

**BUILDING CODE COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF January 8, 2008 MEETING**

Members in Attendance: William Brizee, Gary Chock, Timothy Hiu, Ralph Nagamine, Winston Lum, Douglas Haigh, Keith Rudolph, and Russ Saito. Staff present: Kerry Yoneshige, Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS). Tomas See sat in for the Department of Health as a nonvoting member. Howard Wiig attended for the Department of Economic Development and Tourism as Chair of the investigative committee on the energy conservation code.

1. Timothy Hiu called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.
2. Minutes from the December 11, 2007 meeting were reviewed and approved.
3. Kraig Stevenson from the International Code Council (ICC) provided brochures and a short discussion on the code update hearing in February 2008. He also talked about the willingness of the ICC to provide training through negotiated pricing and providing training through alternative delivery methods.
4. Tomas See from the Department of Health introduced himself.
5. Report from investigative committees
  - a. Hiring of Executive Director and Executive Assistant: The DAGS Personnel Office has reviewing the position descriptions and made minor format revisions. Recruitment for the positions cannot be done until the funds are released by the Governor. Russ will be requesting release of the funds in January. He also noted that rather than filling the positions, another option maybe to hire consultant to fulfill the duties of Executive Director.
  - b. Hurricane Protective Shelters; The investigative committee is ready to prepare the committee report including recommendations for the protective shelter criteria. This committee will be reviewing the International Residential Codes and ICC High Wind Standards when issued. The committee chair made a motion to change the name of the committee to the "Investigative Committee for Structural Standards and Provisions". The motion was seconded by Douglas Haigh. The Council then unanimously passed the motion.
  - c. International Building Code (IBC); Chair of investigative committee noted that the committee is reviewing county amendments to identify statewide amendments and compiling a list after each meeting for inclusion in a list of proposed statewide amendments. This committee is meeting twice a month and they expect to complete the list of amendments by the end of March. The Chair made a motion to change the name of the

committee to the “International Building Code, Residential Code, and Existing Building Code Investigative Committee”. Motion was seconded by Douglas Haigh and passed unanimously by the Council.

During this discussion, the Council Chair also reported that the investigative committee on the electrical had completed their work and would be submitting a report at the next Council meeting recommending adoption of the 2008 National Electrical Code without any statewide amendments. This committee will be listed as part of the agenda on a recurring basis.

- d. State Fire Code; Investigative committee chair reported that the AG has completed the review of the draft administrative rules and the results will be presented at the State Fire Council meeting on January 25, 2008. It is anticipated that the new State Fire Code will then be put out for public hearing and adoption is expected in early 2008.

During this portion, question was asked whether it was necessary to have a state employee present during the public hearings. It was also asked at what point the State Fire Code will be delivered to the council, before it is adopted through administrative rule or after. The Attorney General will be asked for guidance on these two questions and update provided at the next meeting.

- e. Plumbing Code; Tomas See representing the Department of Health (DOH) noted that this committee maybe more appropriately chaired by a county official because of the counties responsibilities for this code and the scope of his authority in the DOH. The Council also discussed the responsibility of the chair of an investigative committee which is to facilitate the review of the codes with the stakeholders and industry representatives to determine if any statewide amendments are required.

Russ Saito will talk with the Director of the DOH to outline the responsibilities of the Council representatives so that the department selects the appropriate representative.

- f. Energy Conservation Code: Howard Wiig reported that the first committee meeting would be held on January 8, 2008 and would include the county officials, the utilities, and building industry organizations. The objective of the meeting would be to obtain consensus on the 2006 IECC amendments. Howard also reported that certain builders in the Ewa plain are already designing projects using the 2006 IECC. It was requested by the Council Vice Chair that a review and comparison be done between the IRC energy chapter and the IECC to ensure that there would not be any conflicting codes.

6. Funding for training was discussed and the Council agreed that reimbursement would be made for training of public employees but not for private individuals.
7. Kerry Yoneshige noted that second request letters were sent to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and the Department of Health for updates on the status the building codes and plans for adoption of new versions of those codes.
8. Russ Saito provided an overview of the administrative rule making process.
9. Douglas Haigh outlined that the estimated training costs for a seminar to be held in January on Kauai covering the transition from the 1997 UBC to the 2003 IBC and IRC would be approximately \$4,000. Russ Saito noted that of the \$10,000 available to the Council, only approximately \$700 was available. Motion was made by Douglas Haigh to “Approve funding for training for Kauai county employees up to a maximum of \$4,000, actual cost prorated over county employees to private sector attendees”. The motion was seconded by Keith Rudolph. In discussion, it was suggested that the phrase “subject to availability of funds” be added. The motion was revised by Douglas Haigh to be “Approve funding for training for Kauai county employees up to a maximum of \$4,000, actual cost prorated over county employees to private sector attendees, subject to availability of funds.” The motion was seconded by Keith Rudolph and passed unanimously by the Council.
10. Agenda items for the next meeting will be an update on Russ Saito’s discussions with the DOH Director on the department’s representative and responses from the Attorney General on the administrative rulemaking process. The reports from the investigative committee on the electrical codes and hurricane shelters will also be added.
11. The next meeting date will be February 12 at 9:00 a.m. in the Comptroller’s Conference Room.
12. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.