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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 17, 2020
9:00 a.m.

Minutes

1. A virtual zoom meeting was held pursuant to the Fourteenth Proclamation issued by Governor David Ige on October 13, 2020, relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, in order to allow public participation in a manner consistent with social distancing practices. The meeting was called to order by SBCC Chair Howard Wiig at 9:00 a.m.
2. Introductions of the following attendees present were made:

Howard Wiig	SBCC Chair Hawaii State Energy Office Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT)
Lyle Carden	SBCC Vice Chair Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii (SEAOH)
Douglas Haigh	SBCC Member, County of Kauai
Neal Tanaka	SBCC Member, County of Hawaii Department of Public Works
Mark Kennedy	SBCC Member Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA)
Lloyd Rogers	SBCC Member State Fire Council (SFC)
Gregg Serikaku	SBCC Member Subcontractors Association of Hawaii
Rick Myers	SBCC Member American Institute of Architects of Hawaii (AIA)

Willard Nishigata SBCC Member
Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP)
City and County of Honolulu

Lance Nakamura SBCC Member
Assistant Administrator
Department of Public Works, County of Maui

Members Not Present:

Dennis Mendoza SBCC Member
Elevator Division
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Other Attendees

Dean Au Hawaii Carpenter's Union

Richard Beall Managing Principal, Beall & Associates, Inc.

Kika Bukoski Plumbers and Fitters Local 675

Francis DeGracia United Brotherhood of Carpenters
and Joiners of America

Christopher Delaunay Pacific Resource Partnership

Will Giles Masonry Contractor

Stella Kam Deputy Attorney General (DAG)

Joy Kimura Hawaii Laborers and Employers Cooperation and
Education Trust Fund (LECET), Government Affairs and
Compliance

Nathaniel Kinney Executive Director, Hawaii Construction Alliance

Ryan Kobayashi Laborers International Union of North America
Local 368

Peter Sur Hawaii County Council Staff Member for Susan Lee Loy

Jeff Mang	Polyisocyanurate Insulation Manufacturers Association (PIMA) Maryland
Darryl Oliveira	HPM Building Supply (HPM)
Pane Meatoga	Hawaii Construction Alliance
Dwight Perkins	International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO)
D.J. Nunez	IAPMO
Jonathan Sargeant	Megaplex Gas Manufacturer company
Kraig Stevenson	International Code Council (ICC)
Gail Suzuki-Jones	DBEDT
Scott Glenn	DBEDT
Yim Mei Hui	DBEDT
Sehun Nakama	Hawaii Energy
Tracy Tonaki	Senior Vice President of D. R. Horton
Brian Lee	LECET
Scott Glenn	
Steven Gangwes	
Francis DeGracia	

3. There were no public comments.
4. Review and approval of the minutes of the October 20, 2020 meeting.

Member Haigh stated that Item 5, second paragraph and second sentence reads, “The mechanical section is being deleted... but should read “was amended” and not deleted.

Motion: Member Haigh made a motion to accept minutes as amended. Member Carden seconded motion. No other discussion, minutes were unanimously approved.

5. Report from the Subcommittee of Building Officials (SBO) Meetings on the International Residential Code (IRC), and the International Building Code(IBC), the International Existing Building Code (IEBC) 2018 Edition Amendment Packages and Possible Vote to Approve

Member Nishigata, Chair of SBO reported that Committee reviewed and approved the IBC, IRC and the IEBC 2018 edition amendment packages. The IBC amendment package was not disseminated in time for the SBCC to review before the meeting.

Member Serikaku submitted proposed IRC 2018 edition amendments and Member Rogers forwarded them to the members and meeting participants just before the meeting. The first amendment proposal related to Section M1201.1 Mechanical. He proposed to delete the requirement for special inspection for a residential mechanical system which would probably involve an air conditioning (a/c) system. He believes that the cost for a special inspection does not justify the benefit, or that there is any evidence provided to the SBCC that such an inspection has any significant public health or safety concerns. In addition, since the State does not enforce the mechanical code on residences and the counties only use the mechanical code as a guideline, requiring a special inspection does not seem necessary. Also, since there are two national mechanical codes, which code requirements would be used by the special inspector and the installer? Richard Beall, mechanical engineer, stated that an a/c unit can present issues with condensation, mold build-up, and refrigerate safety. The second and third amendments proposed to allow requirements to mechanical systems from other nationally published codes or standards instead of referencing only the International Mechanical Code (IMC) and the International Fuel and Gas Code (IFGC). Member Haigh had no objection to following another national code or standard.

Member Haigh acknowledged that specifics on how special mechanical inspections will be managed, such as qualifications and certifications, still need to be worked out; because each county may be different. Actual costs cannot be estimated until actually going through the process. Since a majority of the counties do not have staff mechanical engineers, special inspectors would be from the private sector. However, in other code requirements, such as structural, third party inspections have been ongoing. Member Nishigata stated that that Honolulu permits any licensed mechanical engineer to be deemed qualified to sign off for a special inspection. Upon project completion, they would provide a letter to verify they inspected and approved the project.

