

AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

December 2022

Message from the Chair

Mission Vision Values

The AZBO Annual Business meeting in July of this year was a success for a great variety of reasons. One of the biggest accomplishments was the adoption of Mission, Vision, and Values statements. A room full of dedicated members worked for a day and a half under the direction of Dr. Paul Melendez and completed the task. The result is our new Mission, Vision, and Values statements.

Mission

To promote professional development through education, consistency, and diversity, while building relationships to foster safer communities.

Vision

To be a progressive network of professionals that strive to develop leaders through dynamic educational offerings and encouraging collaboration with all stakeholders.

Values

Commitment: Dedication and integrity to a higher level of service to our building community in education, training, and development.

Inclusion: Willingness to accept and acknowledge diverse ideas, abilities, and self-identifying characteristics.

Innovation: Willingness to seek out and consider different ideas and perspectives.

Thank you to all the members who attended the ABM, and especially to those members who worked so hard to complete the Mission, Vision, and Values statements.

Have a wonderful and refreshing Holiday Season

Be safe out there

Steve White

AZBO Chair



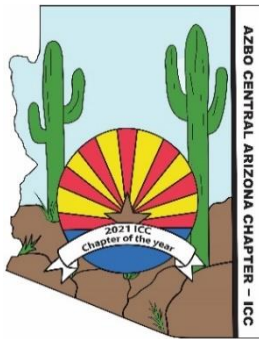
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Fall Institute, Central Chapter Wednesday Night Event Escape Room



Arizona Construction Career Development Days



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Arizona Permit Tech Committee



AZPT session with Dr. Paul Melendez
November 9th, at City of Phoenix.

We are pleased to announce that the AZPT's were able to finally have an in-person session since Covid. With a great turn out of members of our community, it felt great to see everyone in person again!

This session, we welcomed, Dr. Paul Melendez of the Eller College of Management, University of Arizona. His motivation and productive presentation caught the attention and involvement of many. Dr. Melendez shared with the group the new/revised Mission, Vision & Values of the AZBO's organization. Our discussion went into detail of how as a group, these were implemented. We got an insight of some newly gathered research from the "Pew Research Center". There was discussion on what the research on the workplace compiled. "Controlling your Career" were amongst some of the topics also discussed. It was interesting to hear what changes have affected many in the office, whether it be in a personal manner or in a manner that affected all within an office environment. Some of the discussions included some seeing more stress, the financial burdens due to recent inflation, working remotely; had trouble returning to the office, etc.

We value and appreciate the support received by Dr. Paul Melendez to our Arizona Permit Tech Committee. Thank you, Dr. Melendez,!!

Special thank you to Don Brown for organizing the room space at City Hall of City of Phoenix, and to Sharon Bonesteel of SRP for providing lunch for our group.



Thank you to all who have expressed an interest in our Board Member vacancy. You will be notified by Tabitha Villaverde after the new year to get this vacancy filled. We will review your interest further at that time.

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In Other NEWS

AZBO Spring Education Institute will be in Tucson April 24 through April 28, 2023. Check AZBO's website for updates. www.azbo.us

Also visit AZBO's website for job opportunities posted.
<https://www.azbo.us/jobs.html>

Steve Burger received an Honorary Membership from the Permit Tech Nation.



Jurisdiction Changes

Town of **Cave Creek**, **Ben Carr** is the Interim Building Official.

Paul Gasso, CBO, announced his retirement from the **Town of Clarkdale**. **Bob Pipkin** is taking over as Building Official. He has been with the Town for seven months.



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From **Mark White, Town of Florence:**

The Town of Florence Building Safety unit is pleased to report that **Kevin Wall** has passed his certification exam for Building Plans Examiner and that **Susan Cisco** and passed her certification exam for Certified Permit Technician.

Tabitha Villaverde, Town of Gilbert, is now Engineering Technician II, Development Services-Engineering

From **Tiersa Johnson, Pinal County:**

Gloria Bean has been promoted from Permit Technician to Permit Technician Supervisor for Pinal County.

