BUILDING CODE COUNCIL
MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2011 MEETING

Members in Attendance: William Brizee, Gary Chock, Douglas Haigh, Timothy Hiu, Ralph Nagamine, Jai Ho Cheng, Bruce Coppa, Socrates Bratakos, Jennifer Shishido. Staff present: Alvin Tamashiro and Ronald Tanaka, Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS); and Patricia Ohara, Department of Attorney General Office.

1. Timothy Hiu called the meeting to order at 9:02a.m.

2. The minutes of the December 14, 2010 meeting were reviewed and approved.

3. The following members of the public were in attendance; Howard Wiig, Derek Fujikami, and Mark Unemori, Department of Business Economic Development; Harold McDermott, Local 675; Bob Barrett, Coastal Windows; Denise Way and Karen Iwamoto, BIA-Hawaii; Mona Higa, Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB); David Lovelace, Hawaii Electrical Training; Jeff Eckerd, Department of Health; David Sungarian, Sungarian Consulting, LLC; and Kraig Stevenson, International Code Council (via teleconference)

4. Report from investigative committees (IC)

   a. Structural Provisions for 2009 International Building and Residential Codes; Gary Chock presented a power point presentation on the update on the development of the tsunami design procedures. This presentation was based on research by the University of Hawaii, Oregon State University, and University of Michigan during the past 45 years on the tsunami effects on structures and can be imported into the State Building Code after it is updated. Gary also mentioned that DAGS needs to follow-up on the FEMA Hazard Mitigation federal grant. The purpose of the federal grant is to take the research results and develop it into code language. The Department of Transportation – Harbors Division has not provided their in-kind match figures.

   b. 2009 International Building Code, Residential Code, and Existing Building Code: No report

   c. Elevators; Jennifer Shishido reported that after meeting with the City and County of Honolulu building permit section on their roles and responsibilities, DLIR has determined that it would not need to review the building permit applications for Oahu because of the
overlap but DLIR’s decision is subject to the Council’s review and approval. DLIR is currently reviewing the adoption of a new code, ASME 17.1, that came out on December 29, 2010 on alternative hoisting mechanism placing standards for elevators and escalators. DLIR need to decide whether to adopt the 2007 or 2010 code and will need to meet with the State Fire Code Council and emergency responders group. Their draft code will be presented to the Council in April 2011. Jennifer will provide the Council with sample copies of their permits at the April meeting.

d. A/C Ventilation; Jeff Eckerd reported that because fees will be charged for licensing in the proposed HAR 11-48, the rule making process was delayed by the previous administration. Jeff will be resubmitting the rules shortly to the Governor for approval to conduct public hearings.

e. 2009 Uniform Plumbing Code; No report

f. 2009 Energy Efficiency Standards; Howard Wiig reported that he will be discussing at today’s IC meeting the steel framed homes IECC 2009 code requirement regarding exterior insulations to serve as a bridge between the walls and steel frame. Because the steel framers in Hawaii do not like that provision, the IC is seeking alternative solutions for compliance.

g. State Fire Code; The State Fire Council continues its review and preparation of amendments to the 2009 NFPA.

h. Training on State building codes; No report by Chair.

Mona Higa reported that statewide training on the new Americans with Disability Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) has commenced because on January 1, 2011, DCAB adopted the new Department of Justice’s ADAAG. DCAB is already reviewing State and county projects for compliance with the new ADDAG guidelines.

i. Fenestration exemption template; Howard Wiig reported that he will defer to the next meeting and will provide Kerry Yoneshige with the template and instruction for distribution at the next Council meeting.

j. Fire sprinkler implementation in new 1 and 2 family dwellings; Socrates Bratakos reported that a meeting is scheduled January 25, 1:30p.m. at the Honolulu Fire Department to discuss Hawaii’s barriers and potential solutions and if time permits will form working groups.
k. Communication and training; Howard Wiig reported that he has hired a public relations firm and is procuring one or two consultants from the west coast using federal stimulus funds to conduct training for governmental agencies and the public on the 2009 IECC (update from 2006 to 2009) at no charge. Half-day training is scheduled for May to July on Oahu and the neighbor islands. The IC will be finalizing the details, on the date, time, location, format, participants, etc. and will present their plan to the Council.

5. Adoption of administrative rules

a. Alvin Tamashiro reported that the preliminary public hearing for the State Residential Code will not be scheduled until May, after the completion of the legislative session.

6. Home for Life Taskforce; William Brizee reported that the task force is meeting tonight at 4:30 to 6:00 to discuss the draft legislative interim report and after the meeting, the report will be submitted to the Legislature. The task force will also be requesting that it be extended another six months. William will be e-mailing the draft report to Kerry Yoneshige for distribution to the Council members.

7. Next meeting agenda items:

   a. Howard Wiig to discuss the fenestration exemption template

   b. Recommended amendments to the State Residential Code

   c. Legislative issues

   d. Establish an IC for the 2011 Electrical Code, the Chair appointed David Lovelace to chair this IC

   e. Definition of start date for State construction projects as related to the effective date of April 1, 2011

8. The next meeting date will be February 8, 2011 at 9:00a.m. in the Comptroller's Conference Room.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 10:44a.m.