we should be able to present them, is looking at where home inspectors have come in. So I got different counties up under representative ones. Have those counties increase the number of home inspectors since we've allowed the remote training?

00:05:04.310 --> 00:05:10.820

Jon Ashlock

In place, I mean, does anybody have an easy answer on that? Because that could be a benefit for underutilized counties, for inspections.

00:05:12.080 --> 00:05:29.420

Jon Ashlock

I strongly say we do still need to have the on hands at the end, the 40 hours that we need to have be able to do face to face. I think that's critical I but I do feel that the online education is very beneficial, especially to those who can't travel to locations to get the training done. It's a cost prohibitive in many ways.

00:05:31.610 --> 00:05:32.050

Kevin (Guest)

OK.

00:05:31.760 --> 00:05:47.680

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Uh, John, can I just really quickly interject that we do have the licenses by county counts and we can put it together, unfortunately didn't have it prepared for this meeting, contrasting what it was pre pandemic to post pandemic per county.

00:05:49.000 --> 00:05:52.970

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

It it'll be. It'll take a little time and it wouldn't be available till our next meeting.

00:05:53.530 --> 00:05:58.810

Jon Ashlock

That's why I think it would be pretty beneficial if it's something that people are torn on, if that makes sense.

00:05:59.290 --> 00:06:06.650

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

OK, we can put it as an action item then Kim to do a contrast of our licensees by county.

00:06:08.230 --> 00:06:09.450

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Over a period of time.

00:06:13.420 --> 00:06:14.220

Kevin (Guest)

OK. Thank you, John.

00:06:16.820 --> 00:06:17.410

Kevin (Guest)

Jordan.

00:06:19.800 --> 00:06:33.810

Jordan Howard, InspectNW

You know, John talks on really good points and I I tend to agree, during the pandemic, I had kids transition from live to to online. And while there is kind of a gap as far as the exposure goes, as long as there's really good.

00:06:35.310 --> 00:06:44.790

Jordan Howard, InspectNW

Requirements for that live that live, as has gotta be key with putting things into proportion, communication and exercising the skill that's been learned because it's also easy online to.

00:06:45.460 --> 00:06:47.610

Jordan Howard, InspectNW

You know, kind of go through the course and if you're.

00:06:48.500 --> 00:06:51.350

Jordan Howard, InspectNW

Knowledgeable get through the classes.

00:06:52.580 --> 00:07:06.830

Jordan Howard, InspectNW

But that's always gonna kind of be the case. So I think John's points are are valid and again, that 40 hour some type of verification that that's actually occurring other than just a sign off would really be key and letting it go forward to me as well.

00:07:07.890 --> 00:07:08.350

Jordan Howard, InspectNW

Ohh.

00:07:10.290 --> 00:07:13.540

Kevin (Guest)

OK. Thank you, Jordan. Don, are you out there?

00:07:14.360 --> 00:07:15.160

Don HEster (Guest)

Yes, I am.

00:07:16.560 --> 00:07:16.980

Don HEster (Guest)

Uh.

00:07:16.690 --> 00:07:17.630

Kevin (Guest)

What say you?

00:07:18.210 --> 00:07:47.420

Don HEster (Guest)

Well, as as an instructor who's taught both virtually and live, and we, we just went back to live teaching. I I can only speak from my experience, but it's been my experience that the learning is much different and a classroom environment where people are together and discussions are happening. Plus at least with the BTC where I teach at, we also have a bunch of physical things for the students to see that you could just cannot replicate on a screen.

00:07:48.600 --> 00:08:19.330

Don HEster (Guest)

And there and there would be no way to do that. There's no no hands on experimentation, no. A hands on discussions with, with a virtual environment. And I'm not saying that virtual environment can be good for some scenarios, but I I really think if we're trying, since we have such a limited time to try to train inspectors to do the job and then putting another kind of blockage in a way of getting them crucial information, I just don't know if virtual can do it. I don't think there's any way virtual.

00:08:19.920 --> 00:08:34.670

Don HEster (Guest)

Learning will replicate in classroom learning when it comes to certain things. If we had longer time and you'd split it up where you had, you know, part virtual part hands on, I think that would be fine, but that would mean expanding the hours and stuff like that requirement. And I don't think that's gonna happen.

00:08:37.030 --> 00:08:37.920

Kevin (Guest)

OK. Thank you, Don.

00:08:39.000 --> 00:08:40.000

Kevin (Guest)

Christine, are you there?

00:08:42.070 --> 00:08:43.200

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Yeah, I'm here.

00:08:44.250 --> 00:08:54.180

Kristine Messick (Guest)

I see a a pro for for each argument, but I echo the first speaker. I'm sorry with John, was it John Aston that spoke?

00:08:54.950 --> 00:08:55.640

Kristine Messick (Guest)

That.

00:08:57.590 --> 00:09:18.540

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Although the ideal world would for education to happen in person, because yes, there's so much that you can only experience from the in person discussions. But we're training inspectors to a minimum standard, not to the ideal, and I think we would then.

00:09:19.840 --> 00:09:35.180

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Need to echo what's happening in our states educational system and kind of follow suit with what what the public schools are doing. I think it's fair to, you know, still allow for the online training.

00:09:37.520 --> 00:09:40.520

Kevin (Guest)

Thank you, Christine. And did did Greg join the meeting?

00:09:45.240 --> 00:09:48.040

Kevin (Guest)

I don't think Greg is there anybody else on the board that I missed.

00:09:54.450 --> 00:09:55.550

Kevin (Guest)

I'll go last.

00:09:56.700 --> 00:10:01.690

Kevin (Guest)

I kind of echo everyone else's sentiments. I have kind of a mixed feeling about it.

00:10:03.700 --> 00:10:07.620

Kevin (Guest)

Having personally trained a great number of inspectors.

00:10:08.330 --> 00:10:10.570

Kevin (Guest)

Over the 23 years in our business.

00:10:11.690 --> 00:10:14.820

Kevin (Guest)

I know that the the 120 hour.

00:10:15.900 --> 00:10:19.950

Kevin (Guest)

Training session if you will, what at the time it was always live.

00:10:20.700 --> 00:10:22.930

Kevin (Guest)

Is really just a a minimal.

00:10:25.300 --> 00:10:34.920

Kevin (Guest)

Understanding of the basics of the profession and that that prepares somebody to, as Christine said, just to meet maybe the minimal standards of knowledge.

00:10:35.560 --> 00:10:43.930

Kevin (Guest)

Confirmed by uh, testing that the person can competently work in the realm of the profession.

00:10:44.730 --> 00:11:13.380

Kevin (Guest)

You know, when I look at this question about virtual, I look at, you know, what can we do to remove barriers to the profession and enhance the opportunity for individuals to pursue a career in home inspection versus have barriers which are nonsensical, that just make it more difficult. And really, that's the question about and I agree with Don. I don't believe that.

