Minutes

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:05 by Vice Chair Nishigata

    **Motion:** Member Haigh motioned to amend the agenda to add “Review and Possible Approval of the National Electrical Code 2017 Edition” that was approved by the Subcommittee of Building Officials (SBO). The motion votes were as follows:

    Ayes: Members Ueno, Haigh, Cheung, Mendoza, Nishigata, Rogers, Wiig, and Cheng

    Opposed: Member Serikaku had concerns that the SBCC’s possible approval of a state code would not comply to sunshine law by not being on the original agenda.

    The motion passed.

2. Introductions and Public Comments

    There were no public comments.
3. Review and approval of minutes of the September 19, 2017 meeting.

**Motion:** Member Haigh motioned to approve the September 19, 2017, meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. Update from the Investigative Committee for the Green Codes

Brent Tokita, of the U.S. Green Building Council, Hawaii Chapter and Investigative Committee for the Green Code Chair distributed handouts summarizing case studies of three jurisdictions, Oregon, Scottsdale, and the District of Columbia (D.C.), on their adoption of the International Green Construction Code (IgCC). Oregon used a voluntary model, the D.C. adopted a mandatory model, and Scottsdale adopted a hybrid conditional model. The hybrid conditional model was the most successful and implemented about 1,300 residential homes. It may be more appropriate for local jurisdictions in Hawaii to implement and make amendments to the IgCC since they can establish incentives and enforcement appropriate to their local needs. The IgCC 2018 edition is tasked with harmonizing the IgCC, ASHRAE 189.1 and the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design so concerns about having different metrics and formulas to calculate compliance are minimized. The IgCC can also be integrated with the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Residential Code (IRC), and as drop-in requirements with the International Energy Conservation Code (ECC) and the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC).

5. Scheduling of Future Adoption of Codes Listed in HRS 107-25

The International Code Council’s 2018 editions have been published.


There were no updates.

7. Discussion of 2018 Legislation

Member Rogers informed that the State Fire Council plans to support legislation for a cancer presumptive bill for firefighters and a State income tax credit for installing a fire sprinkler system.

8. Discussion and Possible Decision to the Public Proposal to Amend the Proposed Amendment to the Uniform Plumbing Code 2012 Edition

The Department of the Attorney General (DAG) is finalizing an opinion on the statutory appropriateness to include the use of the International Plumbing Code (IPC) instead of UPC in the proposed State Plumbing Code.

If you require an auxiliary aid or accommodation due to a disability, please contact (808) 586-0696 or email at state.bcc@hawaii.gov by October 12, 2017.
Motion: Member Haigh moved to defer decision making on the above public proposal to amend the amendment to the UPC 2012 to include the IPC until the DAG opinion is final. The motion was unanimously approved.

9. Discussion and Possible Approval to the State Residential Code Draft (International Residential Code (IRC) 2012 edition as amended)

Members discussed the State Residential Code Draft approved by the SBO. One of the goals was to make only significant amendments for the State to reduce the number of amendments. These included modifying the wind maps and having additional tools for structural requirements. The requirement for automatic fire sprinklers was deleted for one- and two-family dwellings, but the requirement for townhouses was left in. Member Rogers noted that some amendment comments were provided, but there were no justifications for most of the amendments, including deleting residential sprinklers.

Motion: Member Rogers motioned to defer decision making until the justifications are included in the draft. The motion votes were as follows:
- Ayes: Members Ueno, Serikaku, Cheung, Mendoza, Nishigata, Rogers, Wiig, and Cheng
- Opposed: Member Haigh.

The motion passed.


Member Haigh discussed the requirement for the building owner to employ a design professional for conditions to do structural observations. He recommended deleting this amendment.

Motion: Member Rogers motioned to defer decision making until the justifications are included in the draft. The motion was unanimously approved.

11. Review and Possible Approval of the National Electrical Code 2017 Edition

Member Rogers stated that because this was not included in the original agenda he believes it was not posted on the SBCC website for public review.

Motion: Member Reinhardt motioned to defer decision making on this item. The motion was unanimously approved.

12. Updates from the investigative committees:

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a. Investigative committee for the structural provisions for the IBC and the IRC
See items #9 and #10 above.

b. Investigative committee for the non-structural provisions of the IBC and the IRC.

The American Institute of Architects Hawaii Chapter is planning to begin reviewing the IBC 2018 edition.

c. Investigative committee for the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)

Member Wiig stated that since the Governor’s award for SBCC’s passage of IECC 2015 edition he has received numerous inquiries for information, particularly from contractors who are renovating public school buildings.

d. Investigative committee for the Uniform Plumbing Code

Member Serikaku informed that the UPC 2018 edition will be published in January 2018.

e. Investigative committee for the Mechanical Code

Member Rogers contacted the Department of Health and on an email provided links to the members to their website on the adopted administrative rules for air conditioning (A/C) and ventilation that are based on several national standards. Also, proposed administrative rules include national standards and the International Mechanical Code. Also reported that Honolulu’s Department of Planning and Permitting does not adopt a mechanical code, but does review A/C and ventilation systems exempt from State requirements. Residential ventilation systems, except one- and two-family dwellings, are reviewed for Housing Code Compliance.

f. Investigative committee for the State Fire Code

Member Rogers informed that the committee has completed its review of the NFPA 1 Fire Code 2015 edition. The State Fire Council (SFC) staff is preparing the final draft for the SFC’s review and possible approval at their upcoming meeting on December 7-8, 2017.

g. Investigative committee for the 2017 National Electrical Code

See item #11 above.

If you require an auxiliary aid or accommodation due to a disability, please contact (808) 586-0696 or email at state.bcc@hawaii.gov by October 12, 2017.
h. Investigative committee for the energy efficiency code coordination

Ramsey Brown stated that the committee’s next meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on November 2, 2017, and will be held at 1132 Bishop Street. He will send out an email to interested persons. Topics will include the IECC adoption by the counties, future legislation for electrical energy efficiency, enforcement issues of the IgCC, and improving code compliance.

i. Investigative committee on communication and training

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism has hired a consultant to do a study on code compliance to the IECC. They plan to conduct statewide training next spring.

j. Investigative committee for SBCC membership with the International Code Council

No update to report.

13. Update on county and state adoption of building codes

Member Haigh reported that Kauai is proceeding with the adoption of the IECC 2015 edition and has received the most support letters for a state code. One of the requirements is a power rough-in in garages to charge electric vehicles. They are also working on adopting the NEC 2014 edition.

13. Discussion of possible agenda item(s) for next Council meeting

Proposal to add in an investigative committee for the IECC 2018 edition.

14. Announcements

There were no announcements.

15. Next meeting: November 21, 2017, at 9:00 a.m.

16. Adjournment

Motion Member Haigh motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m. The motion was unanimously approved.