

THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE GERING PLUMBING BOARD MEETING
August 27, 2026

A meeting of the City of Gering Plumbing Board was held in open session on August 27, 2026 at 5:15 p.m. in the Gering City Hall Council Chambers, 1025 P Street, Gering, NE. Present were Board Members Jeff Vance, Josh Schlaepfer Mike Davies, Lucan Palomo and Mathew Beebe. Absent: None. Also present was City Engineer Annie Folck and Administrative Support Specialist Karen Heins.

1. Call to Order

Chair Beebe called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. Roll call was taken and noted that a quorum of the Plumbing Board was present and business could be conducted.

2. Open Meetings Act

Chair Beebe stated that, as required by state law, public bodies are required to make copies of the current Open Meetings Act available in the meeting room. He noted that printed copies of the Open Meetings Act were available on the counter by the press corps. Chair Beebe further stated that agenda items may be moved up or down on the agenda at the discretion of the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson. Additions may not be made to the agenda less than 24 hours before the beginning of the meeting unless they are considered under the appropriate section of the agenda and the Board determines that the matter requires emergency action.

3. Approval of the July 16, 2026 Minutes

Board Member Schlaepfer moved to approve the minutes from the July 16, 2026 Plumbing Board regular meeting. It was seconded by Board Member Vance. On roll call vote, the following voted "AYE": Vance, Palomo, Schlaepfer, Davies and Beebe. "NAY": None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

4. Current Business

A. Consider the method of giving notice for regular meetings pursuant to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act

Chair Beebe stated that notice of the Plumbing Board's regular meetings is required to be provided to the public every three months. He noted that the Scottsbluff Star-Herald is the Official Newspaper and that, under recent changes, notice of regular meetings may now be posted on the City's website in lieu of publication in the newspaper. Currently, the Board's practice has been to publish notice in the Scottsbluff Star-Herald approximately five to seven days prior to a meeting, with meeting agendas also posted on the City's website.

Ms. Folck explained that recent changes to state statute require the Board to provide quarterly notice of its regular meetings and formally adopt its method of giving notice. She noted that this presents some difficulty for the Plumbing Board because meetings are held only as needed when applications are received, rather than on a set schedule. She stated that the quarterly notice would indicate that the Plumbing Board meets as needed and that notice of specific meetings would continue to be published in the Scottsbluff Star-Herald. Meeting agendas would also continue to be posted on the City's website, and she recommended continuing with this method of providing notice.

Board Member Vance moved to approve the method of giving notice for regular meetings pursuant to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, as discussed, including

quarterly notice stating that the Plumbing Board meets as needed, publication of notice of specific meetings in the Scottsbluff Star-Herald, and posting of meeting agendas on the City's website. The motion was seconded by Board Member Schlaepfer. There was no further discussion. On roll call vote, the following voted "AYE": Palomo, Beebe, Davies, Schlaepfer and Vance. "NAY": None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

B. Review and consider approval of application for Journeyman Plumber License – Craig Engelhaupt

The Board reviewed the applicant's work history.

Board Member Schlaepfer moved to approve granting a Journeyman Plumber License for Craig Engelhaupt. The motion was seconded by Board Member Vance. There was no further discussion. On roll call vote, the following voted "AYE": Schlaepfer, Davies, Vance, Palomo and Beebe. "NAY": None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

C. Review and consider approval of application for Journeyman Mechanical License – Joshua Zulkoski

The Board reviewed the applicant's work history.

Board Member Vance moved to approve granting a Journeyman Mechanical License for Joshua Zulkoski. The motion was seconded by Board Member Palomo. There was no further discussion. On roll call vote, the following voted "AYE": Davies, Vance, Beebe, Schlaepfer and Palomo. "NAY": None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

D. Review and consider approval of application for Master Mechanical License – Jeremiah Smith

The Board reviewed Mr. Smith's work history and application for a Master Mechanical License. Board Member Vance noted that the application was being submitted through reciprocity. It was further noted that Mr. Smith is from Alliance and was seeking the license for refrigeration work associated with the newly constructed Runza.

Board Member Schlaepfer moved to approve granting a Master Mechanical License for Jeremiah Smith. The motion was seconded by Board Member Vance. There was no further discussion. On roll call vote, the following voted "AYE": Palomo, Beebe, Davies, Vance and Schlaepfer. "NAY": None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

E. Review and consider approval of application for Journeyman Plumber with Gas License – Kaid Ybarra

The Board reviewed the applicant's work history.

Board Member Palomo moved to approve granting a Journeyman Plumber with Gas License – Kaid Ybarra. The motion was seconded by Board Member Schlaepfer. There was no further discussion. On roll call vote, the following voted "AYE": Beebe, Vance, Palomo, Schlaepfer and Davies. "NAY": None. Abstain: None. Absent: None.

5. City Building Inspector Report (Information only)

Board Member Vance reported that there was nothing specific to report.

6. **Open Comment:** Discussion or action by the Plumbing Board regarding unscheduled business will not take place. This section is for citizen comment only.

There were no comments.

7. **Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn was made by Board Member Vance and it was seconded by Board Member Schlaepfer. There was no discussion. On roll call vote, the following voted "AYE": Vance, Palomo, Schlaepfer, Davies and Beebe. "NAY": None. Abstain: None. Absent: None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Mathew Beebe, Chairman

ATTEST:

Karen Heins, Administrative Secretary