00:11:19.690 --> 00:11:51.240

Kevin (Guest)

Uh classroom training. If you just extrapolate this into a couple of, you know, somewhat absurd, absurd examples. If I was training to be a brain surgeon, I would obviously have to have hands on training. I couldn't learn it if I'm, but if I'm training to, say, be an accountant where it's it's basically information that I'm learning. I don't have to touch the numbers. Well, in that example, why wouldn't I? Why would I not be able to do it virtually. So a lot of the classroom stuff that's going on in.

00:11:51.350 --> 00:11:55.240

Kevin (Guest)

Primary and secondary education and even at the college level.

00:11:55.860 --> 00:12:17.230

Kevin (Guest)

It's primarily theory, or informational or knowledge based home inspection is a technical profession and I know from personal experience being able to have someone be have the opportunity to physically observe whatever it is we're doing, whether it's a structure, a component of system, get on a roof or whatever.

00:12:17.910 --> 00:12:30.820

Kevin (Guest)

Uh, and say this is what this is a defect and and this is OK that's that's very difficult to do in any classroom training, but doubly difficult to do in a virtual setting.

00:12:31.610 --> 00:12:36.450

Kevin (Guest)

The other concern I have is the the role of the DOL and being able to.

00:12:37.280 --> 00:12:39.230

Kevin (Guest)

Oversee education.

00:12:40.510 --> 00:13:11.160

Kevin (Guest)

When you open the door to virtual, because remember the DOL's, not the police, they deal with, maybe deal with exceptions or complaints, but they can set standards for educators but they but they can't audit or police that they activities are performed to standard. You know we all remember hearing complaints about educators in the non virtual environment that would have a classroom full of students and pop in a CD or a VCR tape and step outside and.

00:13:11.280 --> 00:13:16.860

Kevin (Guest)

And of course, that's not that's not live instruction, but because you but the people are there.

00:13:18.340 --> 00:13:20.510

Kevin (Guest)

So being able to hold.

00:13:21.160 --> 00:13:51.550

Kevin (Guest)

Virtual classroom to a standard that it is that it actually has live interaction. For instance, say that that's the standard, that the it's virtual, but there is a person that just like this meeting we're having this morning there it is a live interaction. Can that be other than just setting the expectation can that actually be obtained or will it be you log in it you know and you can do it at you you know on your schedule you know jump to the quiz for instance.

00:13:51.670 --> 00:14:05.050

Kevin (Guest)

Check some boxes because you know get back to the core purpose of the licensing program, which is to A to ensure that we have competent professionals for consumer protection. So you know and again.

00:14:06.060 --> 00:14:08.350

Kevin (Guest)

I'm I have no.

00:14:10.350 --> 00:14:41.620

Kevin (Guest)

You know, no concern that virtual training is not a a a feasible way to do it. My concern relates to the are we diminishing the competency of the individual that we're putting in the field? It doesn't really do any good to add inspectors into underserved areas if the competency isn't there. It because because then you're just, you know, then you take away the consumer protection part and then you wire you. Why do you have a licensing system anyways?

00:14:42.040 --> 00:14:42.630

Kevin (Guest)

Anyways.

00:14:43.100 --> 00:14:56.780

Kevin (Guest)

Umm, there was a lot of statements made by other board members as there among the board and certainly Deborah and the staff. Is there questions that we need to discuss among one another about this or clarifications?

00:14:57.960 --> 00:15:03.250

Kevin (Guest)

From anything that you heard Deborah from the from the board that you wanna speak to?

00:15:05.650 --> 00:15:13.650

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Yeah, I'll. I'll make some comments and it looks like Tim Allen also had his hand up. So I'm gonna let Tim speak first and then I'll, I'll close it up.

00:15:13.350 --> 00:15:14.220

Kevin (Guest)

No. OK.

00:15:15.230 --> 00:15:29.140

Allen, Tim (DOL)

OK. Thanks. Yeah. No, Sir. Kevin, I I just wanted to add in and the board is that and looking at this, you have to look at certain factors and and down to Donna's point. I think everybody has bought having some valid points, but it all comes back down to the instruction as well.

00:15:30.760 --> 00:15:46.840

Allen, Tim (DOL)

And holding the instructors who present this material accountable to do the right thing and present it in the right way. Because what you have to look at is not not every student learns the same, and what you're looking at as well is that when I look at your guys's profession, I look at how, how.

00:15:47.890 --> 00:16:06.260

Allen, Tim (DOL)

How older is getting, which is a good thing because they with age comes wisdom. But if you want to start getting in that that new inspector home inspector individual, you're gonna have to look at different modes of training. And and this generation is fascinated to that virtual type training. It gives them a method of offering to it. It gives them a method of convenience.

00:16:07.090 --> 00:16:40.340

Allen, Tim (DOL)

And also but it gives them a method of availability and and I think that's one thing that we've learned throughout. I don't know for me from throughout this transition and with the pandemic is that a lot of people were unfamiliar with basically that we offer virtual training on the aspect to offer the training virtually it only became necessary during the pandemic and ultimately found out, hey, yes, it isn't quite the same as last classroom learning. You're correct because ultimately in classroom learning, you're sitting in right there with instructor. You have the students around you. Not only are you learning from the students, you're learning from the instructor as well.

00:16:41.570 --> 00:17:00.140

Allen, Tim (DOL)

But how you present their material in a virtual type format can be just as effective. It's not taking away the 40 hours of which in turn is is student has to get out there and do the hands on. So if you're

looking to to grow your profession, you're looking to increase the number of homeless species out there. And again a younger base.

00:17:01.140 --> 00:17:05.950

Allen, Tim (DOL)

Virtual may be also the way to do it, but keep it in mind too. Everybody learns differently.

00:17:07.330 --> 00:17:08.490

Allen, Tim (DOL)

Sorry. Thank you.

00:17:07.480 --> 00:17:09.010

Kevin (Guest)

Yeah. Good. Good points too.

00:17:08.410 --> 00:17:37.880

Don HEster (Guest)

Can I can I can I add add to this please as Don Hester again I mean is this I mean I I don't wanna put any barriers up that are not necessary that I just wanna be clear about that. But at the same time is it are we just trying to push more inspectors through I mean I guess the question is do we want to try to get them to a certain level of competency and and this is gonna be all over the board because we have different structures and different styles but with the minimum time we.

00:17:38.010 --> 00:17:40.160

Don HEster (Guest)

It's already required by the state.

00:17:41.320 --> 00:17:47.000

Don HEster (Guest)

I think it would be more critical to have some more hands on and and learning.

00:17:48.240 --> 00:18:17.110

Don HEster (Guest)

Did because they they're they don't know what they don't know. You know, they come into these things. And most, I mean, it's been very evident to me from teaching and also doing kind of like Kevin, you know, training in the field for stuff with, you know, people are coming out classrooms with so little real physical knowledge of what they need to do. And I don't know how you do that virtually. I mean, there's obviously parts of these curriculums that can be done easily virtually, but there's certain parts they're just not able to do so in.

00:18:28.550 --> 00:18:37.340

Don HEster (Guest)

So I just wanted I think we should be very careful. Are we do any just keep going for the low bar or are we gonna have some level of competency?

00:18:39.520 --> 00:18:41.490

Kevin (Guest)

Had Johnny, I see you've got your hand up.

