STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

State Building Code Council (SBCC) Meeting
Tuesday, November 19, 2019
9:00 a.m.

Department of Accounting and General Services
Comptroller’s Conference Room 410
Kalanikoa 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 – 1-240-454-0879 Access Code: 93910315

Minutes

Howard Wiig  SBCC Chair
Hawaii State Energy Office

Lyle Carden  SBCC Member
Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii (SEAOH)

Douglas Haigh  SBCC Member
County of Kauai

Dennis Mendoza  SBCC Member
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
Elevator Division (DLIR)
Willard Nishigata  SBCC Member  
City and County of Honolulu  
Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP)

Lloyd Rogers  SBCC Member  
State Fire Council (SFC)

 Gregg Serikaku  SBCC Member  
Subcontractors Association of Hawaii

Neal Tanaka (phone in)  SBCC Member  
Hawaii County Department of Public Works

Glen Ueno  SBCC Member  
County of Maui

Members Not Present:

Tyler Dillon  SBCC Vice Chair  
General Contractors Association (GCA) of Hawaii

Richard Meyers  SBCC Member  
American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Other Attendees

Mark Kennedy  Building Industry Association of Hawaii  
Haseko Project Manager

Sehun Nakama  Hawaii Energy

Kika Bukoski  Plumbers and Fitters Local 675

Gail Suzuki-Jones  Hawaii State Energy Office

Joy Kimura  Hawaii Laborers and Employers Cooperation and Education Trust Fund (LECET)

Myles Ushio  DAGS Public Works Division

Stella Kam  Department of the Attorney General

Julius Dacanay  DLIR Boiler Division

Robert Loo  Member of the Public
1. Call to Order: Chair called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. Introductions and Public Comments

   a. Mr. Robert Loo requested information on requirements for floor and ceiling assemblies relating to sound transmission requirements found in Section 1207.3 of the International Building Code (IBC). He was informed that enforcement is administered by the county building officials at the county and not the State level. After further discussion it was determined that the requirements would be in conformance with the building’s house rules.

   b. A federal grant to fund wind mapping provisions has lapsed. The SEAOH is working on a new project with the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to use current standards for building design loads. Digital and high resolution wind maps from the American Society of Civil Engineers 7 Standard found on their website could be used as a reference in the IBC 2018 edition. Member Tanaka pointed out that the 2018 editions of the IBC and the International Residential Code uses different terminology for the same provision, i.e. basic and ultimate wind speeds. Terminology needs to be consistent to avoid confusion.

   c. Mr. Gary Lum stated that an email was sent out to the attendees this morning from the National Association of State Fire Marshals requesting International Code Council voting members to disapprove the use of flammable refrigerants until further research is completed. Mr. Kraig Stevenson stated that the issue relates to flammable refrigerants having more efficient cooling characteristics, verses leaks that can create a potential fire or explosion hazard. Non-flammable refrigerants on the other hand, have a chemical that is harmful to the environment. Voting members will evaluate the issue and vote accordingly.

   d. Member Rogers provided information on a Senate Resolution task force that was formed to study the costs of residential fire sprinklers in Hawaii. Members of the task force include building, water, fire, and insurance officials, together with design, trade and builder representatives. The costs will include the design, permit, materials, labor, and profit margins and be determined for each county. It was suggested that prescriptive requirements from the residential code be used to eliminate the fee of a design professional, but each county requires the design professional’s approval.
3. Review and approval of the minutes of the September 17, 2019 meeting.

Motion: Member Haigh motioned to approve the September 17, 2019 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by member Ueno and unanimously approved.

4. Review, Discussion, and Possible Approval of the Draft State Fire Code

Motion: Member Haigh motioned to approve draft amendment package of the State Fire Code. The motion was seconded by member Ueno and unanimously approved.

5. Updates from the Investigative Committees:

a. Investigative committee for the Structural Provisions for the IBC and the IRC 2018 Editions

The committee is still finalizing its amendments with the non-structural provisions and are still working on incorporating existing building requirements.

b. Investigative committee for the Non-Structural Provisions of the IBC and the IRC 2018 Editions

There were no updates.


There was a discussion on the State adopting the IECC 2018 edition and whether or not to wait for the counties to complete their adoptions of the 2015 edition. Chair has been engaged in several meetings with Honolulu County on the 2015 edition adoption. Chair attended the IECC 2021 edition hearings in Las Vegas, Nevada. Improving energy efficiency by 10% is one of the 2021 edition updates.

d. Investigative committee for the Uniform Plumbing Code 2018 Edition

Member Serikaku stated that the committee is working on a consensus document and plans to complete the amendments package after one more meeting and have it ready for the Subcommittee of Building Official’s review and possible approval for the December meeting.

e. Investigative committee for the Green Code 2018 Edition

There was no update.
f. Investigative committee for the Mechanical Code

There was no update.


The approved draft of the State Fire Code will proceed through the administrative rules process.

h. Investigative committee for the Energy Efficiency Code Coordination

The next meeting will be in February 2020.

i. Investigative committee for the State Elevator Code

There was no update.

k. Investigative committee for the International Existing Building Code 2018 Edition

Member Carden stated that the committee will try to have IEBC provisions ready to incorporate into the IBC 2018 edition with one more meeting.

l. Investigative committee for Boiler and Pressure Vessels

Mr. Julius Dacanay stated that new administrative rules for boiler and pressure vessels are awaiting the Governor’s signature. The rules are based on the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Standard 2017 edition. This standard is updated every two years.

m. Investigative committee on Health Care Facility Guidelines

The investigative committee is requesting a confirmation letter from the SBCC to the Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) indicating that when recommendations on health care facility guidelines are submitted to the SBCC, the investigative committee will consider and recommend approval as appropriate.

6. Update on communication and training

Chair stated that energy code training as been postponed. It will resume in March 2020.

7. Update on county and state adoption of building codes
a. Kauai County will be adopting the IBC 2012 edition on December 5, 2019. The Tiny Homes Appendix from the IBC 2018 edition will be adopted separately. Hawaii County is trying to adopt the IECC 2015 edition by the end of this year. Honolulu City Council passed second reading of the IBC 2012 edition.

b. There was a discussion on tiny homes related to being one possible solution to homelessness. Other issues to consider would be are they classified as a transient occupancy, and whether or not sprinklers, seismic, or wind requirements would be required.

c. Members discussed the timeline for adopting the state codes. When the latest edition of national codes have exceeded the two-year limit for the SBCC to adopt, the timeline for the State compliance and county adoption also begins. If the SBCC eventually adopts amendments to the default national codes, the timeline for State compliance and county adoption starts anew. Also, State statute allows counties to adopt codes that are more or less strict than the State code.

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

Notify the Chair or member Rogers for any next meeting agenda items.

10. Announcements

Chair informed that the SBCC annual report to the Legislature for 2019 was submitted to DAGS. Member Rogers will send the report to those on the email listing.

11. Next meeting: December 17, 2019, at 9:00 a.m.

12. Adjournment

**Motion:** Member Tanaka motioned to adjourned meeting 10:59 a.m. The motion was seconded by member Haigh and unanimously approved.