Member Serikawa asked if there was a threshold for system size. Member Nishigata said that he will check. Mr. Beall mentioned that size is a factor when it comes to the safety of refrigerator and ventilation systems as it has been proven to have direct impact on condensation of mold and microbial buildup. When Chair Wiig asked Jeff

Mang for input, he said the IRC is tied together with the energy code. They follow regulations on load and size requirements and ducts. This is an excellent beginning point for implementation in Hawaii.

Chair stated that if there were no objections, he would entertain a vote on the amendments proposed by Member Serikaku.

After much discussion and clarification on what is being voted on, DAG Kam suggested the following: Since the proposed language is not in the original IRC, the SBO version submitted with amendments is what is being voted on. However, the full SBCC can still vote to approve or not. Member Rogers questioned whether or not the amendment proposals can move forward if the SBO vote is not unanimous. DAG Kam replied that since the SBO voted to add language, that version is coming to the full SBCC for a vote.

Chair Wiig summarized the proposals and that they would be voted on separately. The first proposal would delete the requirement for a special inspection for a residential mechanical system.

Motion: A motion was made by Member Serikaku and seconded by Member Carden to approve the first amendment proposal. The votes were as follows: Members Serikaku, Carden, Rogers, and Kennedy voted in favor; and Members Wiig, Myers, Tanaka, Haigh, Nishigata, and Nakamura opposed. The motion did not carry.

The second proposal was further amended to add “as required by the building official” to the end of the second sentence in addition to deleting the IMC and the IFGC and adding “nationally published mechanical codes or standards”.

Motion: A motion was made by Member Serikaku and seconded by Member Carden to approve the second amendment proposal. Member Myers opposed and all other members approved. The motion carried.

The third amendment proposal is to delete the reference to the IMC and add “nationally published codes and standards”.

Motion: A motion was made by Member Tanaka and seconded by Member Nakamura to approve the third amendment proposal. The motion carried unanimously.

There was additional discussion regarding inspection of large projects with multifamily homes. Would an inspection be required for each individual home? Chair proposed having sampling inspections as allowed by the energy code. Member Nishigata stated that the City & County of Honolulu would require an inspection of

each home even though model units are the same in design, the inspection would assure that each was built according to the approved plans. Chair suggested tabling the matter and letting it be addressed by each county. Member Tanaka suggested leaving language as “may” stating that modification to county codes need to be tightened.

Member Carden recommended that the SBCC move to vote to approve the amendment package for the IRC, subject to amendments the Council just approved.

Member Serikaku questioned why state electrical code was not included in the reference section of the IRC amendments. Member Carden suggested there was probably a clerical error and will see that it is added back in. Member Haigh asked if there was a map missing. Member Carden will re-check the numbering.

Motion: A motion was made by Member Carden and seconded by Member Haigh to pass the IRC amendment package, as amended with Member Serikaku’s proposals above, and approved by SBCC, together with the inserted state codes and the edited map re-numbering. The SBCC unanimously voted to approve. On behalf of the SBCC, Chair Wiig thanked Members Myers and Carden for their months of hard work and incredible effort.

Chair Wiig stated that Chris Delaunay of Pacific Resource Partnership will have a five minute limit on his public testimony. After realizing that IBC amendment package was not posted with the agenda for public review, it was the consensus of SBCC members that more time be allowed for review and public comments for the IBC amendment package. Chris Delaunay’s testimony was therefore, deferred until the next meeting. The SBCC agreed to post his testimony, along with public notification of the public testimony guidelines and to include future time limits on presentations.

Member Carden stated that the investigative committee assembled an amendment package from the IEBC to allow flexibility for renovation projects without necessarily meeting new building code requirements. A previous amendment relating to reroofing and energy code requirements was deleted by the SBO as it was considered to be appropriately addressed in the State Energy Conservation Code.

Motion: A motion was made by Member Carden and seconded by Member Haigh to approved the IEBC amendment package. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Selection, Purpose, Expectations of Investigative Committee for Off-Site Construction (OSC)

Member Haigh proposed that the formation of the investigative committee for OSC to discuss issues related to factory built homes (FBH) be deferred until the IBC 2021 edition is published. Chris Delaunay expressed concerns that provisions related to factory built homes in the IBC 2018 edition would be adopted without this committee's research and input. He also asked how a person would join the committee? Member Haigh, who recommended the formation of the committee, stated that he is open to anyone willing to participate and assured Mr. Delaunay that in 2021 there will be opportunity to discuss changes to the code.