00:18:42.030 --> 00:18:57.800

Jon Ashlock

Yeah. I just wanted to do a couple of the clarifications. So virtual and CBT are two totally different babies. So as CBT is the computer based training, next next next take the take the exam virtual is just like we were talking about before a classroom online where you're talking real people like we are now.

00:18:58.880 --> 00:19:28.450

Jon Ashlock

I disagree on the CBT based cause. I agree. I know I've done trainings before for Boy Scouts where it's been click, click, click, click takes the test on deal. I just happen to know the answer so I didn't need to study it. I'm against that for this in a major way. Virtual. I think it's very beneficial to be able to do it. I also think we need to keep the classroom option open so that people, if they make a choice they could do the classroom or virtual. So it's not getting rid of one for the other. It's adding into the service so we could actually grow the industry.

00:19:31.000 --> 00:19:32.950

Kevin (Guest)

That's a good point. I think that.

00:19:34.100 --> 00:19:40.830

Kevin (Guest)

If if virtual becomes the available, I think eventually what will happen, John is because it's it's going to be.

00:19:41.880 --> 00:19:42.540

Kevin (Guest)

Excuse me.

00:19:43.270 --> 00:19:52.280

Kevin (Guest)

And that's going to be, you know, economic advantage for the schools that can teach virtual. Obviously, they don't have to have a banquet room or a 3-3 weeks in a motel.

00:19:52.510 --> 00:19:58.950

Kevin (Guest)

A space. So eventually the the virtual will out price the the.

00:20:00.110 --> 00:20:29.200

Kevin (Guest)

You know the actual classroom and I think from the from the individual students perspective, you know, they're looking to minimize their costs and get into the profession, if you will, and and to speak to Don's position. New students have no idea what they're getting into. They they don't know what they don't know, you know, and they can learn it in a classroom or they can learn it in a courtroom. But one way or another, they'll learn it. And it's a it's a difficult.

00:20:29.340 --> 00:20:31.630

Kevin (Guest)

It's a difficult thing, you know, I was thinking about.

00:20:31.750 --> 00:20:42.300

Kevin (Guest)

Umm virtual training and and just thinking about what Tim said about, you know, making sure that that that we have some way of of.

00:20:43.090 --> 00:20:53.080

Kevin (Guest)

Overseeing the instructor. The educators? What if there was a standard for an educator, Deborah, that required that they have a certain.

00:20:53.400 --> 00:21:16.440

Kevin (Guest)

Uh, that's composite or or number of passing scores or something that that really put the burden on them to make sure that they were drilling this into students that they they technically you know they got one warning or two warnings and then they were no longer a qualified educator. If they if they were just pushing people through the system because that sounds like what all of us are saying is that hey.

00:21:17.410 --> 00:21:50.560

Kevin (Guest)

You know, however, you get the education that's not really the argument that the argument is is, are we educating and are we? Are we really developing competency to go into the profession? And I agree with Tim. We're all getting older and we need to make sure that there's people entering the profession. So let's get rid of the barriers that don't make sense. But again, on the other hand is it we don't want to flood the industry or open the doors to people that that really are incompetent. But what about something like that? That says, OK, educator you want to teach virtually.

00:21:50.810 --> 00:21:57.730

Kevin (Guest)

Then, if you don't achieve this passing rate, you know you're gonna get a couple of chances to improve it, and then you're not going to be an approved educator.

00:22:00.940 --> 00:22:05.970

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

OK. So Kevin, I'm gonna unpack quite a bit of what you said because you you were.

00:22:07.000 --> 00:22:10.050

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Quite a bit there. So you.

00:22:07.390 --> 00:22:07.760

Kevin (Guest)

What?

00:22:08.240 --> 00:22:08.850

Kevin (Guest)

All over the world.

00:22:13.690 --> 00:22:20.550

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

And then they come backwards. So in terms of whether or not your instructors wanna be held to a standard.

00:22:21.130 --> 00:22:30.190

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Umm, that is usually set forth in the licensing of instructors and when you do that then you can make.

00:22:30.670 --> 00:22:53.760

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Umm, you can make similar to how we have in real estate where your instructors have to apply to have to get license they have to meet minimum qualifications. So what Tim does for our real estate profession is he reviews instructor applications. They are getting endorsement to teach in certain curricular areas and until he has.

00:22:54.470 --> 00:23:24.920

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Has looked at what those credentials are and how they meet. They don't get licensed to teach. Now. With that said, we don't currently have that in the home inspector laws or rules, so we don't have anything in our statute that that puts that structure in place. That would be an RCW change. And as we know, that's going back out to the legislature getting a bill sponsor and changing that. If we had anything that put that in our our laws.

00:23:25.220 --> 00:23:30.450

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Then we could we could tease it out in our rules, but we don't, so.

00:23:31.300 --> 00:23:41.150

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

With that said, that that really limits what kind of regulatory power we have with the people who are instructing in the home inspector.

00:23:41.350 --> 00:23:42.620

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Umm realm.

00:23:44.500 --> 00:24:14.000

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Secondly, what we have done is that we have opened up our SOP's and our rules to making some changes and this is part of why I wanted to bring this discussion forward is that we have the opportunity to, in definition, support how we're defining classroom. It is in the statute already. I noted it that we that the classroom or that the fundamentals of home inspection are taught in a classroom.

00:24:14.290 --> 00:24:18.110

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

We've defined it already in our wax.

00:24:18.860 --> 00:24:48.730

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

So we can change that up and I would recommend that we make sure that when we are defining classroom that we're talking about synchronous. And so that is where that is the definition of. It has to be happening at the same time, you have to be in either a brick and mortar classroom all at the same time or you have to be in a virtual classroom all at the same time. So when you define that, then you can actually get it within.

00:24:48.830 --> 00:25:12.970

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

The realm of containing that. Now the way that we we can regulate is if we receive complaints and I've got quite a few of my my colleagues from the compliance side on this call when we receive a complaint, then we have the ability to take action on an instructor that is not following those laws and rules until we get that, it's hearsay.

00:25:20.190 --> 00:25:48.420

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Umm, past rates don't necessarily equate to outcomes, and So what I mean by that is that we can have an individual who is absolutely the best at taking tests, but they are the worst at actual practical. So we and and Christina had spoken to this really well where she was talking about we're we're teaching to the minimum competencies to pass to get into the profession.

00:25:49.690 --> 00:25:58.400

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

I think we are all under the same agreement that we do not wanna touch the 40 hours of practical hands on.

00:25:58.910 --> 00:26:01.950

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Umm. Instruction that is really important.

00:26:02.650 --> 00:26:14.700

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

And that is also identified in statute. That's not in Rule. So we cannot change that. That's in the laws. And I'm gonna stop talking cause Jordan had his hand up and I don't wanna monopolize this conversation.

00:26:15.940 --> 00:26:30.240

Jordan Howard, InspectNW

No, no. You touched on it. It was, it was kind of a, a a question to where, if it was virtual, could that number then be increased versus a live class keeping it at 40? But if it's statute and law changes, Nope, you answered it right right there. Thank you.

