

State Building Code Council (SBCC) Meeting
Tuesday, July 18, 2017
9:00 a.m.

Department of Accounting and General Services
Comptroller's Conference Room 410
Kalanimoku Building
1151 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

West Hawaii Civic Center
Building "E", First Floor
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Highway
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

Telephone Call-In - 800-910-8278 then 6547519

Minutes

1. Call to Order 9:09
2. Introductions and Public Comments

Assistant Fire Chief Socrates Bratakos- provided an overview of the Marco Polo fire. There were three civilian fatalities and 30-40 apartments were severely damaged. There has been no origin and cause determination or damage loss estimates yet. Fire sprinklers were not required when the building was permitted. The elevators failed early in the fire and a freight elevator was used until that failed. Personnel had to use the exit stairways to move equipment to combat the fire, which originated on the 26th floor. There was more extensive fire damage on 27th floor as the fire lapped upwards through broken window openings. Some units burned through the gypsum board walls exposing the metal studs. The Ewa stairwell was so hot it could not be used for firefighting, so middle and Diamond Head stairwells were utilized. Chair Johnson commented on why building codes are in place and is a result lessons learned, usually from life loss and severe damage. They are constantly evolving and are not static.

3. Review and approval of minutes of the June 13, 2017 meeting.

Motion: Member Haigh motioned to approve the June 13, 2017 meeting minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Scheduling of Future Adoption of Codes Listed in HRS 107-25. Chair passed out the draft schedule and process for code adoption by the SBCC and DAGS. The SBCC will review and provide any further revisions to the Chair.

5. Administrative Rule process for adopting the State Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) amendments. It was suggested that the UPC amendments begin at the Small Business Regulatory Review Board (SBRRB), along with IBC/IRC. The SBRRB will be asked if they will hold a review hearing when the code amendments are not in administrative rules format. Even without rules the SBCC would still have an open code review process. The 2018 codes may be the next codes to review and amend without rules.
6. Administrative rule process see item #5 above. It was agreed that this item will be removed from future agendas.

s

7. Discussion of Future Administrative Support. Chair discussed House Bill (HB) 637, which clarifies that the SBCC is not required to adopt administrative rules for the Hawaii building codes, but that responsibility resides with DAGS. Also, HB 1436, provides an appropriation for a reimbursable grant to fund the adoption of administrative rules that will be based on the International Building and Residential Codes 2012 editions. When the SBCC finalizes its code adoption process without rules, it plans to request private funds for the current fiscal year and then use the appropriation (if the Governor releases the funds) in HB 637 to adopt code amendments. The grant must be used in one year.
8. Discussion of 2018 Legislation. Members were requested to submit any Legislative proposals to the SBCC Chair.
9. Updates from the investigative committees:
 - a. Investigative committee for the structural provisions for the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Residential Code (IRC) Chair will be editing the drafted administrative rules to the IBC 2012 edition, to only include the amendments. Work will be continuing on the IRC 2012 edition. The IRC has prescriptive design sections that are similar to sections in the IBC. They will attempt to make these consistent with each other. Investigative committee for the non-structural provisions of the IBC and the IRC. A third review has been completed and will soon be sent to the Subcommittee of Building Officials.
 - c. Investigative committee for the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) At the next meeting recommended amendments will be distributed for county consideration.
 - d. Investigative committee for the UPC See item #5 above.
 - e. Investigative committee for the Mechanical Code Chair offered several ICC code books to the attendees.
 - g. Investigative committee for the State Fire Code Finalizing 2015 amendments with the next meeting in August, which could be the final one. The state fire code is statutorily required to do administrative rules. Almost all retrofit provisions are amended out. The building code will still prevail for new construction. The rules will include inspection, testing, and maintenance

provisions for fire protection systems, fire alarms systems, fire extinguishers, and fire hydrants...Preparations have begun on county fire code amendments for the 2015 edition.

- h. Investigative committee for the 2017 NEC. Member Haigh is waiting for any amendment proposals. Advise to use strikeouts and underlines. Justification document should be included. Suggest using subchapter one without the administrative rule brackets at the end of each section. The draft document will have agenda items to discuss any code amendments and be posted on the SBCC website. Also, a historical page to accompany the website post. SBCC should also notify the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs as they do license testing for contractors
- i. Investigative committee for energy efficiency code. A coordination meeting will be held on August 2, 2017, at the Hawaii Energy Office at 9:00 a.m. Topics will include demand response, smart grid, etc.
- i. Investigative committee on communication and training. Gail Suzuki-Jones reported that Rick Meyers of the American Institute of Architects Hawaii plans to provide training at the Pacific Building Trade Expo Seminar on building code related topics. Gail will check to confirm.
- j. Statewide training on the NEC 2014 edition was completed by Tim McClintock of the National Fire Protection Association.
- k. Investigative committee for SBCC membership with the International Code Council – Payment will be made for the next year for those who had requested voting membership through the SBCC.
- l. Investigative committee for residential fire sprinklers in the State Residential Code. State law prohibits counties from requiring sprinklers in one- and two-family dwellings, except to meet fire department access or water supply requirements. State projects are required to meet the state code. The issues with costs vs. safety needs to be considered. Should the SBCC amend out the sprinkler requirement and follow State law? What standard should the State be following? The Deputy Attorney General Kam stated that statutorily the State must follow the state building code.

The sprinkler investigative committee was directed to develop information on suggested alternatives to residential sprinklers if they are amended out of the state code. These may include greater fire resistive separations between the carport and living area; full thickness joists for second floors instead of engineered lumber; greater distance to property lines; square footage limits. Both national building code representatives have advised that no alternatives exist that are equivalent to sprinklers. Studies or performance reports on these suggestions should be included. The building community and state housing agencies will be requested for feedback. Any suggestions can be sent to member Rogers who will compile and forward to the committee and meet with the two State housing agencies.

10. Update on county and state adoption of building codes no updates

11. Discussion of possible agenda item(s) for next Council meeting Please forward any suggestions to the Chair or member Rogers.

12. Announcements. No announcements.

13. Next meeting: August 15, 2017, at 9:00 a.m.

14. Adjournment motion.

Motion: Member Cheng motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 a.m. The motion was unanimously approved.