

State Building Code Council (SBCC) Meeting  
Tuesday, August 15, 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 9:03 am
2. Introductions and Public Comments

Aki Marceau of Elemental Excelerator, requested the SBCC to consider adopting Article 706 of the National Electrical Code (NEC) 2017 edition, which addresses energy storage system requirements. This article is not in the recently adopted NEC 2014 edition. Since the SBCC's NEC investigative committee is currently reviewing this edition, it was recommended that a letter be written to each county building department to allow the use of Article 706 as an alternative method to the currently adopted county electrical code.

Ramsey Brown of Hawaii Energy announced that Member Wiig was awarded an achievement award from Hawaii Energy Policy Forum for expediting the adoption of the International Energy Efficiency Code, 2015 edition, which included a new tropical zone category.

Assistant Chief Socrates Bratakos stated that the Honolulu City Council has introduced a bill to require the retrofitting of existing residential high-rises with sprinklers. It also formed a Residential Fire Safety Advisory Committee that will meet once a week beginning September 15, 2017. The committee, which is comprised of 20 representatives from stakeholder organizations is tasked with cost options, incentives, etc. for life safety improvements for residential high rise buildings.

3. Review and approval of minutes of the July 18, 2017 meeting.

**Motion:** Member Wiig motioned to approve the July 18, 2017 meeting minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

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

Chair Johnson handed out and reviewed a revised two year adoption process matrix for each code that will be used for future SBCC code amendments without administrative rules. He also passed out the International Code Council's amendment formatting guide for reference. Anyone can submit amendment proposals as public comment. Any further revisions should be submitted to the Chair.

5. Updates for adopting the State Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) amendments  
This along with the NEC 2017 edition will be the next codes to be in the non-administrative rule format. The next step for the UPC 2012 edition amendments is a stakeholder's review and requesting a Small Business Regulatory Review Board hearing. This agenda item will be deleted and discussed in the Investigative committee for the UPC.
6. Discussion of Future Administrative Support. Chair informed that the appropriated funds will be used for the adoption costs for the International Building Code 2012 edition. An estimate of grants funds to be used will be sent to Hawaii Emergency Management Agency.
7. Discussion of 2018 Legislation Some possible legislative bills may include State funding for retrofitting existing high rises with fire sprinklers, an income tax credit for installing sprinklers, and requiring hazardous buildings to upgrade to the new building code.
8. Updates from the investigative committees:
  - a. Investigative committee for the structural provisions for the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Residential Code (IRC)  
The investigative committee continues to finalize amendments to the IRC 2012 edition.
  - b. Investigative committee for the non-structural provisions of the IBC and the IRC. The Subcommittee of Building Officials (SBO) continues its review of the IRC 2012 edition. They plan to have one more review by email before sending to the SBCC at which time it will be made available to the State Attorney General, stakeholders, and the general public. The SBCC plans to review the amendment package and be ready to approve at next meeting.
  - c. Investigative committee for the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) Member Wiig reported they have a new consultant for training. They are also working towards better code compliance, which can result in energy

savings. One of the weak points with code compliance is the lack of a commissioning checklist. . Many times the equipment is there, but is not set up correctly. Special inspections should also help to minimize non-compliance.

- d. Investigative committee for the UPC See item #5 above.
- e. Investigative committee for the Mechanical Code No updates.
- f. Investigative committee for the Green Code Member Wiig reported that he is on energy committee review board for the green code.
- g. Investigative committee for the State Fire Code The committee is finalizing the 2015 amendment package and may be completed with one more meeting.
- h. Investigative committee for the 2017 NEC Member Haigh sent out a draft adoption document, but wasn't certain to include the Temporary Interim Amendments. His inclination is if there is something important let another party bring it up. The errata are included by reference in the 2017 NEC. He will send an email document that will then be referred to the SBO.
- i. Investigative committee for energy efficiency code coordination The committee met and will be addressing several issues, including support in adopting the IECC 2018 edition; support commissioning training; promoting ultra-low energy use homes of which the tropical zone is very close to the lowest energy use, and appliance efficiency. Also discussed the use of training funds from UH School of Architecture. The next meeting is planned for November.
- j. Investigative committee on communication and training Member Wiig is coordinating IECC statewide training. Chair will draft a letter requesting the county councils to adopt the latest State codes. Sam Dannaway will be conducting fire sprinkler training.
- k. Investigative committee for SBCC membership with the International Code Council. Voting SBCC members who requested ICC membership will be listed as voting members and the cost is \$74 per person/per year.
- l. Investigative committee for residential fire sprinklers in the State Residential Code Member Rogers reviewed a list of possible alternatives to residential sprinklers. Also reviewed a list of IRC code references for requirements with and without sprinklers submitted on behalf of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). The NAHB stated as an introduction of its list that the "IRC (except Section R313) is structured as though fire sprinklers are not required because 48 states do not have a state-wide requirement to install sprinklers." Kraig Stevenson of ICC, commented that the IRC includes

unsprinklered requirements due to renovation or remodeling of residences that were not originally installed with sprinklers, and not due to 48 states not having a statewide requirement for sprinklers. Member Rogers stated that although 48 states do not have a sprinkler requirement, 17 of those states allow local jurisdictions to require them. Also, California and Maryland, the two states that do require sprinklers, total 13.8% of the U.S. population. Both lists will be added to of this meeting's minutes as attachments. Members will review the information for a decision at the next meeting.

9. Update on county and state adoption of building codes Kauai county has deferred the ordinance adoption of the 2014 NEC and the 2012 UPC until January, 2018.
10. Discussion of possible agenda item(s) for next Council meeting Send possible agenda items to the Chair or member Rogers.
11. Announcements
12. Next meeting: September 19, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. SBO meeting will be on September 19, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.
13. Adjournment

**Motion:** Member Wiig motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m. The motion was unanimously approved.