00:26:32.820 --> 00:26:33.170

Kevin (Guest)

And.

00:26:33.250 --> 00:26:42.150

Kevin (Guest)

That, Deborah, there's a a statistic that I think would be interesting to see. What I was just thinking about what Tim had said about.

00:26:42.920 --> 00:26:51.290

Kevin (Guest)

The the evolving loss of of inspectors in the in the professional overtime, could we look at?

00:26:52.970 --> 00:26:55.450

Kevin (Guest)

The rate of new licensees.

00:26:56.240 --> 00:26:59.810

Kevin (Guest)

Versus people dropping out of the profession pre COVID.

00:27:00.500 --> 00:27:10.060

Kevin (Guest)

I mean, what I'm wondering at are we are we dropping out? Are we dropping out because of the demographics of the profession to begin with?

00:27:12.100 --> 00:27:23.270

Kevin (Guest)

Age demographics? Or are we dropping out because people aren't entering because of barriers? Because that's what we're talking about, isn't it? That we're talking about reducing the barriers. So if the if the.

00:27:24.130 --> 00:27:29.000

Kevin (Guest)

If the classroom mandated education was a barrier.

00:27:29.740 --> 00:27:51.150

Kevin (Guest)

Then we should be able to see some pre COVID before the standard was made. Change that at least to some degree to say OK we we were every year for instance, we were losing 5% or 10% of our total inspector population. So we can extrapolate that to the point that we're not bringing in people fast enough. You know it's like the birth rate versus the death rate.

00:27:52.130 --> 00:27:56.620

Kevin (Guest)

I'm just wondering if if we really have data that supports that.

00:27:56.690 --> 00:28:14.500

Kevin (Guest)

Yeah, Umm, that our profession could reach a crisis point. You know, this is getting a little bit hyperbole, but could we get to the point where we say, hey, you know, everybody in the profession is is 40 or 45 and older. So we gotta do something to to bring in new people.

00:28:15.140 --> 00:28:20.850

Kevin (Guest)

But I'm just wondering, you know what, what the, how those numbers cause it's it looked to me like.

00:28:21.680 --> 00:28:28.220

Kevin (Guest)

Just in general, looking at the stats that we've looked at over the last several years, you know we get new inspectors.

00:28:28.890 --> 00:28:47.950

Kevin (Guest)

Seems like the inspector population has continued to grow quarter by quarter and year by year in total population or whether that's, you know, proportional to state population or proportional to needs, I don't know. But it's just a question to see if we can actually put information and data behind our assumption.

00:28:48.620 --> 00:28:51.950

Kevin (Guest)

That we're not getting enough people into the profession.

00:28:52.820 --> 00:28:56.200

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

So real quickly and then it looks like you got some hands up, Kevin.

00:28:57.290 --> 00:29:27.830

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

You'll see that information we've started to provide an A licensee count by age. This is something that we can provide back to when we launched our new licensing system. However, that wasn't data that we collected prior to launching in 2020. So it wasn't a report that I can go back to and and compare whereas with the by County, Lana had been hand counting all of our county.

00:29:28.330 --> 00:29:39.870

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Licenses for for some time and so I can definitely look at that. It's gonna be a little bit manual and clunky, but we have those numbers. I don't have licenses by age.

00:29:31.020 --> 00:29:31.400

Kevin (Guest)

You know.

00:29:41.210 --> 00:29:41.750

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Pre.

00:29:41.470 --> 00:29:42.420

Kevin (Guest)

OK, I think yeah.

00:29:42.390 --> 00:29:44.180

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Pretty new new licensing system.

00:29:44.590 --> 00:30:02.280

Kevin (Guest)

Yeah. I just think that would be valuable to us to just help us put some context in our discussion of of what's the you know, is there an urgency behind this or is it, is this purely a discussion about the validity of 1 type of education versus another? Christine, go ahead.

00:30:04.280 --> 00:30:22.090

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Hi, yes, there's one I think critical piece of information that hasn't been considered when we're looking at the population of home inspectors and that's the market conditions. And so I don't think that low inspector numbers is due to barriers of getting into the.

00:30:24.240 --> 00:30:32.160

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Barriers in getting in license, I think that the low inspector numbers are directly related to market conditions.

00:30:33.320 --> 00:31:02.350

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Hire A home inspection for. Excuse me. Fewer homes on the market. So there's more demand for way fewer homes on the market and if there's more competition for those homes and there's more contingencies being removed and the home inspection contingency is the first contingency to be moved. So I would argue that the number one barrier in keeping the home inspector license numbers low.

00:31:02.590 --> 00:31:10.980

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Is actual market conditions and doesn't have anything to do or or the impact of being able to.

00:31:12.300 --> 00:31:17.110

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Get access to get a license is a much, much less influence on those numbers.

00:31:18.940 --> 00:31:22.090

Kevin (Guest)

Yeah, good point. And Don, you've got your hand up.

00:31:23.640 --> 00:31:54.290

Don Hester (Guest)

Yeah, I mean, and I wanna, yeah. Also confirm what Christine saying is that we're seeing, I think less inspections per homes available now due to people waiving inspections that's going on quite a bit now. But the other thing as some of these taken calls for potential students a lot of times, you know students are just looking for the easiest path, the in and not really looking at quality of instruction. And so I think we got to be careful about making it just.

00:31:54.390 --> 00:31:55.520

Don HEster (Guest)

Just easier.

00:31:56.210 --> 00:32:17.050

Don HEster (Guest)

Versus trying to develop some metric to make better quality in the instruction plan and maybe we should be looking at getting instructing instructors in areas that are underserved versus having virtual. I mean not just having virtual classrooms, but having physical classrooms closer to where there are maybe maybe that's something we should be looking at versus just opening up a floodgate of virtual learning.

00:32:19.010 --> 00:32:19.460

Kevin (Guest)

OK.

00:32:21.200 --> 00:32:22.430

Kevin (Guest)

Deborah, go back to you.

00:32:26.700 --> 00:32:28.380

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

I I think this is an.

00:32:29.330 --> 00:32:47.600

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

I'm a great conversation. I don't think that there's board action that needs to happen right now in terms of a recommendation. I know that we are are working on our SOP's at this point Kevin. So I would say in terms of what the board wants to do next for next steps.

00:32:48.940 --> 00:33:07.460

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

We'll have a public comment period and I imagine there are a few people on this call that would might wanna lend some some comments to this subject as well. But then after that I'd say that it's probably on your SOP changing business practices group to to make a decision on this.

00:33:10.760 --> 00:33:16.750

Kevin (Guest)

Well, a decision meaning a recommendation from the board to to staff as to.

00:33:16.830 --> 00:33:24.420

Kevin (Guest)

Uh, the collective recommendation as to our our our position on virtual education.

00:33:19.980 --> 00:33:20.570

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Exactly.

00:33:24.930 --> 00:33:41.680

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Yep, and I it looks like we're currently the board is split on this with you know very much half of you in support of it and half of you out of support I I know Greg is not in participation here, but we've we've had numerous conversations about where he falls on this.