Kika Bukoski expressed that he has been following the concerns over factory built homes. There are many issues based on misunderstanding of terms which can be confusing. Terms such as factory built housing, modular homes, relocatable homes, etc., need to be clearly understood. There is potential market for these homes, and he has read Mr. Delaunay's testimony and concerns. He suggests that a meeting be held and he would like to be a participant. Building these types of homes may have an impact on other codes. Chair agreed that the committee should start with definitions. Dean Au of the Hawaii Carpenter's Union would like to see those issues addressed in the 2018 IBC rather than wait until the 2021 code is published. The concerns are with this edition and this needs to be addressed. Chair Wiig said that this is a complex subject, and we need to find common ground. Nathaniel Kinney agreed with Mr. Delaunay's, Bukoski's, and Au's comments. Mr. Kinney wants to better understand the code adoption process and supports the need to amend references and terms related to FBH so they don't create an unfair advantage over site-built homes. Member Carden clarified that the intent of IBC 2018 edition amendment package to the State Building Code to remain silent with respect to FBH and more discussion can be made at the next meeting when the updated IBC 2018 amendment package is on the agenda.

6. Presentation of the Revised State Fire Code

Member Rogers stated that the State Fire Code amendment package was previously reviewed and approved earlier this year by the SBCC. Since then, revisions were made by the investigative committee and approved by the State Fire Council. Those revisions were highlighted and distributed to the SBCC members and stakeholders prior to the meeting. He reviewed the revisions, which included a reference to the Hawaii Administrative Rules 12.44.1 (Ad Rules), which relates to certifying individuals to perform maintenance testing of fire protection systems and appliances. Individuals take a third party exam given by such companies as the International Code Council and the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies. The county fire departments are authorized to administer and enforce the State licensing program. The Ad Rules defines terms and the different certifications that are required to become licensed in the State. The other revisions relate to different forms that document the maintenance tests performed on fire extinguishers, fire alarm and fire extinguishing systems, including private fire hydrants, and a few minor word changes.

Member Rogers stated that he would entertain any questions and the State Fire Code investigative committee which had representatives from each county fire department and approved the revisions, were also available to answer questions.

Motion: A motion was made by Member Rogers and seconded by Member Carden to forward the revised State Fire Code to the SBO for their review and possible approval. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. Updates from the Investigative Committees:

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

See item #4 above.

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

Revisions to the IBC 2018 edition amendment package will be distributed prior to the next meeting for review and possible approval.

- c. Investigative committee for the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) 2018 Edition

Chair stated that every amendment was the result of industry requests. Replacing uninsulated, low-sloped commercial roofs would allow the roof to be recoated with minimum reflectivity percentages instead of replacing the roof with insulation. Member Haigh stated that this amendment language is good and could also apply to residential roofs. Because Kauai has a number of commercial buildings with high-sloped roofs he recommended that the Chair should see if it is only meant for low-sloped roofs. There are currently mandatory requirements for ceiling fan installation, except for production homes, but since ceiling fan choices can vary with every home buyer, requiring the ceiling fan junction box allows the buyer to install the fan of their choice. Member Haigh and Tanaka stated that this exception should be allowed for all homes and not just for production homes. However, the junction box supposes the ceiling fan installation, but that may or may not happen. The SBO will work on language that requires the junction boxes for all homes and not just production homes. Member Tanaka commented regarding the exemption for low-energy use buildings and if no air conditioning (a/c) is being installed subject to the model code, the exception for residences that do not contain a/c would be exempted from the prescriptive methods for the building thermal envelope. The choice of installing an a/c system should not depend on whether the space is habitable or not. This would be a concern for Hawaii County. The other argument would be if the a/c system is installed in the

future. Chair requested that language be proposed at the future SBO meeting. Member Haigh stated he has been a proponent of the need to have minimum requirements for future a/c system installations.

He reviewed some of the proposed IECC 2018 edition amendment package, which included requirements for ceiling and wall insulation, alternatives for roof

Motion: A motion was made by Vice Chair Carden and seconded by Member Haigh to forward the proposed State Energy Code amendment package to the SBO for review and possible approval. The motion was unanimously approved.

d. Investigative committee for the Uniform Plumbing Code

There was no update.

e. Investigative committee for the Green Code

There was no update.

f. Investigative committee for the Mechanical Code

There was no update.

g. Investigative committee for the State Fire Code (National Fire Protection Association 1 Fire Code 2018 Edition)

See item #6 above.

h. Investigative committee for the Energy Efficiency Code Coordination

There was no update.

i. Investigative committee for the State Elevator Code

There was no update.

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

There was no update.

k. Investigative committee for Boiler and Pressure Vessels

There was no update.

8. Update on communication and training.

Chair stated that training on the IECC will be provided after adoption of 2018 code edition.

9. Update on county and state adoption of building codes

There was no update.

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

Please let Chair or Member Rogers know of any possible agenda items.

11. Announcements - There were no announcements.

12. Next meeting: December 15, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.

13. Adjournment at 11:40 a.m.