Steve Mertes, City of Sedona has been promoted to Director of Community Development

Tiffany Copp, City of Surprise

The City of Surprise is pleased to announce the promotion of **Carl Montgomery** to Chief Building Official! Carl has served the City of Surprise Community Development Department, Building Safety Division for over 25 years. He holds many certifications from ICC; his CBO among them. Carl is a humble and steadfast leader who supports life-long learning and development and fosters collaboration and excellence among his teams. The City is grateful to Carl for accepting the call to serve in this new and challenging role!

Mike Baxley has joined the **City of Tempe** as the Deputy Community Development Director, Building Safety.

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Jurisdiction Updates

City of Chandler

From Shicheng Tao, Building Official, City of Chandler

iPAD INSTALLATION

The City of Chandler Council has approved and adopted the fiscal year 2022-23 budget, which includes the installation of iPad in our inspection team. To make the smooth transition from the application of laptops to iPad in the field, I reached out to consult with other Building Officials in the neighboring Cities and seek their opinions and suggestions in terms of the operation of iPad utilizing the Accela permitting software system. I appreciated the quick responses and valuable feedbacks received from **Dennis Chase** (Peoria), **Larry Taylor** (Gilbert), **Randy Westacott** (Goodyear), **Stephen Dudley** (Phoenix), **John Sheffer** (Mesa), **Djordje Pavlovic** (Glendale), **Brian Tardif** (Casa Grande), **Brett Harris** (Avondale), **Clayton Trevillyan** (Tucson), etc. A special thanks goes to **John Sheffer**, PE, CBO, Deputy Director/Building Official, City of Mesa, for his great efforts on coordinating a tour for our inspection team to meet with his staff to see how Accela system works on the iPad in Mesa so we can be better off facilitating our transition to using iPad in Chandler in the future.

CROSS TRAINING

The 2021 new building code cross training program for building inspectors and plans examiners has been conducted in our staff monthly meetings since the beginning of this year. This cross training program not only generates an environment in learning the new code knowledge, but also provides a great opportunity for team members to step up and sharp their public speaking and presentation skills. It is a win-win situation.



SIMPSON STRONG-TIE SITE VISIT

A group of Building Inspectors participated in the Simpson Strong-Tie site visit, which was coordinated by **Bob Graffius**, Building Inspections Manager, in the Simpson Strong-Tie Chandler facility in the middle of October. **CJ Dal Pra**, Site Manager, gave us a wonderful presentation in terms of new products. CJ also demonstrated us a new set of connection systems. Kudos goes to CJ for his great presentation and demonstration.

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From **Ina Ronquillo** on behalf of **Clayton Trevillyan, City of Tucson**

The City of Tucson launched a new online permitting system, Tucson Development Center Online, on October 31, 2022. The new system provides greater transparency and accountability to the city permitting process while integrating all city departments into the same platform.

After the first month, the system is operating as expected. The current staff focus is initializing legacy permits into the new system while concurrently addressing emergency applications.

New permit applications submitted after October 31 are functioning as expected. Significant staff time is being spent resolving issues related to data migration. Application volume has remained consistent, and staff continues collaborating to reduce review times. The department has dedicated additional resources to handle the increased volume of calls, emails, and over-the-counter inquiries.

PDS staff has created a [Tucson Development Center FAQ](#) offering how-to instructions and videos on essential TDC Online functions. If you have additional questions, you can reach staff by email tdc-online@tucsonaz.gov or phone 520-791-5550.

The City of Tucson would like to thank customers for their continued support and suggestions as we continue to make improvements to the new permitting system.

From **Dana Blake, Yavapai County**:

Yavapai County Development Services received an award. Here is the info that was sent out from our Director Jeremy Dye.

I am pleased to let you know that Development Services has won the Arizona Association of Counties' Summit Award for our "Home of My Own program"! This program was created two years ago to allow for a low-cost option for property owners to build a home using house plans that were designed and pre-approved by the County. Those house plans come on one, two, and three-bedroom options, and are available for download free to anyone for use in the unincorporated County. To date, we have issued 31 Home of My Own permits with several more in process. More information about the program, as well as floor plans and construction drawings are found here: <https://yavapaiaz.gov/devserv/A-Home-of-My-Own>.

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AZBO 2022 Annual Sponsors

Check AZBO's website for Annual Sponsor recognition.

Contact Shannon Headington, AZBO's Executive Secretary, for 2023 Sponsorship information.

azboexcsec@gmail.com