00:33:42.170 --> 00:33:46.180

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Umm, the subject as well. So you're pretty split on this.

00:33:42.310 --> 00:33:42.600

Kevin (Guest)

Right.

00:33:46.710 --> 00:34:00.090

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Umm I I know where the department falls and but it's not our place to influence. How you recommend that we move forward. So that's about it. For the for anything I have to say.

00:33:59.720 --> 00:34:04.420

Kevin (Guest)

OK. OK. Anybody else have anything on this item before we move on?

00:34:06.760 --> 00:34:09.840

Kevin (Guest)

OK, we're gonna go to number 3 on our agenda.

00:34:10.960 --> 00:34:13.950

Kevin (Guest)

Kim, is this yours to review master action items list?

00:34:15.050 --> 00:34:18.440

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

Yes, it is so as you as you can see.

00:34:16.670 --> 00:34:17.200

Kevin (Guest)

Thank you.

00:34:19.570 --> 00:34:40.150

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

Screen here so we had the setting up changing business practice meeting and we have set that that's in progress. I'm gonna. Lately we're trying to meet and I think it got cancelled and the education said committee to review the rubric and we did meet once or twice they all kind of blend together for me.

00:34:41.180 --> 00:34:56.400

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

I'm going to set up the SOP's like that was just for that work group and they've met once. I'm still in

progress for that as well and the increased information and please we will be still working on that after a few other things.

00:35:04.720 --> 00:35:10.690

Kevin (Guest)

Committee reports. Do we have any update from the Education Subcommittee?

00:35:15.350 --> 00:35:21.850

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Hi, this is Christine Messick. We met as a subcommittee and recommended that.

00:35:22.790 --> 00:35:23.380

Kristine Messick (Guest)

A.

00:35:25.580 --> 00:35:30.850

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Item be added to the rubric, which for each individual.

00:35:32.610 --> 00:35:57.030

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Requirement for the education that there be a page number added to where within their course material we as the reviewers can find that they've included that educational requirement within their material and that will then help us as a reviewers be able to confirm that that information is in in the rubric and you we could then also.

00:35:58.240 --> 00:36:14.470

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Take a a course material and break it down into sections and have multiple people reviewing smaller sections and then getting through the the review process quicker that way. Yeah. Is anyone else have anything to add?

00:36:18.410 --> 00:36:19.880

Kevin (Guest)

Christine, do you guys have a?

00:36:21.140 --> 00:36:23.290

Kevin (Guest)

A follow up meeting scheduled at this point.

00:36:25.310 --> 00:36:54.000

Kristine Messick (Guest)

My understanding was that that change is going to be made to the rubric and then submitted out to the Subcommittee for Review and apologies if it that revision did go through, I I. If it did, I missed it. But otherwise, if I did not miss that that change has been made, then that's where we stand as having that that change made to the rubric and then resubmitted out to the Committee for review.

00:36:55.540 --> 00:36:56.390

Kevin (Guest)

OK. Thank you.

00:36:57.510 --> 00:37:07.410

Kevin (Guest)

The change in business practices I I'm in that group and we did have a meeting and we reviewed the suggested.

00:37:08.360 --> 00:37:16.630

Kevin (Guest)

Language terminology, redundancies that were suggested to in the the the.

00:37:18.750 --> 00:37:36.740

Kevin (Guest)

Between the what between the whack and the SOP's, where there's redundancies in in terminology, redundancies in in the standards that are expressed in both areas and I think all we pretty much had full agreement and everything that we went through there, did you have anything to add to that, Deborah?

00:37:40.240 --> 00:38:10.810

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

No, I think the only thing was we we'd had an opportunity for a partners within the division here at DOL to take a look at it. And so they had some suggested changes as well that they changing business practice group looked at, I think that the we're we're pretty much at the next stage in this which is to find a some support from DOL side to go ahead and start the CR101C and and get this filed to make those changes.

00:38:12.250 --> 00:38:22.970

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

I think my question out is does the board as a whole wanna look at the last, you know, revision of everything and bring back any suggested changes before we move to the next stage?

00:38:26.820 --> 00:38:39.940

Kevin (Guest)

Well, my opinion is is it's pretty straightforward and common sense type changes. It didn't change the content or the intent of any of the standards or or any of the the language. It just cleaned it up actually.

00:38:41.420 --> 00:38:54.760

Kevin (Guest)

Unless the board has a desire to look at it, I think it just need to move it forward and so that we can move on to the next, you know, element of the change in business practices, which is to, you know begin with the SOP's.

00:38:56.520 --> 00:38:57.270

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Sounds good.

00:38:59.090 --> 00:39:00.160

Kevin (Guest)

OK.

00:39:02.100 --> 00:39:07.640

Kevin (Guest)

Uh, looks like we're at the DOL reports cameras, the shores.

00:39:09.080 --> 00:39:09.850

Kevin (Guest)

For Deb.

00:39:12.210 --> 00:39:17.380

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

I think this is me. So go ahead and move forward on the tab so.

00:39:19.460 --> 00:39:27.690

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

We touched on the question of what the demographics are currently for our home inspectors, so.

00:39:29.000 --> 00:39:43.530

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

This wonderful chart breaks it down by age bracket, which is great. So you do notice that we have a considerable amount of home inspectors in the the top age bracket from 55 and over.

00:39:45.090 --> 00:40:02.500

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

What we've included here is something you've you've not seen before, which is also the cancelled licensees. So I don't think we've ever provided this board with how many cancelled licenses we've got. So this is this basically shows you how many licensees over time we've had within this program, so.

00:40:02.920 --> 00:40:03.430

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Umm.

00:40:04.280 --> 00:40:19.820

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Are active licensees have been hovering around 12 to 1300 and you'll notice that that hasn't really changed. I mean, we're still still keeping the numbers up there since we beginning of the program, at least since I've started in the program.

00:40:21.180 --> 00:40:26.210

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

So we we have as many going out as we have coming in as really the answer to that.

00:40:28.580 --> 00:40:42.390

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

We also still have, we continue to see you know, new younger licensees entering the field. So with the 25 and up range and there's a good over 200 that match that bracket.

00:40:43.280 --> 00:40:43.760

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Umm.

00:40:46.640 --> 00:40:51.190

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

We've got, I don't know why we have a retired status here because.

00:40:51.850 --> 00:40:59.530

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

As far as I know, we shouldn't. That's not one of the licensing categories, so those are probably cancelled and they just got mislabeled.

00:41:02.250 --> 00:41:08.150

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

So that's that's it for for our active licensees, if you have any questions, please feel free to.

00:41:08.850 --> 00:41:12.600

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Allana's got questions you're not supposed to have questions. Gonna go ahead.

00:41:13.910 --> 00:41:25.890

Price, Lona (DOL)

The Council, or this the OR military and required or retired? Excuse me, those are statuses that we started using right before I left the program.

00:41:18.440 --> 00:41:18.720

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Uh.

00:41:26.440 --> 00:41:28.260

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

OK. Thank you for that information.

00:41:30.770 --> 00:41:57.480

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Umm. And then by county. John, this is something you'd asked about and this is information that Lana has provided for many years now, which is the licensees by county. So we can definitely put those together in a comparative table over time. So that's one of the action items for the next meeting. But you'll you'll see that we've got some counties that are still underrepresented in terms of the numbers and then some that.

00:41:58.380 --> 00:42:18.930

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

No surprise that we have a large amount of licenses in King being the highest. I think Spokane's up there too, so that's not surprising at all. And then we've got the little areas that in Eastern Washington that it's difficult to get any sort of home inspectors available.

00:42:19.830 --> 00:42:21.150

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

So like there's a hand up.

00:42:24.190 --> 00:42:25.410

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Hi, Christine messick.

00:42:28.310 --> 00:42:34.280

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Can I guess I'm not clear on what is the difference between a cancelled license and an expired license?

00:42:35.870 --> 00:42:37.630

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Good question. So.

00:42:39.250 --> 00:42:56.950

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

As long as I just explained, retired is the status that we just started using, but prior to that, if you did not renew your license after the the set expiration period, it would go into cancellation after a period of time and cancellation then you would have to start over again.

00:42:58.290 --> 00:43:05.780

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Lana, I don't think he's forgotten all that information. So she can remind me how many years for home inspectors is it three years?

00:43:06.260 --> 00:43:18.490

Price, Lona (DOL)

There's a three year term I'm you can be expired for one year and one year and one day you go into a cancelled status and you can stay in the cancelled status for two years and then you fall off the books and have to start over.

00:43:22.640 --> 00:43:33.890

Kevin (Guest)

I think Christina has everything to do with maintaining your the validity of your credentials to enter the profession, your education and testing, and everything that.

00:43:35.060 --> 00:43:41.590

Kevin (Guest)

Once you get past the the two barriers there all the way to to pass cancelled, then we would have to start from scratch.

00:43:45.860 --> 00:43:46.530

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

That's her.

00:43:46.070 --> 00:44:06.800

Kristine Messick (Guest)

Hi kind of if I could. So when it be expired category is people who did not renew did not pay their renewal fee and that's their stay in that status for one year. If they pay the renewal fee then they do not have to go through education again.

00:44:01.320 --> 00:44:01.660

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Uh-huh.

00:44:08.020 --> 00:44:14.150

Kristine Messick (Guest)

If after one year then they go into cancelled and they stay there for two years.

00:44:08.370 --> 00:44:08.970

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Correct.

00:44:16.380 --> 00:44:20.300

Kristine Messick (Guest)

My do do they have to go through all the education again or?

00:44:21.760 --> 00:44:30.880

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

No, if if they renew before they they complete the two years in the cancelled status, they paid the penalty fees which are not on substantial.

00:44:37.840 --> 00:44:43.900

Kristine Messick (Guest)

OK. And but in the expired time frame, they don't have to pay a penalty. So that's the difference between exploiting.

00:44:42.730 --> 00:44:43.370

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Ohh no they.

00:44:44.500 --> 00:44:47.360

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

No, they pay a penalty. It's just not as hefty.

00:44:48.690 --> 00:44:50.300

Kristine Messick (Guest)

OK, got it. Thank you.

00:44:50.530 --> 00:44:50.700

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Yep.

00:44:53.260 --> 00:44:54.830

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Is there another hand or is that?

00:44:56.510 --> 00:44:57.760

Kevin (Guest)

No, I think we're good.

00:44:58.120 --> 00:44:58.470

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

OK.

00:45:00.930 --> 00:45:04.260

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

All right. So any questions about the by county?

00:45:05.360 --> 00:45:07.190

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Go ahead and move on to the next slide then.

00:45:08.730 --> 00:45:38.560

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

So kind of shifting gears a little bit, I know you've we've talked with this board about the new structure that we have in, in the business and professions division. And so we've we've actually put together some org charts now we're getting closer to having more in depth or charts, but I wanted to share with you at the high level what our new operations are looking like, where previously we had been under.

00:45:39.520 --> 00:46:00.130

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Programs. So for instance, the real estate program that included the home inspector program all had the same administrator, the same assistant administrator, and then we'd have program managers that would run specific licensing programs. So now we have taken it and we have moved that around. Whoop, go back.

00:46:00.910 --> 00:46:10.520

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Thank you. Thanks, Kim. Uh, we've moved out around so that now from our assistant director, Jen Clawson. We're we're set up so that we have.

00:46:12.090 --> 00:46:16.160

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Are different areas of business functionally aligned so.

00:46:16.890 --> 00:46:26.240

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

This is what it visually looks like. I know we've talked to you about it, but this is how it actually has been reorganized. So our our prorated and fuel tax.

00:46:27.360 --> 00:46:40.240

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Unit continues to be on their own because they're their own body of work. They will be coming and

talking to us at a next board meeting just to explain what their their line of business is because it's it's interesting.

00:46:41.470 --> 00:46:52.060

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

The licensing and customer service support support services. You met Mike George, I think at the last board meeting and he is the administrator over that.

00:46:52.770 --> 00:47:09.060

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

And our regulatory and compliance unit, which also includes the UC, the Uniform Commercial Code Office and the Firearms Office is all under the administration of Andrea Nygard. And that and the fall meeting they'll be coming and joining us.

00:47:10.380 --> 00:47:40.230

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

I'm probably winter and then today joining us is our centralized investigations and audit unit staff. A number of them you may recognize, Bill Dutcher will be with us and I know those of you have been on the board for a while, remember, Bill, so and his supervisor, Kathy Nagley. So then you've got the most important operations, which is the boards and commissions, support services, which is myself and Kim.

00:47:41.110 --> 00:48:10.520

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Hall. And there's a Rick Storbeck that is our administrator on that and Sherry Honeywell, who is on the call but doesn't interact as much with this board. What I'm happy to let you all know is that we have doubled our staff size in the boards and commissions, which means that we're going to be better able to support the work that the board needs to get done. So on the call today, I can see Sandra Bowers face Sandra is joining our team in.

00:48:10.620 --> 00:48:41.900

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

The very short period of time, her first day will be June 16th and Cindy Muli Sydney I believe is on the call as well. I don't think she's on camera, but Sydney will also be joining us on June 16th, so oh, there she is. I said. So we're very excited. Not only are they joining us in the office, we have Alisa Woods, and Alyssa is gonna be supporting the administrator so that we have actually better ability to do the work that we need to.

00:48:41.990 --> 00:48:43.700

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

So you see, there's our org chart.

00:48:44.590 --> 00:48:55.360

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

I was uh, she's with Kim in the office. So this is basically how our our boards and commissions unit is organized.

00:48:56.610 --> 00:49:19.280

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

What you will notice is that Kim and Sherry are supporting a lot of different boards. So Kim has five that she supports. She has the collections Board, funeral and Cemetery board, a cosmetology board, this home inspector, and the landscape architects. When you start to put how many board members we have to manage under that it, it becomes quite a bit.

00:49:20.300 --> 00:49:32.030

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Sherry as well has the real estate Commission, the geology Board, the Architects Board and the Appraiser Commission. So we maybe shuffling it a little bit, we'll see how it it comes out, but.

00:49:32.860 --> 00:49:42.010

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

This gives you an idea of the the magnitude of the work that we're doing within the boards and commissions trying to support all of you in the work that you're doing so.

00:49:43.270 --> 00:49:54.400

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

As we've been struggling with staffing at it, I don't think it excuses it, but it kind of explains what some of the struggles and and difficulties that we've been facing are.

00:49:56.130 --> 00:50:03.010

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

So in terms of program operations, that's all I have, but I wanna turn it over to Bill and Kathy to talk about their unit a bit.

00:50:06.190 --> 00:50:31.660

Dutra, Bill (DOL)

Good morning and thank you all for inviting us to your board meeting. My name is Bill Dutra. I'm with the Department of licensing. I'm currently the assistant administrator for the centralized investigations, audits, inspections and also complain intake from the packet from the materials, the agenda items, you'll see that we oversee 39 different professional licensing programs. One thing I wanna make sure that is very clear and that we all understand is that the.

00:50:32.740 --> 00:50:48.990

Dutra, Bill (DOL)

The continuity of the subject matter experts that I've always worked with the home inspector board doesn't change what this does is that we're we're able to bring more support to those teams and we're able to bring more subject matter expertise and a lot of the lines of business that we do to this board and to all of the boards and commissions.

00:50:50.190 --> 00:51:00.560

Dutra, Bill (DOL)

It's nice. So I was my got onto this phone call. It's nice to see some people recognize some familiar names. Kevin and Don. Glad to see that you're still there. I look forward to working with some of the other board members.

00:51:02.320 --> 00:51:23.990

Dutra, Bill (DOL)

We're here to support you. We're not here to cause bigger issues. We have a lot of people that are gonna be able to step in and help with some of your things. When I left originally left this this line of work in 2019, we were still talking about changing the Sops. I'm glad that we're still talking about changing the Sops. We'll be able to step into that space and help with you as well.

00:51:25.410 --> 00:51:54.880

Dutra, Bill (DOL)

I have an opportunity in a great honor also to introduce some people that are gonna speak with you. Also here would be my administrator. Kathy Nagle is on the phone with us and also the investigations manager that oversees this line of business, as Melissa Kirschner. We are, as many of probably heard, a Nice Deb touched on it a little bit. We were very short handed with a lot of open positions that happened throughout COVID a lot of retirements happened throughout COVID.

00:51:54.980 --> 00:51:56.070

Dutra, Bill (DOL)

And now we're back.

00:51:57.380 --> 00:52:12.130

Dutra, Bill (DOL)

But the team that deals with home inspector complaints and issues and Melissa can touch on that, they're now fully staffed. We no longer have any vacancies. So we are working through a lot of our backlogs. But from here I'm going to turn this over to Kathy Nagley and then Melissa Kirshner.

00:52:14.130 --> 00:52:45.360

Naegeli, Catharine (DOL)

Good morning. Thank you for allowing us to join you today. We're really excited to be able to have more support for our boards. Like Bill said, the great thing about this realignment is we're not going to change anything. We're only going to add to the support that we can help you with. With that being said, we're really looking forward to continuing to build our relationships with you and if there's anything that or any support that you need from us, please feel free to reach out to Bill or I or even Melissa.

00:52:45.660 --> 00:52:59.200

Naegeli, Catharine (DOL)

Here in the future, and and we'd be happy to see what we can do for you. So with that being said, I'll go ahead and let Melissa introduce herself to you. She'll be a good contact and a person that you can also speak with.

00:53:04.700 --> 00:53:28.810

Kershner, Melissa (DOL)

Sorry, had my little thing closed there. Good morning, everyone, Miss Kirschner investigation manager. With the centralized investigations and audit unit. And sorry, I just went dark there, but thank you for allowing me to attend this meeting today and ask Kathy and Bill said, and I'm here, happy to help, really excited to for the supervisors that I have on board who work with their teams to best support you.

00:53:41.020 --> 00:53:42.870

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Think that's about it, Kevin.

00:53:45.320 --> 00:53:53.890

Kevin (Guest)

Thank you, Deborah and Bill and Catherine and the staff would be appreciate the support and the.

00:53:54.980 --> 00:54:04.550

Kevin (Guest)

You know better understanding of your reorganization and how it's impacting what our needs are and that that's great to hear. Glad to hear you guys are back to staff levels.

00:54:11.060 --> 00:54:17.350

Kevin (Guest)

Any other business that we need to introduce at this time, anything from the Board or Deborah, did you have anything that was?

00:54:17.670 --> 00:54:20.360

Kevin (Guest)

I sent out to you as new business.

00:54:22.940 --> 00:54:25.080

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

I did not receive anything as new business, Kevin.

00:54:25.680 --> 00:54:26.250

Kevin (Guest)

OK.

00:54:27.480 --> 00:54:32.490

Kevin (Guest)

Alrighty. And our our action items from this meeting, Kim, can you review that for us please?

00:54:33.510 --> 00:54:54.000

Hall, Kimberly (DOL)

Yeah. So I believe I captured 2 action items. One is to create the report for age by county for the licensing and then the CR 101. We need to continue steps to get that done, which leads me to the agenda item of been on next agenda to potentially schedule it with the board.

00:54:56.130 --> 00:55:04.010

Kevin (Guest)

OK, alrighty. And any items that we have for our next meeting, we talked just a little bit about whether?

00:55:04.740 --> 00:55:08.990

Kevin (Guest)

Umm did we need to have a an agenda item to?

00:55:10.510 --> 00:55:17.380

Kevin (Guest)

Talk about the board's position. Deborah on virtual education or or deform.

00:55:18.030 --> 00:55:18.990

Kevin (Guest)

From a.

00:55:19.850 --> 00:55:24.310

Kevin (Guest)

You know that opinion to staff or how? How would we want to handle that for our next meeting?

00:55:27.340 --> 00:55:37.200

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

It probably will want to take and make a recommendation based on the feedback that you've received at the next board meeting so Kim, can we add that as an action item as well?

00:55:37.140 --> 00:55:37.440

Kevin (Guest)

Yeah.

00:55:38.260 --> 00:55:41.840

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

That will take a board action on virtual classroom.

00:55:42.570 --> 00:55:45.880

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Virtual versus classroom or virtual classroom instruction?

00:55:47.410 --> 00:55:47.590

Kevin (Guest)

OK.

00:55:47.660 --> 00:55:48.350

Kevin (Guest)

OK, great.

00:55:49.270 --> 00:55:50.200

Kevin (Guest)

Thank you, Kim.

00:55:51.600 --> 00:55:56.360

Kevin (Guest)

We're at the point where we're going to open it to public comment just a couple of quick reminders.

00:55:57.690 --> 00:56:01.130

Kevin (Guest)

If you just push your raise your hand button, yeah.

00:56:02.020 --> 00:56:16.360

Kevin (Guest)

And you can unmute your phone and I'll call on you. And you have a couple of minutes to address or

provide comment. So anybody from the public attendees that would like to speak Pat, I see you're here today.

00:56:16.120 --> 00:56:29.290

Pat Knight

I'm sorry, I didn't know it was raising. It doesn't tell me crazy. I'm used to zoom. I'm. I'm pat night with a win. Home inspection. We're national company. I was on the board for quite some time. So a few of you know who I am.

00:56:18.930 --> 00:56:21.780

Kevin (Guest)

That's OK. Go ahead, pat. Thanks for being there.

00:56:30.010 --> 00:56:34.990

Pat Knight

Umm, a couple of things. On the virtual classroom stuff because I do work nationally.

00:56:35.850 --> 00:57:05.660

Pat Knight

I worked a lot of states wrangling around this whole how do you do this whole thing during the pandemic? So if anybody has questions on how other states have dealt with it, happy to answer those questions because I have dealt with them in other places. Some states have done it better than others and and it is one of those things where it it's it's a balancing act between how do you get competency of a new home inspector compared to.

00:57:05.890 --> 00:57:22.520

Pat Knight

How do you not keep someone from going coming into the profession? And I think Washington has always had a pretty good balance on education and that practical part of it that makes it palatable for somebody new coming in. Because now that demographics are changing.

00:57:23.680 --> 00:57:25.140

Pat Knight

I'm old so.

00:57:25.830 --> 00:57:39.810

Pat Knight

We have a lot of people that still come into our business center at that at that more senior level. Some of them haven't taken a standardized test in 25 or 30 years. So that becomes a difficult thing for them to pass the NHIE and get through that portion of it.

00:57:40.490 --> 00:57:57.480

Pat Knight

Umm, so it's it's important to keep that in your mind. And then the other part of it is there's a lot of changing technologies on the, on the, on the education end of it and those types of things that that you really have to stay on top of to understand things do change. There is data that supports.

00:57:58.690 --> 00:58:19.830

Pat Knight

Other types of learning. I'm old school and still say if I could teach someone in a classroom that's number one best priority. But teaching them live online is not a bad alternative and in some cases you can do some things online that you couldn't do in the classroom. So there's pluses and minuses. I just want to put that out there if anybody wants to call me.

00:58:21.720 --> 00:58:24.990

Pat Knight

Happy to happy to help. What I've what I've found out other parts of the country.

00:58:26.830 --> 00:58:31.480

Kevin (Guest)

Yeah. Thank you, pat. That's that's an interesting insight that you know.

00:58:27.580 --> 00:58:28.050

Pat Knight

Yeah.

00:58:33.290 --> 00:58:42.180

Kevin (Guest)

License states that have licensing programs throughout the US have had to deal with shutting down the classroom sessions and how to how to.

00:58:43.880 --> 00:58:56.630

Kevin (Guest)

How to keep some semblance of their licensing programs functioning? You know, initially for what was thought to be a few months that turned out to be a, you know, a few years. So Reese, Pearson, please go ahead.

00:58:58.030 --> 00:59:28.380

Reis Pearson

Yeah. Thank you. I appreciate being able to speak here. My name is Reese Pearson. I am owner operator of inside Out inspection services. I have been a fundamentals provider in the past. I'm currently acting as the President of the Home Inspectors Association of Washington State and we provide quite a bit of continuing education options, but also my background includes having a master's degree in education. And I just want to echo.

00:59:28.790 --> 00:59:36.900

Reis Pearson

Tim and thank you, Tim, for being here. It's great to finally put a face to the name and just echo.

00:59:37.630 --> 01:00:08.020

Reis Pearson

His thoughts around how there are are different ways of learning, and that you know we have kind of gotten into this classroom mentality, but the modules haven't changed. And so one of the great benefits of this virtual learning is just the opening of the opportunities to the technology changes as Pat mentioned and the different what you use that we can.

01:00:08.940 --> 01:00:17.090

Reis Pearson

Manipulate those modules to deal with those varying ways of learning. One thing I do wanna.

01:00:18.250 --> 01:00:27.480

Reis Pearson

You know, maybe bring up is, you know, as virtual learning is going to be able to provide some.

01:00:29.120 --> 01:00:48.260

Reis Pearson

To take away some barriers to that learning, you know the virtual learning still requires Internet connectivity. And so as we're reaching out to those underserved areas, you know, maybe Internet is not possible or is monetarily.

01:00:49.450 --> 01:00:52.720

Reis Pearson

Unattainable. You know, as a home inspector.

01:00:55.060 --> 01:01:03.360

Reis Pearson

Association. We're looking at creative ways to be working with, you know, providing grants and and those types of things to be able to help.

01:01:03.700 --> 01:01:26.150

Reis Pearson

Uh, yeah. In that gap. And hopefully that's something that we're looking at from the state level as well. My biggest concern and I will end with this comment and I understand that Deborah mentioned the RCW needs changing, but my absolute number one concern is with the quality of the instructors.

01:01:27.250 --> 01:01:57.060

Reis Pearson

You know, virtual does not mean that this is an easier way for instructors to to provide that training. And in fact in most cases it is going to be much more labor intensive from an instructor perspective, I think you could ask any K through 12 teacher over the last two years as to what kind of challenges this last two years has presented. So my concern is that virtual is not going to be.

01:01:57.140 --> 01:02:00.120

Reis Pearson

Easier on the instructors it will be.

01:02:01.230 --> 01:02:06.910

Reis Pearson

It will open up doors to the the public, so thank you.

01:02:08.920 --> 01:02:11.410

Kevin (Guest)

Thank you, Reese. I appreciate your comments.

01:02:12.930 --> 01:02:18.740

Kevin (Guest)

We have time for any other additional public comment. If there's anyone else in the audience.

01:02:22.230 --> 01:02:27.870

Kevin (Guest)

OK. We don't see anything anything further from the board that before we close.

01:02:31.730 --> 01:02:36.840

Kevin (Guest)

And Deborah Kim, anything in it? In addition, before we close the meeting.

01:02:38.510 --> 01:02:39.560

Allen, Tim (DOL)

I'm gonna marry and thank you.

01:02:40.800 --> 01:02:42.000

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

No, I think we're good, Kevin.

01:02:42.930 --> 01:02:53.690

Kevin (Guest)

OK. I want to thank everybody for taking the time today to attend our meeting and appreciate everybody's thoughtful comments, so.

01:02:54.970 --> 01:03:01.170

Kevin (Guest)

Being at a close, we go ahead and call this an adjournment and we will see everybody in our September session.

01:03:02.790 --> 01:03:03.290

Kevin (Guest)

Thank you.

01:03:03.590 --> 01:03:04.110

Jordan Howard, InspectNW

Thanks, al.

01:03:04.940 --> 01:03:05.600

Kevin (Guest)

Alright, take care.

01:03:05.080 --> 01:03:05.780

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

Thanks everybody.

01:03:06.360 --> 01:03:06.780

Kevin (Guest)

By now.

01:03:07.260 --> 01:03:07.940

Allen, Tim (DOL)

They keep taking.

01:03:07.390 --> 01:03:07.620

Allen-Ba, Debra (DOL)

But.

01:03:07.610 --> 01:03:08.100

Don HEster (Guest)

Later.